A Message from the President……

Dear Old Scholars,

We have had a busy twelve months and I can barely believe it is already June and the AGM is fast approaching. It has been good to catch up with many Old Scholars over the past year and we hope to see more of you attending our events over the ensuing months.

Events recently held:

Puddleduck Vineyard

On Sunday the 25th November 2012 the Mount Carmel and St Joseph’s Old Scholars and Friends enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Puddle Duck Vineyard in Richmond.

Amongst those enjoying the delicious wines, canapés and cheeses on offer were Anne Hutchinson, who was visiting from Melbourne and her sister Karen Gartlan.

A very relaxing time catching up with old friends in the beautiful surroundings was had by all. Needless to say the bus trip back was a very merry one. Special thanks to Anthony Borghesi for once again driving the Mount Carmel bus to and from the venue.

This gathering has become an annual event on the ‘Old Scholars’ calendar and I would encourage Old Scholars (male and female) to spread the word to friends and family this year. An afternoon of laughter is guaranteed!
School fairs of yesteryears were somewhat different from those of today. No jumping castles for the children, but most of the stalls remain similar. The greatest difference appears to be that our parents, usually the mothers, spent a day or two in the City Hall manning the school’s stall. The Chocolate Wheel has, however, stood the test of time! The above photo was taken at one of those events and appeared in the Women’s Weekly in the early 1950s. The writer is not quite sure but thinks that in those days, all the Catholic Schools combined and had one great annual fair.

It would be good to see more old scholars at next year’s fair. Do come along, have a trip down memory lane.

**Science and Engineering Challenge**

The Old Scholars Association is pleased to recognise the Mount Carmel girls’ success in winning the Tasmanian Science and Engineering Challenge held recently at the University of Tasmania. The team will be heading to the national final to be held in New South Wales in October and our Association has made a donation to assist with their expenses. Our best wishes for an enjoyable experience go with the girls in this exciting challenge.

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**Forthcoming Events - Save the Date:**

**AGM and Mass – 11th August 2013**

Our Annual Mass and AGM for 2013 will be held on Sunday 11th August. The day will commence at Holy Spirit Church celebrating Mass with the Parish of Sandy Bay at 10 am followed by morning tea and the AGM at the Mount Carmel College Art and Technology Building. Thank you to Father Michael Tate who will be celebrating Mass with us.

**Puddleduck Vineyard**

Our end of Year function will be held at ‘Puddleduck Vineyard’ on Sunday the 24th November at 2pm. Cost is $20.00 per head. This includes wine tastings, finger food and an extra glass or two of your favourite wine.

This year we thought we would have a theme….the theme is Christmas. So wear a splash of red, green or tinsel!!

As many of you will know, Laurie Wolfe has completed her 10 year tenure as our Principal and she will be leaving Mount Carmel at the end of the year. We would like to make this occasion at Puddleduck an acknowledgment of Laurie’s wonderful contribution to the school and the Old Scholars Association. So please come along to enjoy a wonderful afternoon with us.

Mount Carmel College has generously offered transport via the school bus to 992 Richmond Road, Richmond, and we shall depart school at 1.30pm.
This promises to be a great afternoon, so please book by Monday the 11th of November by emailing Barbara Berkery on Barbara Berkery bm.berkery@bigpond.com or phone 0408 336 317. Numbers on the bus are limited!!

**Back to Mount Carmel Afternoon**

Laurie Wolfe has kindly set aside an afternoon, Sunday September 22nd, 2013 for old scholars to attend a Back to Mount Carmel afternoon.

Tours will between 2-4 pm and set tour times are: 2.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.15pm, and 3.45pm.

Please bring your old photos with you to share with other Old Scholars.

**Then and Now - by Laurie Wolfe**

How times have changed! With the implementation of iPads this year at Mount Carmel, we continue our remarkable technological journey with enthusiasm. But what was it like when one of our oldest Old Scholars, Sister Josephine Cannell rsc, first started at the State School in New Norfolk in 1924 and then later went onto St Joseph’s School in Molle Street.

Sister Jo commenced her writing career with a slate. Sometimes she used chalk, but this was rather thick, so more often than not the students used fine skewers of slate. In Prep, exercise books were introduced – double-lined books in which rows of pothooks and other letters were duly executed. The lower case letters were written strictly between the train lines.

In Grade 1 single-lined exercise books were used in conjunction with copy books, where lines of beautifully written text had to be accurately imitated down the page, often using lead pencils. The next step was to use pen and ink, the ink being kept in ceramic inkwells set into each desk. The pens had wooden handles with a steel holder for the nibs. Because the ink remained wet for some time, blotting paper had to be used. It was easy to smudge the work, and many a page had to be done all over again!

In secondary school, pad paper could be used instead of exercise books, but there were no paperclips or staples, dressmaking pins were all the go. Pencils were used for quick work but fountain pens were now in vogue. These had a rubber tube attached to the nib and were housed in a Bakelite tube. A little lever allowed the ink to be sucked up and everyone brought along their own bottle of ink. This commercial ink was a much better texture than the old, black, powdered kind which you mixed up yourself - and it was the most glorious colour of blue. In the 1930s biros came onto the market and co-existed with the fountain pens.

Sister Josephine went from student to teacher at St Joseph’s. After three years of her being in the classroom, biros completely eclipsed ink for her students and the days of blotting paper were over!

In 1987, when writing her first book on the history of St Columba’s in Victoria, Sister Josephine used an electric typewriter and then gave the copy to a secretary at the school who word-processed the text. In 2007 when she wrote her book on the history of the Sisters of Charity in Tasmania, Sister Josephine typed everything up on her own computer and then took the text on a USB to the printer! From slate to computer – what a journey! Certainly a
great achievement for someone in their 89th year.

In the next edition of this Newsletter, our soon-to-be youngest Old Scholars will share their writing story which is somewhat less broad in range. Their world is a far cry from chalk and slate but fortunately the creativity and expertise required to craft quality text are still just as important as they ever were. It is not the implement or technology which is being used; it is knowing how and what to write which makes the difference!

New signage

If you have recently driven by Mount Carmel College you will have noticed our new front stone wall and signage. For those of you who are unable visit the school, we have decided to include a photo…..

It is time to RENEW!

It is time to renew your membership subscription. We traditionally ask Old Scholars to renew their membership at the AGM. This only captures a fifth of our membership, so this year we are asking you all to complete the form attached and return with your membership fee.

The money from subscription covers the cost of production of the newsletter, postage and being able to make small donations to the school to assist with current students attending special events.
Committee Members

President: Yvonne Chaperon
Vice President: Maureen Fasnacht
Secretary: Barbara Berkery
Treasurer: Louise Whitehead
Committee:
Liz Jordan
Gerardine Huber
Libby Piesse
Kate Driscoll
Isabella Attwood
Anne Haward
Virginia Brown
Pauline Ims

The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members would all like to thank our Mount Carmel Principal, Laurie Wolfe for her generous support of the Old Scholars’ Association, her commitment to the College, and her attendance at all of our functions.

Obituary

Mrs Patricia Rushton (nee Payne) passed away on the 7th June 2013. Mrs Rushton attended St Joseph’s. As a student she was very good at music, particularly piano.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Helen, Michael and Louise and families.

Mr Malcolm Muir passed away on the 19th June 2013. His daughters Catherine, Sarah, Jennie, Ruth, Victoria and Lucy all attended Mount Carmel College. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Muir and family.