



Connections



1955
Jan Murphy (Head Prefect)
Beverley Taylor (Sports Captain)
Taken in the grounds of the Repatriation Hospital
on our way to school

Welcome



A New Member of Our Community

After a year as Acting Principal, it was announced in late 2023 that Mrs Megan Richardson was appointed as the Principal of Mount Carmel College.

Megan is an experienced educator within Catholic Education including Principal at St John's Catholic School, Richmond, Acting Principal at St Cuthbert's Catholic School, Lindisfarne and Holy Rosary Catholic School, Claremont and Deputy Principal at both Holy Rosary Catholic School and St Aloysius Catholic College, Huntingfield. Her qualifications include Master in Educational Leadership (Australian Catholic University) and Bachelor of Education (University of Tasmania).

Megan is looking forward to being a part of, and working with, the wider College community in 2024 and beyond.

Contents

- 03** A Word from the President
- 04** History on Display
- 06** Kindergarten...Second Time Around
- 07** Nurturing Minds, Nurturing Spaces
- 08** The End of an Era
- 10** Tales of Talented Women
- 18** Embracing Opportunities
- 20** 2024 Key Dates

We encourage past and present students, families and staff to keep in touch with the many aspects of Mount Carmel College through our website, publications and social media. Let us know your contact details, keep us updated with your news and if you would like to visit the College, we can organise a tour for you. If you wish to hold a class reunion, please contact us. All contributions to Lauramont are greatly appreciated.

Reunion News

The Class of 1978 (Year 10)/1980 (Year 12) held their reunion earlier in 2023, pouring over photos from "back in the day" of both themselves and staff members and enjoying hours and hours of conversations as they recalled their school days from 43 years ago.



A Word from the President



Muriel Griggs (Burton) and Anne Haward

Our 175-year celebration of the arrival of the Sisters of Charity in Tasmania in 2022 and the celebratory cocktail party on the 26th August that year has been the catalyst for renewed contact with our older Alumnae.

Our Mount Carmel Day Mass in 2023 was celebrated by Father Shammi Perera VG PP in July in the Cahill Centre. We were delighted to have the company of thirty St Joseph's and Mount Carmel College Alumnae at Mass. It was a privilege for them to be with the current staff and students, and also to reflect on the contribution our Alumnae have made to the foundation of Mount Carmel College. They then joined us for morning tea in the O'Brien Resource Centre where there was much reminiscing about old times.

We were fortunate to have pieces of St Joseph's uniform donated to us by Jan Murphy, Head Prefect of 1955, which have been framed and placed on display around the College.

Another special piece of memorabilia is the original photograph of the Southern Tasmanian Women's Basketball Association St Joseph's Old Scholars 1950 Team who were the winners of six successive A-Grade Southern and State Finals.

We are continuing to catalogue donations of memorabilia and are looking at sourcing some cabinets to display these pieces around the College for students and visitors to see. All items are an important record of the existence of the College and provide us with our culture and identity and give an insight to what it was like to be a student.

Donations of archival material are always welcome and will be catalogued, preserved and treasured within our collection. We are happy to accept all donations including paper documents, objects relating to the history of Mount Carmel College, uniforms, school magazines, photographs, trophies, books, badges and other memorabilia. Please contact me via email at oldscholars@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au or call the College directly if you have any items of memorabilia that you wish to donate.

Wishing you all good health as we step into a new year.

Anne Haward (Woodhouse)
(Class of 1977)
President

History on Display

The College was fortunate to have a number of our long-time alumni join current students and staff at the 2023 Mount Carmel Day Mass.

Along with celebrating our Feast Day, it was also a celebration of the College's history, past and present, with a special focus on the alumni of St Joseph's College, showcasing donations of memorabilia.

Special thanks to Jan Murphy, Head Prefect, St Joseph's College Class of 1955 for her donation of uniform pieces, photos and memorabilia which are now on display around the College to serve as a memory vault for the College's students, staff and families, both past and present.

1. St Joseph's gloves, ties and hat bands from the 1950s
2. Jan Murphy (Head Prefect) and Beverley Taylor (Sports Captain) on their way to school in 1955
3. Christine Long and Therese Pearce (Agnew)
4. Therese Pearce and Jan Murphy reminisce over St Joseph's photos
5. Therese McDevitt, Chrissy Turner and Jan Hogan (Shuttleworth)
6. Jan Murphy with her Head Prefect blazer
7. Southern Tasmanian Women's Basketball Association St Joseph's Old Scholars – 1950 Team
8. Margaret Bird, Rachel Nichols (Murphy) and Jan Palfreyman (O'Dwyer)
9. Memories of St Joseph's days
10. Barbara Berkery and Maureen Fasnacht (Pardoe)
11. Jill Mc Niece and Fr Shammi Perera VG PP





Kindergarten... Second Time Around

Mount Carmel College is not just a school, it's a community and even more than that it's a family. It's a family that welcomes you with open arms and provides love and support to everyone it meets.

Mount Carmel has been a significant part of my life and helped shape me into the person I became today. I was privileged to be a part of the first Kindergarten class in 1997 where I then went on to complete 12 years of schooling. I have 5 sisters and 2 brothers who all went through the school, creating their own memories and paving their own paths. One of my sisters Kimberley said "MCC was like a second home, a safe place where relationships and friendships were formed, a place I looked forward to go to everyday. MCC was a huge part of my life for 11 years and I still have many fond memories. Fortes in Fides."

2023 was a huge moment in my life where I had the privilege of having my daughter Madison start at Mount Carmel College and to become a part of the amazing family and community that I cherish. It's a bittersweet moment where she is in the last Kindergarten class that will be in Kindergarten House, where I started my schooling and both being able to play in the same home corner. Every morning at school drop off I am flooded with the different memories that I have in different areas, and I am filled with gratitude knowing that Madison is in the best possible hands. The growth that I saw throughout the year feels me with so much excitement for the years to come.

For me Mount Carmel College was not just about the friendships that I gained or the community that I was able to be a part of. It was about shaping me as a person and setting me up for the future. It was the start of my nursing career where I learnt the importance of looking after others. Mount Carmel College nurtured my interests and skills and encouraged me to be the best that I could be. Knowing the way Mount Carmel helped me on the path to having a successful career as an emergency nurse, I know that it is going to help shape Madison and allow her to achieve all that she wants to achieve. Mount Carmel College holds a very big piece of my heart, and I know it will hold a massive piece of all the hearts it continues to capture. If I have any final words they would be GO LORETO!

Caitlin Cannan (Hale) (Class of 2008)

1. Caitlin in Kindergarten, 1997
2. Madison Cannan's first day of Kindergarten, 2023
3. The first Kindergarten class of Mount Carmel College, 1997
4. A Hale family photo



Nurturing Minds, Nurturing Spaces

Mount Carmel College is set to expand the campus footprint to prepare for long-term modernisation.

In 2023, the College made some major headway in breaking down the physical constraints of the school grounds by purchasing a second property adjacent to the College on Sandy Bay Road. Despite the disappointment of finding that one of the buildings was unsuitable for the proposed cost-effective re-purposing into a safe and effective school facility, the College has now started to design the “bridge to the future” of its grounds.

For the first time in many years the College will now be able to further enhance their exceptional integrated learning environment which will be possible in 5, 10 and 20 years.

This will start with the commencement of a newly built, state-of-the-art Early Years facilities in 2024, with the aim of opening for the start of the 2025 school year. With the support of the College community and Catholic Education Tasmania, the College has a long-term plan of renewal, re-design, re-build and refresh which will transform the College and prepare it to educate the key contributors to our community for the next 50 years. The expanded footprint will deliver a better-quality outcome, with more green space, and a more cohesive and balanced learning environment for all students.

The properties will also provide additional school administration space relieving some of the pressure on existing facilities.

Architect’s rendered image of the Early Years Building



The End of an Era

2023 marked the end of an era as the College farewelled its very last cohort of boys.

At a special graduation assembly, Felix, Harrison, Harry, Jude and Oskar were addressed by Mr Robert Gard, College Board member and "old boy" followed by a guard of honour walk to the Sandy Bay Road steps where high 5's from our Kinder to Year 9 students and staff were free flowing.

Remarkable and extraordinary are two words that come to mind when thinking about these 5 boys, who have been 'Mount Carmel boys' since Kindergarten.

They have graced our classrooms and playgrounds with the exuberance, co-operative play, sense of humour, kindness and willingness to lend a hand. At any time of the day you will see the boys laughing and having a good time. While there would be times where it was tricky being in a class outnumbered by girls, this did not seem to faze Felix, Harrison, Harry, Jude or Oskar.

We will miss you boys, especially your ability to problem solve and your "techno wizardry."

We wish these five exceptional boys all the best as they journey onto their next adventure in their schooling at St Virgil's and want them to remember that they will always be a part of the tradition of Mount Carmel College.





Remarkable and extraordinary are two words that come to mind when thinking about these 5 boys, who have been 'Mount Carmel boys' since Kindergarten.



Tales of Talented Women

My Years with The Sisters of Charity

Colleen Shea (Langdon) (Class of 1961)

When I was 4 years old my father was seriously injured and unable to work for several years. Welfare Assistance was not available in those days so my mother was faced with the great challenge of supporting our family.

My sister was already attending St Joseph's College and the nuns soon heard of our predicament and sent a message for my mother to visit them. To her great relief, she discovered the Sisters had secured her a position in the Boarding House at Collegiate College on the opposite corner.

I was under school age so what to do with me while my mother worked? Simple! The Sisters would "mind" me and I could join in with the Kindergarten Class and officially start school the following year. Couldn't happen today! It seems I was overlooked the following year and simply moved up to the next class with my friends.

From that time on my mother was not only grateful but fiercely loyal to the Sisters and would tolerate no criticism of these fine

women. So began my years of hearing "Sister said" In response to my many grievances.

School life was simple during the 50's compared to today's school world. Australia continued to recover from the second World War and most families lived on basic incomes, helped one another and shared what they could spare.

Nevertheless, fund raising was a vital necessity at St Joseph's. The annual school fair was held in the City Hall and ran over two days and evenings. The stalls remained well stocked until the last evening. In later years, I wondered how those struggling families managed to provide and purchase the goods. The fair was well known in Hobart and city workers were keen to visit and buy the bargains.

Hobart City Hall also featured in another annual event – The School Ball. All attending students were required to wear full length ball gowns and I realised, in later years, a considerable number of girls missed out as their families did not have the funds for such a

frivolous dress. I was very lucky as I had a teenage aunt who was serving a four-year apprenticeship to become a dressmaker so both my sister and I had dresses made of factory offcuts or cut down from my aunt's discarded gowns. Boys attended St Joseph's until Grade 2 and also attended the Ball dressed in black tie outfits – the mind boggles!

At the commencement of the school year in 1958 the majority of my class made the move to Mount Carmel to begin Secondary School. At that time Lauramont was still wrapped in its magnificent verandah and housed class rooms. Two new class rooms had been built to accommodate Years 7 and 8 and the remainder of the students attended class in Lauramont. Kindergarten children were accommodated in the old stables, which are now long gone.

It was challenging to be in Lauramont in winter as the only heating in the rooms was a small grate. Each morning we collected kindling from the jungle as the clear land was called. The jungle now houses modern buildings and fine classrooms. A small fire was lit in the grate and we took turns sitting in the warmer desks. That's how it was, we knew no different, never complained and accepted a lot!

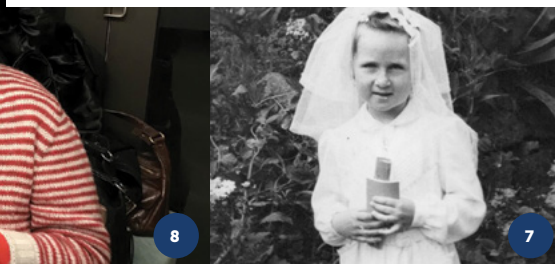
Mount Carmel offered a fine curriculum and covered all available subjects. I found myself in Year 9 studying



"It was challenging to be in Lauramont in winter as the only heating in the rooms was a small grate. Each morning we collected kindling from the jungle as the clear land was called."



“All attending students were required to wear full length ball gowns and I realised, in later years, a considerable number of girls missed out as their families did not have the funds for such a frivolous dress.



German, French, Latin, Geography, History, Social Science, Science, Biology, English Expression, English Literature, Mathematics, Shorthand, Typing, Home Economics and Sewing, which had to be undertaken on Saturday mornings.

None of this was my choice! I was aware some students had a lighter load and I felt hard done by. I convinced my mother to visit the school and request I no longer study Sciences. How foolish was I to ask such a thing for my mother returned with the answer “Sister said” and nothing changed! Well, I should have known that would be the response.

Close bonds were formed with school friends and I am proud that friendships are alive and well 60 years after finishing school.

I graduated from Mount Carmel in 1961 and a new adventure began in the working world. I immediately joined the St Joseph’s and Mt Carmel Old Scholars (now the Alumni) and began my long and cherished contact with and loyalty to Mount Carmel College.

Those women who were the Sisters of Charity at that time lived challenging lives with few comforts but never complained. They were firm teachers and taught us not only academic subjects but a loyalty to school and those within and encouraged us to aim high. They instilled in us a self-worth ethic and encouraged us to be unafraid of new ventures and reap the rewards.

I treasure my 70 years of memories with The Sisters of Charity.

1. Lauramont with its original wrapped verandah
2. Colleen (Langdon) Shea in 1952
3. Colleen and Phillip Timmins at the School Ball, 1953
4. Colleen, Jill McNiece and Margaret Smallbone (Downey), 2023
5. Colleen in 1960
6. Colleen at the School Ball, 1952
7. Colleen’s First Holy Communion, 1952
8. Colleen and Jill McNiece, 2022

Tales of Talented Women

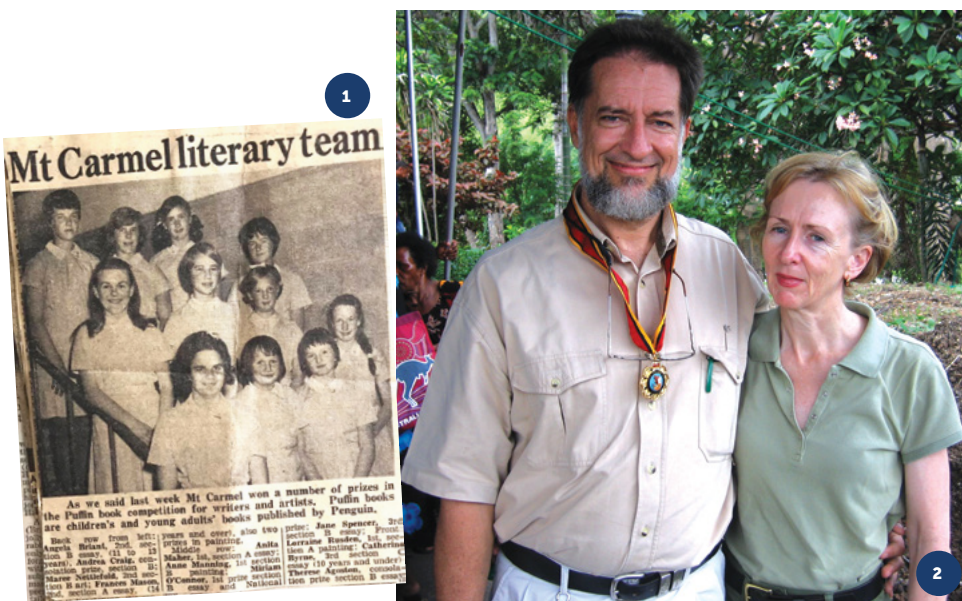
Dr Miriam O'Connor (Class of 1972)

Where does the time go? Seems (almost) like yesterday that the Class of '72 walked out the doors of Mount Carmel College to find our lives, or let life find us.

Over fifty years have passed, and I have to admit that I have not remained connected to those friends of my formative years. Thank God there are some great connectors to save me and others: Frances Read (Mason) being one of them. She found me in 2018 by some diligent research (as she does) and reached down through the years via Facebook. What fun! And we met up on a summer day in Lucca, Italy, when she was competing in a Dragon Boat Festival in Florence with a team from home and I was messing about taking language classes for a month or so. We raced through the remember whens and caught up with each other's lifelines. She mentioned that some of the girls get together on a regular basis in Hobart and encouraged me to get involved. And so, I finally did in March 2023 at a great gathering organised by Anne Gowans (Manning) and Fran. About 16 turned up and it was great to share stories and tell tall tales of times at school. I think we all recalled Sisters Elizabeth Dwyer, Eileen Malone, Sheelah Meadows, and Mrs Sally Poole with affection, and for those of us taught music by her, Sr Martha, who ruled with an iron-will.

I kicked off at Mount Carmel, along with two of my younger sisters (Bernadette & Anne-Marie), in 1968 when my parents and their 7 children relocated from Melbourne. My parents (Pat and Alec) were egalitarians when it came to educating their kids: they provided each of us with the same educational opportunity, and it was up to us to do with it what we wished and were able. No pressure, but definitely some expectation that we would not squander their efforts. They worked hard for us, and I shall always be grateful to them. They were very involved with the school management and social activities (who can forget those Melbourne Cup luncheons?), and I plodded along as a half-decent student but was no great asset to the school on the sports field. Classes were small then, especially STEM-related study options. In fact, classes were so small that nearly all of us ended up as the school prefects. We all dutifully toddled off to St Virgil's for dancing classes, several of my classmates ultimately marrying some sturdy chaps encountered there.

After HSC (with three sisters now at Mount Carmel and three brothers at St Virgil's), my parents returned to Melbourne and I scraped into Medicine at UTAS where I spent 2 years before transferring to Melbourne Uni, graduating MB, BS in 1978. This was followed by 3 years interning at St Vincent's in Melbourne, during which time I finally decided to pursue specialty training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne for 3 years, followed by 3 years



1. Miriam with her husband Prof. Glen Liddell-Mola
2. The 1968 Mount Carmel team in the Puffin Book competition where Miriam won 1st prize section B essay and National prize
3. Miriam with Fran Rad (Mason) in Lucca, Italy 2018
4. Miriam with colleagues at the RHTU Launch, 2013

in the UK. These were great years for me, interspersing study, long hours of clinical work, exams, plenty of travel with friends, skiing in Europe, and language school in Florence. My route back to Melbourne saw me leaving the UK in the back of a Bedford truck with 20 people I had never met, travelling overland for 8 months across Africa and the Middle East to Nepal. Feels brave in retrospect, but at the time it was all designed to divert me from the inevitable step into both private and public consulting practice, which I finally took in 1990. My family in Melbourne were a little surprised to see me leave that peripatetic existence and it was great to be back with them all.

I enjoyed a busy (often frantic), quite varied and hugely satisfying career as a clinician and educator for 10 years, finding myself involved in medical politics through a variety of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists and to many hospital committees. It was all a bit crazy: delivering babies at all hours savages social and family life somewhat. After 10 years, I pared back my private practice to take on the job as Director of Delivery Suites at the Royal Women's Hospital: labour ward was always my first love. I expected that this was one of my last big moves professionally, but then I met my husband, Glen Liddell-Mola, who had been living and working in Papua New Guinea for over 30 years and was by then the Professor of O&G at Port Moresby's Medical School. He was not going to move back to Australia!

So, I packed my bags and off I went to Port Moresby: my family and colleagues were convinced I was having a midlife crisis and would be back within the year. But what a surprisingly positive move it was in 2002! A new country, new language, new culture, new colleagues and friends, a dear husband, and a new family (6 grandchildren as part of the package!). It seemed too difficult to work clinically (all local positions could, quite correctly, be filled by local graduate specialists) so I did intermittent locums in the remote NT and Kimberley, enrolled in a Master of Public Health and a post-grad Diploma in Refugee Health & Emergency Medicine at James Cook University. PNG is an amazing developing country much like sub-Saharan Africa: very poor, with 87% of the population living in rural and remote areas with limited access to government services (health, education, water & sanitation, law & order etc). Not surprisingly, health outcomes are challenged reflected not least in the high maternal & newborn mortality and morbidity (sadly, some of the worst statistics in the world). I had no trouble finding opportunities to be involved in pre-service and post-graduate health education institutions for doctors, midwives, nurses, health extension officers and Community Health Workers which took me to every province in PNG.

With the Masters of Public Health and a Cert.IV Training and Education under my belt, I found myself working as an Advisor for DFAT and other aid-related agencies in PNG. It quickly became clear to me that health workers across the country were receiving little or no continuing



“But what a surprisingly positive move it was in 2002! A new country, new language, new culture, new colleagues and friends, a dear husband, and a new family (6 grandchildren as part of the package!).”

education opportunities, and this was responsible, in part, for the poor outcomes in maternal health. With support from PNG colleagues & we established a Public Private Partnership between the National Department of Health, DFAT and Oil Search Health Foundation, we set up the PNG Reproductive Health Training Unit in late 2011, developing short courses in Emergency Obstetrics & Neonatal care, targeting all health cadres. By 2017 we had delivering courses to nearly 2000 health workers in most of the 22 provinces.

Glen and I have travelled a good deal for both teaching purposes and public health consultancies with a variety of UN and other aid partners (Glen way more than me) across the PNG provinces, Samoa, Timor Leste, Cambodia, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, and pleasure...especially cycling trips in Europe. He continues as Professor of O&G in Port Moresby. In 2017, I was feeling homesick for Australia and decided to ease into retirement, so we built a home in Cairns, and Glen commutes, but shows no sign of retiring from the work and country he so loves. I am enjoying being a healthy 68-year-old, learning to retire, who keeps in touch with siblings and nieces and nephews (none of whom seem to mind having an alternative address in



“I love that glass ceilings are being pushed back for women and girls, and often being broken through. I have been happy to stand on the shoulders of some giants along the way and remain in awe of women who balance partnering-family-friends-community and career.”



far north Queensland), messing around in my far too big garden, cooking for friends, sewing for family, keeping fit at the local gym, valuing my zooming Book Club, volunteering at the fabulous local Botanical Gardens, planning more travel (easier if I can get my husband to step-back to half-time formal employment) and continuing language classes.

As I slip a little uncomfortably into retirement, I reflect upon how I arrived at this stage of my life and where I might go from here: it’s all been a bit of a blur at times. I have been most fortunate to have had parents and family who provided me with a strong work ethic and the opportunity of a great education....an opportunity I am pleased I embraced. I am grateful to my teachers, at school, university and beyond, who shared their knowledge, showed me horizons, and gave me a love of life-long learning. I am grateful to my husband who showed me an entirely different world and way of living.

I love that STEM study options are taking a higher profile in schools, particularly amongst young women and it is so good to have so many more women chasing careers in STEM.

1. Midwifery education in the Solomon Islands
2. Miriam in Goroka, Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea
3. Hands-on neonatal resuscitation with mannequins
4. Glen with friends in Papua New Guinea

I love the way the community can see and value science working more visibly: COVID has done something good for us.

I love that glass ceilings are being pushed back for women and girls, and often being broken through. I have been happy to stand on the shoulders of some giants along the way and remain in awe of women who balance partnering-family-friends-community and career.

What advice might I dare to proffer today’s Mount Carmel students?

1. Look for opportunities and pursue the ones that interest you: be curious!
2. Write your own job descriptions and go out and find them: you are likely to have more than one career
3. Be kind to yourself and others
4. Practice gratitude
5. Chase balance in your life: make time for the important people in your life and regularly tell those you value that you love and appreciate them.
6. Invest in your own health: physically, mentally, and spiritually
7. Get into the garden: it’s good for the soul

I dearly hope that I will make it along to a few more Mount Carmel reunions.

Tales of Talented Women

Amanda Hodder (Class of 1993)

My name is Amanda Hodder, and I am a musician. I attended Mount Carmel College from 1988-1993. It was still very much a convent school when I was there; Sister Maria Wheeler was principal, and she as well as Sister Tess (Teresita) taught us for a variety of subjects, including typing and a subject (which I can't remember the name of) where we had to plan our own wedding. A lot has changed since then!

There was never any question in my mind that I was going to have a life in music, particularly as a collaborator i.e. a musician who wants to work with others rather than as a soloist. Beginning rehearsals for Inaugural Night on the very first day at a new school was overwhelming, but I watched Anna Chilcott playing piano and decided that once she finished Grade 12, I would take over. In the intervening years I played piano for as many school ensembles as I could find; choirs, orchestras and House Drama. My biggest advocate throughout all of this was Elizabeth Eden - an absolute powerhouse of a teacher. She gave me space to try, celebrated with me when I succeeded and gave me the most carefully constructed feedback when I needed it most. In hindsight, she also seemed to understand my (at the time) undiagnosed ADHD. She somehow managed to help me get all my homework in - often overdue - in a way that made me feel supported and never ashamed.

Her compassion extended to some of the instrument teaching staff she employed. Elizabeth was one of the first people in Hobart to offer a job to En Pei Ling, an extraordinary concert pianist who had fled China's oppressive rule. This turned out to be a huge coup for Mount Carmel. Here was this world-class pianist, teaching AMEB piano to high school girls! En Pei changed my life. While Elizabeth helped me realise my path, En Pei built the engine inside me that still burns to this day.

My career as a musician has exceeded anything I imagined as a teenager at Mount Carmel. I've performed in cabaret clubs in New York City, toured with Opera Australia, co-created new works of theatre, and met so many delightful people along the way. I owe so much that I am to the dedication and regard of these two incredible women that I met when I was 12! Thank you, Liz and Mrs Ling!



1. Amanda and Rachael Beck at the Australian Musical Theatre Festival (2023)
2. Amanda and Kim David Smith, backstage after their show at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival (2021)
3. Amanda with band and ensemble, performing Songs for a New World at the Australian Musical Theatre Festival (2022)
4. Amanda in a workshop with the cast of Paper Stars, a new musical being written about P L Travers, the creator of Mary Poppins.

Tales of Talented Women

Anna Koerner (Class of 2014)

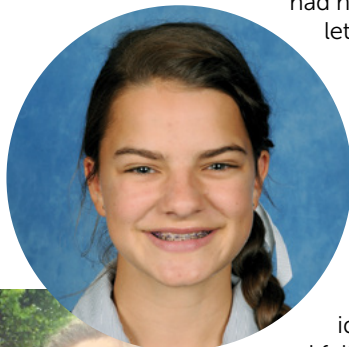
I first attended Mount Carmel College in 2011 as a Grade 7 student after my family moved to Tasmania from Far North Queensland. I distinctly remember touring the school and immediately had the feeling that I belonged. The following four years at the school shaped me into who I am today. On the first day of school, I met one of my closest friends to this day, Anna Mackintosh; with whom I share a name but also so many wonderful memories from our time at this school. This friendship and many others are a testament to the sense of community that Mount Carmel fosters.

The school not only introduced to me some of my most special friendships, but it also allowed me to find my interests and strengths. I mainly did Science and Maths as my elective subjects in the later years

of school which helped to spark my interest in the idea of medicine as a career. The teachers I had during my time at this school all made their unique impact on me and supported my ambitions to pursue medicine after school. Ultimately, regardless of the career path I chose, Mount Carmel had set me up with the tools to achieve my dreams. This school encouraged and challenged me, and I always felt as though I had teachers who listened and supported me along the way.

A highlight of attending this school was being College Captain in my final year. I had applied for a leadership position because it was out of my comfort zone, and I had not thought I would get elected for any position let alone become College Captain. Luckily, my peers had seen my potential and I had such a fantastic year as part of the student leadership team. I loved giving tours to potential new students, as it allowed me to try and capture the feeling I'd had four years prior whilst touring. I learned to love public speaking at assemblies where we would celebrate students' achievements. I enjoyed our weekly Principal meetings and team lunches bringing ideas to the table and speaking up for our peers. I felt like this role allowed me to give back to the school community which had given me so much joy and it will always be a highlight of my time at the school.

When I finished Year 10 at Mount Carmel, I continued my studies at Guilford Young College where I continued to pursue mainly Science and Maths subjects with a view to get into Medicine. I started my Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at University of Tasmania in 2018 and graduated with a clinical distinction in 2022. I am currently in the thick of my first few years as a doctor, working at the Royal Hobart Hospital with the goal to become a general practitioner in the future. It has already been so rewarding and challenging and I'm looking forward for what is still to come. This year marks ten years since I left Mount Carmel, and I look back on my time there with such gratitude and fondness. I feel incredibly privileged to have had such a safe and welcoming space to learn and grow, and my experiences at this school moulded me into the woman I am today.



1. Anna and Anna Mackintosh, 2014
2. Sally Way, Anna and Ebony King on their last day in Year 10
3. Anna on her graduation day, 2022
4. Anna and Charlotte Ford, 2014

Tales of Talented Women

Left to right: Elizabeth Jordan (Class of 1972), Elizabeth Walker (Class of 1970) and Dalia Howe (Kavitvilas) (Class of 1970)]

Liz Jordan (Horlock) (Class of 1972)

I am the second eldest of 10 children – there being 3 boys and 7 girls in the family. Evidently when my Mum married at 27 years of age she said she would like a dozen children but ended up having ten children.

We all attended Mount Carmel College for some or all of our education; the three boys attended the College from Kindergarten to the end of Grade 2 when they then went on to St Pater's School for the remainder of their Primary School education then onto St Virgil's College for their secondary school education. The seven girls attended Mount Carmel College from Kindergarten to the end of Grade 12.

My mum was very proud of the fact that by the time my youngest sister, Ursula, finished her schooling at Mount Carmel, our family had spent a total of 100 school years at the College.

I thoroughly enjoyed my schooling at Mount Carmel College and am still very much involved with the College through the Alumni.

On completion of my schooling I enrolled to study Pharmacy, the career I had decided to do when I was about 9 years old and from which I never changed my mind. At the completion of my Degree course I had to do a pre-registration year in either Community Pharmacy or Hospital Pharmacy.

I decided that I would pursue my career in Hospital Pharmacy and was happy to apply to the three hospitals in Tasmania for a position to do my pre-registration year. I was, however, encouraged to apply to hospitals on the mainland for my pre-registration year training.

I was lucky enough to be accepted for a position at the Queen Victoria Medical Centre in Melbourne for my pre-registration year and ended up having 17 years away from the State. During that time and after my pre-registration year, I worked at the Mildura Base Hospital then was given the opportunity to go to Malaysia, as a Reservist Pharmacist with the Royal Australian Air Force, to work in both Butterworth and Penang. This was a wonderful experience and one which I had never ever considered. I worked for 15 months in Malaysia and on returning home to Australia I was discharged from active duty with the Reserve.

My discharge was short lived, as only after a short period of time I was called up again. This time I was asked to go to the Air Force Base at Amberley in Queensland,



where I was to be the first pharmacist that had been on Base there. I did 15 months of service at Amberley and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. I was discharged again from active duty and came back to Tasmania, for a short period of time, before heading overseas on a working holiday for 12 months. The planned 12 months ended up being 2 years.

On my arrival back in Tasmania I was contacted by the Air Force and was invited to join the regular Air Force. I accepted this request and ended up working another six years, during which time I married and then left when I was expecting our first child.

Our family moved back to Tasmania in 1994 to be close to one set of grandparents. I became involved with the Mount Carmel Old Scholars Association following the Annual Mass at Holy Spirit Church and the Annual General Meeting of the Association back at the College in 1995.

I have also been involved with the College through being invited to be a member of the School Board and the Governing Council. This was a great honour.

Our two daughters, Bernadette and Samantha attended the College for their secondary schooling from Year 7 to Year 10 inclusive prior to doing their Higher School Certificate years at Guildford Young College.

Our three children, Bernadette, Samantha and David did their primary schooling at St Aloysius College, Kingston and hence were educated in the Charism of the Sisters of Charity which has given them and all my siblings great values and a wonderful outlook for our journey through life.

Embracing Opportunities

Mount Carmel girls are courageous learners. They are encouraged to challenge themselves, use their knowledge to make a difference, foster new and existing interests and strive for excellence across all areas of educational and spiritual growth. Scholarships at Mount Carmel College provide opportunities for our next generation of learners.

We catch up with two secondary students who were awarded scholarships when they entered Year 7 at Mount Carmel College.

Poppy Wilson Sports Scholarship

Since starting at Mount Carmel in 2023, I have enjoyed the community feel and how welcoming and friendly everyone is from the get-go.

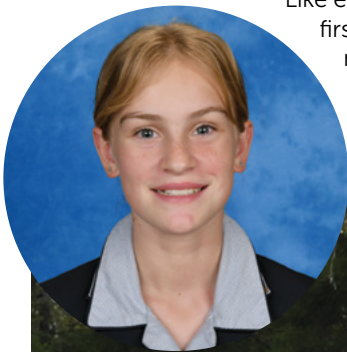
Like every other Year 7 on their first day, I was filled with nerves, but that quickly went away a few hours

into the day. The teachers make sure that no one is left alone or uncomfortable and I soon found the everywhere I went I was surrounded by an amazing group of people.

I had the pleasure of being in the Year 7 Division 1 Netball Team in 2023. Being involved with the team was great and it really helped my game to be playing with such experienced players. During the year I also signed up to play hockey for Mount Carmel.

A challenge that I faced in my first year of secondary school was managing my time so that I can complete my homework. I play sport 6 out of 7 days a week, so that leaves me with minimal time to complete it, however the teachers at Mount Carmel do a really great job at easing you into regular homework and are very considerate with the amount of homework given.

Being awarded the Sports Scholarship has been a wonderful opportunity for me, allowing me to become more confident in my sporting ability while having the support of my school in terms of my education and my sporting career.



Mandy Huang All Rounder Scholarship

My first impression of Mount Carmel was that it had a bright learning atmosphere and a harbour view from the Art Room when I started my adventure there in Year 7 in 2022. I believed that here was the location where I should learn. My attention was drawn not only by the bright surroundings but also by the welcoming learning environment. I could hear the joyful classrooms and the conversations between teachers and students while I was on my tour. The school's open learning space and welcoming environment made a positive first impression on me.

So far at Mount Carmel, I have participated in a lot of extracurricular activities. In the areas of academics, athletics, and music. I have participated in basketball, volleyball, and netball as sports. Academically, I was chosen for the Da Vinci Decathlon and debating. I've played in the College Orchestra, the House Band, and the Autumn Concert in terms of music.

Meeting all of my friends and continuing to meet new people would be some of the highlights of my time at Mount Carmel. I get the chance to attempt a lot of new things and move outside of my comfort zone, which is another highlight. One of my other favourite memories is the time I participated in the Autumn Concert. It was a fantastic evening where I got to show off my skills and was fortunate to witness the brilliance of others. Additionally, playing in a large ensemble like the orchestra was something I had never done before. It ranks as one of my highlights since I enjoyed myself with my friends and learned about new music genres and what it means to play in a group.

The Year 7 Activity Days are what I will remember most about my time so far at Mount Carmel. This was a special occasion for me because I had the chance to meet new people and make friends in addition to having fun. I meet new people and deepened my friendships with them and I also tried out new activities that I never would have imagined doing in my life.

I believe that improving myself and becoming an inspiration to others would be the most effective ways for me to serve as a role model for other students,



while also offering advice when they ask. For me, supporting other students means doing it to the best of my ability. For instance, one method I can assist someone is by going to them and helping them with a math issue. Or, if someone is sad, I might merely smile at them.

I have a lot of goals and things I wish to try or complete in the future. Extrinsic aspiration is the kind of aspiration I'm referring to. If we're talking about short-term goals, I'd like to push myself harder in all areas and take part in more College co-curricular activities. But ten years from now, I hope that I have successfully applied to medical school and am enjoying living in the now.

2024 Key Dates

Wednesday 7 February – Thursday 11 April: Term One

Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July: Term Two

Tuesday 23 July – Friday 27 September: Term Three

Tuesday 15 October – Wednesday 18 December: Term Four

Thursday 16 May: Autumn Concert

Thursday 27, Friday 28 & Saturday 29 June: College Production

Friday 5 July: Mount Carmel Day Celebrations

Friday 6 September: Arts Festival – Family & Friends Evening

Editor

Caroline Jager

Development and
Community Relations

caroline.jager@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au

Graphic Design

Caitlin Moffatt

hello@caitlinmoffatt.com.au

caitlinmoffatt.com.au

361 Sandy Bay Road, Sandy Bay, Tasmania, 7005

PO Box 217, Sandy Bay, Tasmania, 7006

Phone: +61 3 6216 7900 | Fax: +61 3 6216 7999

Email: info@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au

Follow us on social media

 facebook.com/MountCarmelCollegeHobart

 instagram.com/mount_carmel_college_hobart

Mount Carmel College Alumni Association

 facebook.com/mount.carmel.college.old.scholars

mountcarmel.tas.edu.au



**Mount
Carmel
College**

Courage.
Compassion.
Justice.