Connecting the Community
Issue 10  16 April 2015

Building the Library 1995-1996

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Principal Stewart inspecting the library building site. More pictures page 11.

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Principal Stewart inspecting the library building site. More pictures page 11.
Hi everyone,

I hope that 2015 has started well for you.

This edition is once again packed with information on what some of our past students are up to. I hope you enjoy these updates as much as I do.

Some of you may remember Miss Amdur, later she became Mrs Blomberg. She spent many years on staff, serving mostly in the library. Heather has written a collection of her memories of her time at MECS – you can read it on page 10. Doug and Heather are currently living in Canada.

In the ‘Celebratory Moments’ page is a wedding photo of our current principal. Congratulations to Narelle and Chris! We wish you God’s richest blessing on your marriage.

At the end of last year we said goodbye to a few long term staff - Cliff and Rosalie. We miss their smiling faces but wish them well in their retirement.

As always there is lots of ‘new’ around the school - lots of new staff and students. We introduced two new Executive roles - Di is Assistant Principal for Primary and Karissa is Assistant Principal for Secondary.

Amanda is leaving MECS at the end of April. Amanda has worked tirelessly in her Community Relations role for eleven and a half years. We will miss her warm smile and love of the MECS community. We wish Amanda God’s richest blessings as she enjoys a well deserved rest and seeks God’s will for her future.

Martin continues to undergo treatment for cancer - as a school community we stand in prayer with Martin and his family. Please uphold their family in your prayers also.

Our Open Day is coming up on May 9, from 10am - 1pm. If you would like to come and have a walk around the school, reminisce and see all the changes you are welcome. Make sure you come and introduce yourself at the sign in desk near the main office.

Until next time,

Nicole (class of ’90)
Community Relations Officer

Making Great Memories

I love to reminisce – and flicking through the pages of ReConnect is a great opportunity to do so!

I’m sure before turning back to read this editorial, most of you have already flicked through the pictures of past students, catching up on their news, recognising the name or face of an old school colleague or teacher, wondering whatever happened to so-and-so...

Looking back through a past issue of ReConnect I even saw some photos of my younger self! The year being featured was 1993! It was my second year teaching in the senior school and there I was with permed hair, high waisted jeans, a top tucked in and wearing runners! The photos captured something of the Year 12s last day at Pound Bend in Warrandyte. We can clearly be seen playing the ‘chocolate game’ – the apron featured as part of the dress-ups is still being used in my kitchen to this day. Colin and Roger are seen participating in a wheelbarrow race. I remember those days and organising those games. We had such innocent, simple fun celebrating the end of another year. So many great memories!

However, recently I attended an event with my best friend from Year 7. We met at orientation in 1981 and were inseparable through secondary school. We still see each other and serve on the Board of a children’s charity together. We were reminiscing about school. ‘Remember that great camp we had down at the Gippsland Lakes’, I said. ‘What? That was terrible, it was cold and wet and we didn’t learn anything.’ ‘But don’t you remember….’ and so it went on! What in my mind had been a fantastic experience had not been shared by my friend. Her experience had been very different.

Memory, and memories can be complex. They are subjective and often reflect a whole lot of other things going on at the time. MECS is blessed to have many students, past and present who have happy memories of their time here. Their experience of friendship, supportive staff and challenging camps all rate highly. We continue to work hard to make sure that MECS is a positive, safe, nurturing, learning environment for everyone in our community. We know that we don’t always get this right, but in partnership together, we are committed to making this a place where great memories are made. We want all our students to be able to reminisce with smiles on their faces about their time and experiences enjoyed at MECS.

We hope this issue of ReConnect gives you a glimpse into our past and future, and will give you something to smile about. We always welcome past students back to school to have a look around; I have met so many in the last year as young couples return to MECS to enrol their own children in the school. What a great endorsement of the special place this is in the memories of so many people. If it’s been a while since you ‘re-connected’, why don’t you pop into our Open Day on Saturday 9 May to see why MECS is still a place that brings so much joy to so many people? We would love to see you!
From the MECS Board

My time on the Board of Mount Evelyn Christian School is coming to an end this year after serving for 5 years. When our son John graduated last November, it marked an end of an era for my wife Jean and I as we no longer have children attending MECS.

So, this is a perfect time to reflect on what MECS has meant to us – both as parents of students and as a Board member.

First of all, a little background on our family, since we are far from the typical MECS family. My wife Jean is from St. Lucia in the Caribbean and I am from Milwaukee, Wisconsin in the United States. We arrived in Australia in 2003 as missionaries for an international short-wave radio ministry based in Kilsyth (we are currently missionaries with Focus on the Family Australia). A missionary family that was also from the United States had arrived in Australia earlier that year and highly recommended MECS. We are extremely grateful that they did!

Our children had been in several schools up to that point as we had lived in various locations during our training to be missionaries (on the Texas/Mexico border and in Ecuador to name a few).

In the ideal world, we would have had time to do an analysis of all the Christian schools near our new home and choose the best option. However, God had truly gone before us and led us to the right school for our children. Jean and I have no doubt that MECS is the school we would have chosen and was the ideal fit for our creatively-oriented children.

Some of the distinctive characteristics of MECS that we have fallen in love with include the wonderful sense of community among students, teachers and parents and the emphasis on nurturing each child’s unique God-given gifts. I was amazed to learn at a school excursion that former students had voluntarily come back to help with the running of the camp (and some wanted to come back as teachers!).

MECS truly has a special heritage with several generations of families having attended the school or been involved in its founding. So, when I was asked to serve on the Board, I was honoured to play a part in keeping a good thing going! Now, several years later, I can say that I have been very impressed with the professional manner in which the school is run – both by the Executive team and the leadership of the Board.

Going forward, an ongoing challenge for Christian schools is getting parents involved, as peoples’ lives are getting busier and busier. And for MECS, the challenge specifically is getting more parents to become Association members so that it remains healthy and strong. Also, that the strong leadership continues with sufficient Association members coming forward to serve on the Board.

My portfolio on the Board has been the Association and so this is a topic I am intimately aware of.

My wife Jean and I – and our children, Wanda and John – have been greatly blessed by our association with MECS and we pray that MECS will continue to be just as much a blessing to other families as it has been to ours. We plan on always being supportive of the school, although the way we do that will be changing. We want to say thank you so much to the MECS community for welcoming us in and playing such a special part in our lives.

Eric

Tiffany, 3rd Generation Association Member

At our EGM in October 2014 we welcomed Tiffany as a new Association Member. This was a significant moment for the family and for the MECS Association, as it is the first time we have had three generations of the same family in the Association. Tiffany graduated MECS in 2011 and is currently studying to be a teacher, her parents Ian and Evelyn have been members since 2008 and her grandparents Bill and Henny Dubbeld have been members since the late 1960’s - before MECS was even built!

It was wonderful to share this special moment with the family.

We also welcomed back into membership Lorensz and Sandra - past parents and board members and also Andrew and Sherrin - Andrew is a past teacher and parent.

Nicole
Community Relations Officer

Sandra and Lorensz
Andrew and Sherrin
Eric - Board Member, Bill, Ian (class of ‘80), Tiff (class of ‘11), Evelyn & Henny

Page 3
Our Transformational Education book began as a large Teaching and Learning framework document! It was designed to unpack the key distinctives of MECS' vision and mission, and how these translate to teaching and learning. Our previous Principal, Martin, was a key driver of this endeavour.

In honour of Harry who passed away in early 2013, we decided to further develop this document into a book to share with Christian school communities. We are hopeful that in presenting our core understandings of biblically informed education at MECS, others may be encouraged to apply these to their own context.

The acrostic of ‘transformational’ captures our 16 key characteristics and each of the sixteen chapters includes a detailed description of the key idea, illustrative scriptures, implications for teaching and learning, and further questions for discussion. They also include artwork and poetry from our very own MECS students. Our book’s curator, Cameron, has been working with Diane to creatively design the pages of this publication.

If you are interested, books are available for purchase from the office for $20.

Jacqui  
Director of Teaching, Learning and Innovation

In the last week of Term 1 the MECS community, along with a number of special guests from the wider Christian School and CEN movement gathered together at Donvale Christian College to launch our book, Transformational Education. It was a joyous occasion to say the least! MECS staff and guests mingled to the sounds of a great jazz trio and were served some tasty treats by a crew of students from the Ranges TEC Hospitality class. Formalities followed with Martin outlining the origin, history and significance of the book to the MECS community. Henni gave a heartfelt response about Harry’s life and work. Henni noted that Harry’s initial training was as an architect and that putting things in frameworks was what he did well. Cameron, the book’s curator, performed some of his own original poems and some of the student poems from the book. Ken (CEN CEO) dedicated the book in prayer. The evening was wrapped up by myself, thanking the many who had collaborated on the book and brought it to fruition. The final words of the evening were that the book might travel far and wide and assist both teachers and students on the journey of Christian education.

Di  
Assistant Principal - Primary
Recent Celebratory Moments

Jade, (class of ’06) married Derek on August 2, 2014 at Queens College in Melbourne.

Rachel (class of ’07), Jade, Ebony (class of ’06) and Kendal.

Jade with parents Harry and Annamarie.

Jared (class of ’09) married Jahzeel on Mordialloc Beach in Melbourne at dawn on January 4, 2014, followed by a breakfast reception at Windows on the Bay, a restaurant overlooking the beach. Jahzeel had her only sister Michelle as her maid of honour. Abegail and Jared’s two sisters, Laura (nee Tromp, class of ’06) and Rachael (class of ’12) were the bridesmaids.

Gavin (class of ’09) was Jared’s best man and mates, Grant, Rodney and brother in law Jonathan were his groomsmen.

Kristen (class of ’90) married Craig on Saturday 13 September, 2014 at Mount Evelyn Christian Reformed Church followed by a reception at Wild Cattle Creek Estate in Seville.

Pictured far left: Kristen and Craig, left Kristen’s parents Lorenz and Sandra with sister Leonie, and her nieces.

Narelle married Chris on December 20, 2014 at Killara Winery.

Narelle taught at MECS from 1992-2006, then worked at Donvale Christian College and is the current MECS principal.

Send your celebratory news to us!
reconnect@mecs.vic.edu.au
Ben
We would like to congratulate Ben (class of ‘07) on not only winning the 2014 Certificate II in Cabinet Making (Furniture) award but also the 2014 Andrew Kossenas Apprentice of the Year Award. The Andrew Kossenas award is given to the apprentice who has achieved excellence and therefore is the best apprentice across Australia from the following areas of skill: Kitchens/ Bathrooms, Cabinet Furniture Making, Flooring, Picture Framing and Upholstery.

Ben was presented this award at the Australian Furniture Association end of year function by Mr Ted McAuliffe (former President) who acknowledged the importance of the award in identifying young Australians with a passion for the furnishing industry and its representation of the bright future of Australian Furniture Manufacturing.

Ben was awarded this prestigious prize based on his demonstrated understanding of the furniture industry and on his impressive portfolio, particularly the design and construction of his cabinet piece (pictured below).

The cabinet is an Ikebana cabinet which in Japanese means ‘flower arrangement’. Ben has named this cabinet “Awakening of a Dream”. If it does not get used as an Ikebana Cabinet it can be used as a Kodo Cabinet which means “Way of Incense”. The cabinet is heading to the Bungendore Wood Works Gallery in NSW (http://bungendorewoodworks.com.au/) in January. It will be positioned in the front foyer and will retail for about $72,000.

The cabinet, which has a hidden chamber built into it, has taken Ben over 2 years to build. It is a beautiful, beautiful piece of work. Ben is also featured in the current issue of the Australian Wood Review http://www.woodreview.com.au/news/wood-review-85.

Sascha
Former MECS student Sascha (class of ‘12) has been achieving significant success as a triathlon athlete over the past year. He has moved to Brisbane and since that time has been competing in the ‘Elite Men’s’ class both here and overseas. He has represented Australia in a number of international competitions in Estonia, the Netherlands, Spain and Singapore. He won two of two Spanish races (see photo) and in October last year won the U23 Men’s Adelaide OTU Duathlon Oceania Championships. This result gives him an automatic selection into the Duathlon World Championships this year.

Sascha’s life in Brisbane includes studying for a double degree in Exercise Science/ Business. He is studying part-time due to a very heavy training load of 20 to 35 hours a week. We warmly congratulate Sascha on his success. (www.triathlon.org/athletes/profile/39326/sascha_bondarenko-edwards)

Melinda
Congratulations to Melinda (class of ‘10) who has won the 2014 Australian Apprentice of the Year at a presentation held at the Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia.

Melinda, who is employed by Hargo Engineering Pty Ltd, has a Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade. Melinda has always had a fascination with how things work and has a natural skill and passion for hands-on work, but felt obliged to pursue a tertiary pathway. After spending a week doing work experience at Hargo Engineering, she decided that an Australian Apprenticeship in Fitting and Machining was a good balance between theoretical and practical learning. She enrolled in a Certificate III in Engineering – Mechanical Trade at Swinburne University of Technology and commenced her apprenticeship at Hargo Engineering the day after completing her school exams.

As a qualified fitter and turner, Melinda has already won the Gold medal for Fitting and Machining at the WorldSkills Australia - Melbourne Region competition in 2013, and also competed at the 2014 WorldSkills Australia National Competition. She received Swinburne’s Best in First Year and Best in Third Year awards over the course of her studies.

Passionate about promoting maths education and manufacturing career development, Melinda tutors primary and secondary students, as well as refugees from Burma.

Well done Melinda!
Congratulations to Gavin (class of '09), who is now the editor of the SAE engineering magazine and the Young Engineers Committee founding member.

Gavin also works as an engineer at ABMARC.

To match the SAE-A’s expansion of focus into the entire mobility industry, the Society has increased its depth by adding a new member division, namely, the Young Engineers division.

So, who qualifies as a young engineer?

Specifically, individuals under the age of 30, or with less than 5 years experience as a practicing engineer. This includes those who are working or studying in the engineering mobility field and have a keen interest in this industry.

What benefits are there in joining this division?

There are many. Here is a summary of our planned activities:

Career Advancement.

Helping young engineers achieve their dream job through providing of training, professional development (resume building & writing, interview tips), webinars, networking, Q&A sessions with chief engineers, the Formula SAE-A, site visits to various companies and updates about all sectors of mobility engineering.

Recognition.

In addition to helping advance careers, we are looking to recognize and promote the talent of our students and young engineers. The Mobility Engineering Excellence Awards provides a great avenue for recognition, through its Young Engineer, Post Graduate and Under Graduate categories. This very magazine, along with the SAE-A’s peer-reviewed Technical Journal (coming soon), opens up opportunities for young engineers to have their work published in a professional domain.

Support.

Often young professionals need support, encouragement or advice from other, more experienced engineers. At the YE division, we will be leveraging the wisdom from the Society’s membership through mentorship, Q&A sessions and networking.

Lastly, Fun.

We will be holding free or low cost events that are not only enjoyable, but also beneficial for career advancement. Events such as driver training, networking/social evenings and the Formula SAE-A.

What do we need from you?

This division is new, so we are looking for members (young and older) to help out. You can help by offering ideas or advice on events, or by offering yourself or your company’s time to run a site tour or a Q&A session. There are also opportunities for senior SAE-A members to provide support for our young members, through training or mentorship.

As a Society, we are excited to see where this division takes us, and how it will input to the development of the Society as a whole. We are looking forward to the year ahead; the events we have planned, and the young engineers we will meet.

Brandon

Brandon, (class of ’ ), recently competed in the Australian Chainsaw Carving Chamionships at Skigh, Mount andenong. ell done Brandon You can see more of Brandon’s carvings on facebook

www.facebook.com Brandon roon ChainsawCarving
1980s

James, class of ’87

I was at MECS for my primary schooling and went to Lilydale TEC for secondary.

A favourite memory of MECS is having running races down the gravel driveway past the old house. I remember racing Ashley, Peter, Anthony and others. I also remember the primary vegetable patches, just down from the class rooms (roughly where the admin block is now) - we worked in pairs and had our own little plot to look after.

When I left school I did a cabinetmaking apprenticeship and worked for 9 years in that field. Then I moved into the landscaping business with my Dad and we have gone on to specialize in commercial grounds maintenance and landscaping. I married a lovely girl from WA, Trynda, and we have been blessed with a son Samuel, who is a favourite memory of MECS is having running races down the gravel driveway past the old house. I remember racing Ashley, Peter, Anthony and others. I also remember the primary vegetable patches, just down from the class rooms (roughly where the admin block is now) - we worked in pairs and had our own little plot to look after.

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The following table shows what our 2014 Year 12 graduates are doing this year. Some students have deferred courses and are working as part of a Gap year. We encourage you to pray for these young people as they face the new challenges of work and tertiary study.

**Dr Roger F**
VCE Coordinator

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### Class of 2014 - Destinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Destination 2015</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Film and Television Production</td>
<td>Footscray City Films</td>
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<td>Madeline</td>
<td>Teaching (Outreach &amp; Community Education)</td>
<td>La Trobe University</td>
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<td>Aaron</td>
<td>Information Technology (Degree)</td>
<td>RMIT University</td>
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<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Psychology &amp; Sport Science (Social Science)</td>
<td>Swinburne University of Technology</td>
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<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Monash University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Box Hill Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Box Hill Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Applied Public Health/Global Studies</td>
<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Surveying (Diploma)</td>
<td>RMIT University</td>
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<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Arts/Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy (Pass and Honours)</td>
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<td>Arianna</td>
<td>Specialist Make-up Services</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
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<td>Laura</td>
<td>Teaching-Primary</td>
<td>Deakin University</td>
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<td>Rachel</td>
<td>Design Course</td>
<td>QLD</td>
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<td>Lydia</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Victoria University</td>
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<td>Alex</td>
<td>Gap Year/Work</td>
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<td>Isaac</td>
<td>Commerce/Science</td>
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<td>Kendra</td>
<td>Education (Associate Degree)</td>
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<td>Daniel</td>
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<td>Natalie</td>
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<td>Monash University</td>
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<td>Erica</td>
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<td>Dylan</td>
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<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Sport Coaching - Physical Education</td>
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<td>Persis</td>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>Taylor</td>
<td>Gap Year</td>
<td>Australian Catholic University in 2016</td>
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<td>Nathanael</td>
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<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
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<td>Science</td>
<td>University Of Melbourne (The)</td>
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<td>Adara</td>
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<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
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<td>Eryn</td>
<td>Psychology (with Honours)</td>
<td>Monash University</td>
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<td>Neathaniel</td>
<td>Game Design and Production</td>
<td>Academy of Interactive Entertainment</td>
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<td>Beauty Course</td>
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<td>John</td>
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<td>Brianna</td>
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<td>Joel</td>
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<td>Lauren</td>
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<td>Paige</td>
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[**MECS Fun Facts!**](#)

- The MECS library has 22,000 resources! This includes books, magazines and dvds
- We are already taking enrolments for Prep 2020!

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**Contact Us**

We would love to hear from any past students wanting to reconnect.

If you would like to be on the mailing list to receive ReConnect either by post or email, please let us know by sending us your contact details and email address.

We would also love to hear what you are doing now and even see a current photo of you and/or your family.

You can contact the school by going to the ‘Past Student’ page on the MECS website: [www.mecs.vic.edu.au](http://www.mecs.vic.edu.au), by calling 9738 6000 or by emailing us at reconnect @mecs.vic.edu.au.

**Nicole**
Community Relations
Memories of MECS

When I first encountered MECS I had never heard of Christian schools.

At my board interview I was asked how I saw myself as a Christian teacher. Talk about naive. My answer was something along the lines of 'well I feel there has to be something more than prayer and teaching' but I didn't know what. I did feel that this job had my name on it if that's of any significance (Jaws music please!).

When I first started I wore leather pants - which apparently caused a stir. That look hadn't quite reached Mount Evelyn. It's amazing what difference an hour's commute could make in those days. I am sure that some of my castoffs are still in the drama props space!

So began a lifelong relationship with MECS and Christian schools for me in my role as Teacher Librarian. I started at MECS as Heather A (1979) and later became Heather B (along with that came a wonderful husband, three awesome stepdaughters and now sons-in-law and grandchildren, and a magnificent group of friends).

Over the next 20 years or more I developed and grew, as did the library.

They were fun years and hard years, years in which relationships changed and moved on or moved away. I saw generations come and go. Sharon and Andy were students who became friends and their children became students. That's community!

I was part time librarian with my friend Geoff or as I call him affectionately Geofffrey Brian and our Library technician Barbara.

Then Geoff headed off to full time teaching in the Senior School and I was full time Teacher Librarian. Along the way we were joined by the indomitable Robin; later Marie joined us part time. Then Barbara left and Ruth became the Library Technician. Sara was part of those years. Along the way we gathered up Fiona, Lyn and Sheryl. Colin even did a 12 month stint with us. Book week was never the same again! I can't even begin to tell you about the host of volunteers who are more precious than gold, Margie, Ardrie, Joke, Shirley, Mary and yes, even Chris.

Amidst all this we had The Great Flood, restored the library and took advantage of the disaster to computerize. Barbara took up the reins as Librarian-in-Charge, and undertook the task of training the school in using a computerized library.

The next big event was a government grant to build the library - the Arie Heatherich Memorial Library - with the understorey serving as a gym.

Somewhere in between all this I spent a couple of years as Middle School Coordinator when it was Years 7-10 and as it became Years 7-9.

Believe it or not there was a time when I was one of the few female teaching staff for Years 7 to 12. That's when my camp attendance started. I attended most camps during those times - the Centre Trip was the exhausting highlight of the camp cycle and I think I went on 12, including the very first one that the school ran itself (remember Margie - we shared a tent!) That's when I became a Nakamarra and suddenly my whole family past present and future had a place in the group. Awesome!

I must mention the MECS Outdoor Adventure Club and those great opportunities with Jack and later Bob: hiking in the Australian Alps (thanks Daniel for carrying my pack on that narrow ridge between the two mountains), the Tasmanian walk sharing a tent with Marilyn; Steve and I at one stage heading off in completely the wrong direction at the beginning of a snow storm and sailing on the Gippsland Lakes.

I worked with three principals, Jack, Stewart and briefly Martin. Wow! Each contributed to where MECS is today in a timely fashion by the grace of God and their unquenching energies and insights. And alongside them, the Board members and staff - people of dedication and strength.

As I reread this, I realize why I stayed more than the 3 years, as I had thought of as my limit for any one work place. The personal opportunities to grow and change offered by contact with MECS were many and amazing and by the grace of God I was able to be part of something so much bigger than me. In fact I stayed until 2002 - 23 years later - what an ironic sense of humour our Lord has!

Doug and I continue to live in Toronto – the 2 years I thought we'd be here have just multiplied by 2. My sense of timing and God's seem strangely out of sync. Mmm!

These are just a few of my memories of MECS - an awesome place that I was extremely privileged to be part of. I truly thank the Lord for that privilege.

Heather
## Calendar

**2015 Term 2 Week 2: 20 April - 26 April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 21 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 10am preceeded by Parent Morning Tea 9am. Come and say goodbye to Amanda Steele. Parent Seminar A Main Staffroom 7.30pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 22 Apr</td>
<td>Year 5 Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 22 - Fri 24 Apr</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 23 Apr</td>
<td>Year 12 Parent Supper 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Apr</td>
<td>Fri 24 April</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 22 April</td>
<td>Immunisations Year 7 and Year 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 23 April</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 - Fri 1 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
<td></td>
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**2015 Term 2 Week 3: 27 April - 3 May**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 28 Apr</td>
<td>Year 7 Interschool Soccer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Apr</td>
<td>Year 6 Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 - Fri 1 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 30 Apr</td>
<td>Year 11 and 12 Interschool Soccer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 2 May</td>
<td>Working Bee including Morning Tea 8am-1pm</td>
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**2015 Term 2 Week 4: 4 May - 10 May**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 6 May</td>
<td>Primary Cross Country</td>
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<td></td>
<td>JP Connect Morning Tea</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prep Parent Night 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 7 May</td>
<td>Year 8 Interschool Soccer</td>
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### Lost Property

Just a reminder to please check the racks at lost property for your children’s belongings, today or tomorrow. We have accumulated plenty of clothes, hats, lunch boxes etc and it would be good if they went back to their owners. Those that aren’t collected will go to the local op shop. Again, can I please remind parents to clearly label their children’s clothing. It makes our job so much easier!

- **Melinda**
- **Lost Property**

Newsletter deadline is 11am **Tuesday** on published week.

Email articles (images attached as .jpg) to the Newsletter Office

### Apple Man

The next apple delivery will be on Friday April 24. We have Royal Galas, Pink Ladies, Granny Smith and Fuji available. Each 5-6kg bag costs $10, and will be delivered to the office at around lunch time. Please hand your orders to the office by 12pm Thursday April 23, and ensure you have your name and order written on the front of the envelope, with the correct money enclosed.

### Car for Sale


### Unit in Lilydale

Fully furnished two bedroom unit available to rent in Lilydale from 16 May 2015 onwards. Air-con, lockable garage, gas stove, gas heating, recently painted. $280 pw. Contact Stuart 0409 511 388 or stuart.little@bigpond.com.

### Entertainment Book

The new Entertainment Book will be launched this week. Next week a book will be on display in the main office for you to look through. Either drop your order form (sent home last term) into the office or order online at: www.entbook.com.au/193t695 and ask for pick up and it will be sent home with your child. If you would like another order form for family or friends collect one from the office. Contact Evelyn Dubbeld on 0425 821 947.

### Dollarmite Banking

Just a reminder that banking day is Wednesday. Place your bank books in the grey satchels in the classroom. If your child has 10 tokens remember to get them to put them in for their reward.

### Auskick Coldstream

Coldstream Auskick, Friday 17 April, 5.30-7.30pm. Main Oval. Contact Karina on 0425 784 193.

### VCE Biology & PE Tutoring

Affordable and reliable tutoring may give you that extra edge required to achieve your goals. As 2014 MECS graduate I can assist you in all things Biology and Physical Education, with 46 and 50 study scores in each respectively.

For more information contact Lauren Tharle 0487 647 619, or email ltharle@student.unimelb.edu.au.

### Bells of Peace

The Bells of Peace is a performance to tell the story of ANZAC from a local perspective. It includes the singing from a choir of 250+ people and is celebrating 100 Years of ANZAC. Sat April 16, Discovery Church, 89 Monbulk Rd, Mount Evelyn. Performance 2pm. Tickets $20, concession $12, children under 12 free. Free exhibition and entertainment and food available for purchase from 12pm. Official opening 1.30pm. I am delighted to be involved. Come along and celebrate.

### Open Day – Saturday 9 May 10am-1pm

If you have family or friends who are interested in Christian education, you are most welcome to take them on a personal tour on Open Day or encourage them to come along. We have quite a few activities happening around the school on the day.

We would appreciate some parents to help with:

- Face painting
- Making Balloon animals
- Serving Devonshire Tea
- Supervising jumping castles or cup cake decorating
- Assisting with classroom activities
- Assisting with the Sausage Sizzle
- Setting up between 8am-10am
- Packing up between 12.30-1.30pm
- Organising prizes

If you are available to help us (even for an hour), we would really appreciate it. Please phone Nicole on 9738 6023, or email nyhouse@mechs.vic.edu.au.

If you have a busy day and are not sure if you can squeeze it in, please just drop in to school when and if you can. Thank you for your support.

- **Amanda and Nicole**

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**Notices sent home this week and on Website**

- Year 5 Connect Morning Tea Invitation
- Year 6 Connect Morning Tea Invitation
- New Prep Teacher Letter
- SP Term 2 Letter
- Prep Pipeline Term 2
- Assembly & Amanda’s farewell M/Tea Invite
- Kinder Connection 3, April 2015
- Year 12 Parent Supper Notice
- Career Newsletter No 4 April 13
- Studio Art Excursion Units 3 & 4 Notice
- Year 8 Camp Notices
- May Working Bee Notice

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135 York Road Mount Evelyn 3796 - office@mechs.vic.edu.au - www.mecs.vic.edu.au - 03 9738 6000 - 03 9738 6001 (fax) - Absent student: 03 9513 1561