



*esprit*  
*de corps*



IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE MAGAZINE  
ISSUE 19 • 2019

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*Making a Difference, Together*



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### PAST PUPILS, TELL US YOUR STORIES...

Please send all stories to Georgia Allen  
[georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au)

# message from THE PRINCIPAL



**The path of 'reinvention' is one that many journey in their lives. Whether by choice or circumstance. Perhaps a decision to pursue a life-long passion by reinventing your career along a new, exciting and alternative path, or invigorating your surroundings by carrying out a new build or renovation, just as the College is currently undergoing; or even bravely embarking on that tree-change you've always dreamt.**

There is no doubt that personal pursuits, no matter the form they take, require bravery, courage, tenacity and integrity. In this latest edition of *esprit de corps*, be inspired by the unique stories of Ionians who have done just that.

Through their own courage and determination, these Past Pupils are showing just how strong foundations, working hard, resilience and a solid resolve is enabling the pursuit of their own unique passions in life.

Whether it's a passion for the environment, leaving behind the city life for a country one, enduring prolonged study to eventually achieve what seemed like an unattainable goal, or persevering with building a family, despite a myriad of obstacles. Ionians continue to prove that they have the integrity and spirit, inspired by their Presentation education to really *make a difference*, wherever, whenever and however they can.

Please enjoy this latest edition of *esprit de corps*. Be fearless, chase your dreams and do so with an unyielding focus on what is right and just.

God bless,

**Anne Pitos**

*B.App.Sc., Grad.Dip. Ed., MEdL., MACE  
Principal*

# message from THE CHAIR OF IPPA

**IPPA (Iona Past Pupils' Association) has enjoyed an exciting renaissance this year, thanks to a lively committee of dedicated Past Pupils. These amazing women have all generously volunteered their time to launching new initiatives for IPPA this year and for that, I am extremely grateful.**

Our committee is growing and with special interest groups that will continue to cultivate and develop our Past Pupils' Association. If you are interested in being involved or knowing more, please contact Georgia Allen at Iona.

Commencing the year, we welcomed the Class of 2018 into IPPA at the Year 13 Breakfast. 2019 reunions have also continued with great success, reconnecting friends of old, no more evident than at the annual Golden Girls' Lunch where we had more than 80 attendees. A true testament to friendships and

connections that have withstood more than 50 years. It was so lovely to be part of this very special occasion.

The inaugural IPPA Networking Breakfast was held earlier in the year and was followed by another in October. Both events were proudly hosted by Past Pupils and provided a wonderful platform to hear the unique and inspiring stories of our panellists. The opportunity to reconnect and chat over breakfast was such a special part of the morning. Read more on page 4.

We continue to create mentoring opportunities & look forward to the launch of an official Mentoring Program in 2020. Please also let Georgia know if you'd like to be involved. We are looking for both mentors and mentees- [georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au)

The College focus value for this year, Courage & Integrity, is a notion that resonates with our Past Pupils wherever and whoever they are. From Paris, to Melbourne, to the Wheatbelt of WA, Ionians are living out these values within their own communities every day. As such, our future aim for IPPA is to continue building capacity within our community and consolidating close links with the College. Please give back however you can.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to building the IPPA community this year. From participating in the combined IGSSA Golf Day, being a panellist or hosting and event, offering your place of work to provide a learning environment for our current students, submitting an article for the *esprit de corps* or attending a reunion. In each and every way this has helped to nurture and build our community.

We look forward to strategically building on these plans in 2020 and exploring what the future holds for all Past Pupils of Iona Presentation College.

Warm regards,

**Jane-Mary Richardson** (*née Ellis*)  
Class of 1989  
IPPA Chair



# BREAKFASTS 2019



## IPPA NETWORKING





# BREAKFASTS 2019



**IPPA was re-launched in 2019 with the IPPA Networking Breakfast Series- the mastermind of the newly formed IPPA committee.**

These events have been designed to be inclusive of all Ionians with generic themes that enable widespread inclusivity amongst our entire community, no matter what your age, experience or industry.

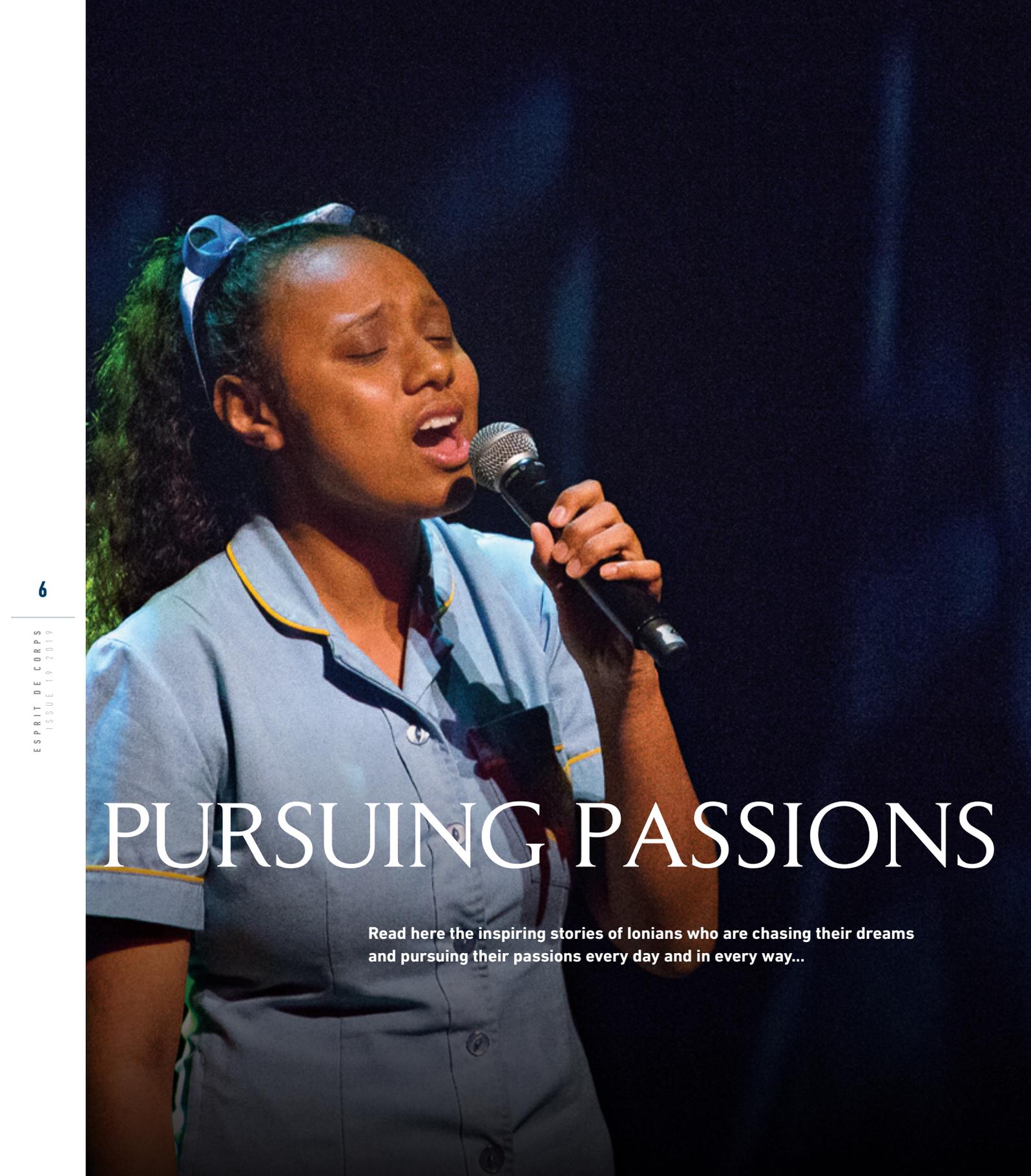
The overall vision is to provide opportunities for IPPA to come together to network and listen to a range of stories on a range of topics. From 'giving back' to 'career transitions', 'leadership' and 'STEM', there is something in it for everyone and future suggestions are more than welcomed.

In 2020 these events will once again be held in May and October, please keep an eye out for promotions and let us know if you'd like to be involved.

Our inaugural breakfast was hosted by Aymee Mastaglia née Bartlett (Class of 1994) at the Office of Chartered Accountants WA & NZ and was attended by over 50 guests. Speaking on the topic of 'Giving Back', our panellists Liz Brennan (Class of 2003), Vicki Butler (Class of 1991) and Lisa Stewart née Podger (Class of 1977) provided their insight on just how they've been successful in life, whilst doing their utmost to be of service to others.

Held in October, our second event, had a completely different flavour. Hosted beautifully by sisters, Renee Steenkamp (Class of 2006) and Elaine Dias (Class of 2004) both, née Sequeira, at their family business, *The Karalee on Preston*, guests sat in lovely surrounds to listen to the amazing stories of three very diverse Ionians. Aimee Jones (Class of 2002), Nadia Duca (Class of 1994) and Kathryn McNee (Class of 1985) spoke on the theme of 'Career Transitions and Pathways' and certainly left people wondering if it was time to make a change in their own life.

We look forward to bringing our IPPA community more interesting events in 2020.



# PURSUING PASSIONS

Read here the inspiring stories of Ionians who are chasing their dreams and pursuing their passions every day and in every way...



## ASPIRATIONS OF AN AFL COACH

**I can remember the moment clearly, I was in Year 9, 14 years old and only a pint-sized-110cm. I was one of the smallest girls at Iona!**

We were sitting in class and were posed the question, 'where do you see yourself in ten year's time?' I didn't even need a second to think about it! I am going to be an AFL Coach. The same question was then asked of all students of each other, and the overwhelming response, there was no doubt, Michelle is going to be an AFL Coach. Not only could I see it, but everyone else around me could too!

I feel so fortunate that at a very young age I had the drive and determination to know then and there what I wanted to do. My passion revolved around all sports actually. Firstly playing, then coaching and then watching! My ultimate passion and love however, was always Australian Rules Football.

Since leaving Iona in 1999, a school that established my core values and provided the strong foundation to go out into the world, I've now been coaching AFL for 19 years. From local

community football, to WAFL Clubs, West Perth and South Fremantle, to the AFL with Melbourne and Fremantle and now to the club that I have supported my entire life, West Coast Eagles. Needless to say, posters of Dean Kemp and Craig Turley covered my bedroom walls in the Iona Boarding House. A career here at West Coast, means so much to me.

I'm excited about the future, especially knowing that our young girls have a clear pathway and opportunity to play AFL, this great game at the highest level.

I strongly believe that Iona *girls make a difference*, and I cannot wait for my daughter to experience this herself, and follow her dreams and pursue her passions in life.

**Michelle Cowan**  
*Class of 1999*



## FROM THE SCREEN TO THE LAND

**Chicken that's delicious, healthy for you, good for the environment, raised ethically and doesn't suffer from terrible living conditions... Sounds crazy, right? That's the conventional wisdom I wanted to challenge.**

I grew up in the country and always had a love for the land, but never had cause to stay. After graduating Iona in 2005, I decided I wanted to work in the Film Industry. I did my *Bachelor of Audio Production*, and later my *Masters of Screen*. I started working on film sets, mainly in the Sound Department, but found that video editing and documentaries was where I wanted to be. I got a job working for a friend's media company as their In-House Video Editor, and whilst I really loved my time there, something was still missing.

In 2015 I met Paul, my now husband. Having both grown up in the country, we often talked about how one day we'd love to move back.

On a trip back from up north, Paul – who's an avid podcast listener, suggested a Joe Rogan episode interviewing a man called Joel Salatin. Salatin is an American farmer who runs pasture raised chickens, ducks, turkeys, pigs and beef – a pioneer of chemical-free sustainable and regenerative farming. After three hours of listening to this guy we decided that this was something we had to do.

After researching what chicken was available here in Perth, we realised that the pasture raised method wasn't readily available and saw the need to fill a gap in the market. We also found that widespread antibiotic use, in addition to many other questionable production methods was a huge concern for us, and something we wanted to eliminate.

After taking the plunge and moving back to my hometown, Dandaragan, we started our pasture raised chicken business, *Daisy Valley Farm*.

With my husband being quite the handyman, everything was built here on the farm from the pens and brooders, to the water systems and feeders. We got our first batch of 100, freshly hatched day-old chicks and found that by raising them outside, on a small scale, the use of antibiotics was not necessary. We are proud to say that our chickens are 100% antibiotic free and bleach free. They spend their days eating grass, scratching around, dust bathing and hunting for insects from sun-up to sun-down. As Joel Salatin would say – 'Allowing them to express the chickenness of the chicken.'

Although I occasionally miss the edit room, I'm now lucky enough to combine my passions of editing and regenerative farming. My editing skills are still put to good use, as social media plays a big role in showing our customers what we're trying to achieve.

I think it's really important to know where your food comes from and knowing the farmers that produce it. I'm so grateful to have found such a rewarding lifestyle – and to finally be doing something I'm really passionate and proud of.

**Sophie McArthur** (née Notley)  
Class of 2005







## WHOLEFOODS CIRCUS

**When I left the safety and community of Iona, I really had no idea what my career would look like. It started in my 'gap' year, when I thought I'd just work and travel. I worked days and nights and then started cooking from home and selling my produce to local cafes. Before long, my business had grown and I was baking all night to keep up with the demand.**

The opportunity to start my own shop came in 1994 when I was 23. I started *Daisies Cottlesloe* with a tray of homemade muffins and a bucket of Marguerite Daisies for sale. The site was an old house that had been a corner shop for 100 years. In the first few months of trading I was selling bread and wearing all the hats of a small business owner. From chef, florist, cleaner, accountant, stock control and dishwasher!

After nearly four years of ups and downs, I sold *Daisies!* Missing my customers, who had quickly become friends, I then bought it back a year later.

The next chapter is my life's best work! Blessed with four beautiful healthy kids, my proudest hat is definitely, 'Mum'. I remember thinking nothing could be harder than working 100 hours a week running that shop! But I was wrong!

Over the next 16 years I embraced my job as a stay-at-home mum. I tried to cook every single meal and grow organic veges! We even had a chemical free ionised swimming pool, osmosis filters fitted to showers and baths and spent weekends sourcing food direct from growers' markets.

It seemed babies were everywhere, breastfeeding for eight years and constantly counting heads in the back of the car. I also studied Nutrition at this time, learning all about bio individuality and what makes different bodies thrive.

I became passionate about pharmacy free, chemical free and unprocessed food and developed a strong sense for natural, organic and harvested wholefoods. Sources that are grass fed and wild caught and sustainable, fair trade.

With all four babies finally at school, I started to worry life looked like keeping house, so, I bought another shop and named it *Whole Food Circus*.

Why the name *Circus*? To me this best describes nutrition over the last 100 years. Whilst studying I'd often think. 'What are we supposed to eat?' 'How do we know if the cereal on the shelf at the supermarket is safe?' 'Is sugar safe?' 'Where is soy from?' 'Who regulates this stuff?' 'How can they make baby bath from petroleum? Isn't that the stuff we put in our car?'

When I reflect back after 30 years of post-Iona life, I can honestly say the lessons I learnt at school are reflected in my life and career.

All of my businesses have had a strong sense of community and family, run with old-fashioned values of service honesty and integrity. We value and nourish every person who works within our team and strive to deliver the best service, the freshest local seasonal homemade food and share what we know, all in the pursuit of a happy and healthy life.

**Rachael Torre** (*née McEntee*)  
*Class of 1989*

# PURSUIING PASSIONS



## RECRUITING THE BEST

**I arrived at Iona in 1981 a horse-mad teenager from the central wheat belt of WA. Having grown up on the family farm in Koorda, I was immersed in the business of farming.**

After leaving Iona the only future that I was truly passionate about was my equestrian pursuits. Following some sage advice from my mother, I decided not to leave it all to chance and went off to university to obtain a BEd and some vital back-up for my horse-riding career.

After several years of full-time work as a teacher in the independent system, I was selected on a team to compete in the *Indian National Evening Championships* and shortly after was invited to both compete and coach there. The reality of riding for a living did quickly become abundantly clear—there really was only one way to make a million dollars out of riding, and that was to start with two million!

After 18 months of riding full time, my bank account desperately needed a boost, so I returned to teaching. Teaching in the east end of London was both a professionally challenging and rewarding experience. The work just streamed in from the teaching agency where I had registered, it was an innovative service, and one that wasn't available in Australia at that time.

Seeing a potential gap in the Australian market, I had an idea! Sleepless night after night, I tossed and turned about what I needed to do to start my own Teacher Recruitment business! It wasn't long before I began, and before I knew it, I was recruiting teachers from all around Australia and sending them across to the UK for work.

After a merger and some time working for another company, I began another start-up company! I jumped at the opportunity to become a founding partner of this new venture, *Smart Teachers*, returning to London as the initial employee and head hunting the best people in the industry. Our seven-year plan to scale the business to be ready to sell eventually took ten years to achieve, notwithstanding a few challenges along the way.

In 2016, *Smart Teachers* were bought by a Texan investment company TPG Capital, a company with an impressive portfolio including several other education recruitment businesses and the TES (Times Educational Supplement) Online. They now exist as the largest education recruitment company in the world.

After selling the business I took some time to look at other opportunities, and in August 2017 I found myself missing the job I had so greatly enjoyed. Knowing the projections of the teacher supply and demand in Australia, I decided it was time to return to what I knew best and pursued my passions once again, and began a new venture, *Vivid Teachers*.

I still ride horses every day!

**Kathryn McNee**

*Class of 1987*

# PURSUIING PASSIONS

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## A PASSION FOR IT ALL

### **Pursuing passion is a topic that makes me nervous.**

My mum wanted to become a nurse from age five, I on the other hand, never had that compelling career call – that one over-riding passion that I wanted to pursue.

While my buddies were making definitive career choices in high school, I viewed University more as a tasting-plate. The fact that my tastes varied so widely made me feel like an anomaly. In my first year at UWA, I took Classical Piano, Industrial Relations and Political Theory. It took some time to refine my palette, finally graduating from Curtin with a combination of Public Relations and Politics. Once I caught the curiosity bug, my insatiable appetite translated into Honours in Political Science at Monash, a Masters of Public Policy at ANU, and a PhD in Political Communications at The University of Melbourne.

My career path too, has been anything but linear. In 2016, I was employed by UWA as the Associate Director of the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases – setting the research agenda for WA's Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall. One project that caught my attention was using acoustic sensing technology to decode 'gut' noises. Over the past three years, we've prototyped, patented, published and tested an acoustic belt that listens, records and analyses gut noises on over 300 patients. We use artificial intelligence to non-invasively

diagnose and monitor common gut disorders. I felt so passionately about the potential of this technology to help people with chronic gut health issues that I left UWA to become the CEO of *Noisy Guts*.

Since undertaking the *Catherine McAuley Community Leadership Award*, I've also committed to integrate regular community service, an enduring passion of mine, into my life. Over the years, I've run maths clubs, craft activities and cooked for the local soup kitchen.

As my professional skillset has increased in value, I have also started volunteering on committees such as the Community Advisory Committee at *Donate Life* and the *Sport Fan User Group* at Perth Stadium. More recently, I joined *Donor Mate* as its General Manager (part time) and now work to promote community awareness about organ donation.

Our latest campaign installs 'Touch & Go' registration kiosks in medical centres and pharmacies to make it easy for people to register as organ donors. What I love about this campaign is that it uses Aussie humour as a catalyst to get people to think about a left-of-field topic. My volunteer work and especially working for *Donor Mate* has provided an endless capacity to teach me the value of 'give back-get back'.

What I've learned about myself over the years, is that although I haven't pursued one singular passion, I am incredibly passionate about everything I do!

**Josephine Muir**  
Class of 1987

## TAKING ACTION THROUGH PRAYER

**I am passionate about sustaining the earth and her peoples in a way that mirrors Jesus' appreciation of it. 'Consider the lilies of the field...' 'I am the vine, you are the branches...' 'a good shepherd seeks the lost sheep...' 'Every hair on your head is counted...' and 'Blessed are the poor in spirit...' are a few quotes that show Jesus referring to nature because we are part of it, it is our responsibility to care for it and protect it.**

We cannot treat the earth as a commodity. The protection of our common home is a real safeguard for creation. Pope Francis calls us to care for our common home as people of faith. He tells us that 'living our vocation as protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience.'

I am more than aware that the people who did the least to cause the growing climate crisis, seem to suffer first. Those losing their farms to desert, seeing rivers dry up and watching their islands sink beneath the waves are often not the people who burned most coal, gas and oil.

We need to take the opportunity now to transform our society for the sake of future generations by taking action through prayer, saving water, using public transport, switching off electricity, buying and using only what we need and recycling. When buying I consider: Do I need this? Will it be used? What happens to the 'waste' from it? What is the real 'cost' of it?

Pope Francis reminds us that the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others so we can no longer speak of sustainable development apart from intergenerational solidarity. The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. The ideal is to discover God in all things and so care for the earth and her peoples.

**Sr Lucy van Kessel**  
*Congregation Leader*  
*Class of 1961*



# PURSUIING PASSIONS

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## MAKING WATER POLO HISTORY



Danielle Woodhouse  
(née Gusterson) Front left

**As a tennis playing 14-year-old I never considered that my future would involve playing Water Polo at the highest level, going to the Olympics or winning a gold medal. Perhaps it was that the Water Polo boys were far better looking than the Tennis boys that I decided to become a Water Polo player after all.**

Sent straight into goals after telling the coach I didn't swim as well as my sister Bridgette (Ireland née Gusterson, Class of 1991 and Captain of the Olympic Team in Sydney), goalkeeping was where I found my niche and my life's passion.

When I was first selected into the Australian Women's Water Polo Team in 1993, the Olympics was only a pipe dream. Women's Water Polo was not yet an Olympic event despite Men's Water Polo having been an Olympic sport since 1900. Several years of concerted lobbying ensued by the Women's Water Polo community worldwide and it was eventually announced that Women's Water Polo would be included at the Olympics for the first time ever in Sydney, 2000.

Our team made history, winning the first ever gold medal in Women's Water Polo defeating USA 4-3 with a goal scored in the last second of the match.

I have been extremely lucky to combine my passion for sport with my career in Sports Physiotherapy. I now work with elite Water Polo athletes at the *Western Australian Institute of Sport* and as a consultant to *Water Polo Australia* travelling with Junior and Senior National teams.

Over the past 12 months I have also been part of a new initiative, the *Gold Medal Ready Program*. Overseen by the *Australian Institute of Sport* and run in conjunction with the *Australian Army Special Operations Training and Education Centre* and 2-Commando Regiment in Sydney, this program utilises Australia's Olympic gold medallists to share their lived experiences with Australia's prospective Tokyo Olympic athletes to ensure their readiness to perform at the next Olympic Games.

I feel incredibly fortunate that my sporting passion has translated into my career and I am able to continue to be part of not only my sport but the wider Australian sporting community.

Water Polo has truly given me so much.

**Danielle Woodhouse**  
(née Gusterson)  
Class of 1985

# PURSUIING PASSIONS



## STARFISH NIPPERS

**The phrase, *lona girls make a difference* are defining words that have stayed with me throughout my time at school. Participating in community-based volunteer programs whilst at lona encouraged me to get involved and make a contribution to a range of different associations. It wasn't until graduating from lona in 2016 though that I realised what the phrase really meant, and just how I could *make a difference*.**

In my first few years since leaving school, I have reflected on my life and just how far I have come. Based on my own personal challenges through childhood, it really dawned on me, just how fortunate I was to be fit and healthy, and how lucky I was to have already conquered so many different hurdles in my life.

The combination of personal life experiences, those gained throughout my time at lona, and my studies of Early Childhood Education, I knew that I had a passion for working with children, especially those with special needs. I wanted to provide children living with special needs a unique opportunity, and so was born, *Starfish Nippers!*

Initially introduced over east, the *Starfish Nipper* Program, is a tailored program that I have introduced into my surf club. The program provides children living with special needs the opportunity to participate in Surf Life Saving whilst accommodating their individual needs at the beach.

I feel incredibly lucky to have the support of the Scarborough Surf Life Saving Club and to introduce a program that enables children to learn life-long beach awareness skills.

My hope is that they will learn skills which they can take into their lives, whilst also pursuing a passion for the sport that I love!

**Alexandria Nielsen**  
*Class of 2016*

SCARBORO  
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

# PURSUING PASSIONS

## TREMENDOUSLY BLESSED

**Life was all planned. I was married to the love of my life, working full time in a job I loved and studying full time, I would surprise my family and friends with a pregnancy announcement, finish my MBA, then have a baby a month afterwards. Done!**

Not quite. First pregnancy test: Negative. Second test: Negative. Third test: Negative! 'Start meditation, exercise less, change your diet, try more often, try less often, don't stress!'

I was more than aware that many women experience infertility, but I'd never thought it would happen to me, how could it? I was just 25, very healthy and happy.

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Everyone around me suddenly started falling pregnant- friends, relatives, colleagues, customers even their pets- it was unbelievably all around me!

After about 12 months, I couldn't believe my eyes when I finally saw that faint line suggesting the test was positive. Second test, positive. Third test, positive. It was my turn! In that instant, a cloud of darkness I didn't even know was there was lifted. I was literally seeing life in more colour and light. I was thrilled beyond belief and struggled to think of anything outside of this precious tiny life growing inside of me. I saw my GP, booked the dating scan, selected my obstetrician, calculated the due date, and even thought about this child's first day of school! Seven glorious days of light.

Then Blood. Miscarriage. The cloud reappeared and it was worse than ever. Would I ever be a mother? Had the universe deemed me unfit? I carried on with life and my little secret, living with the hope that one day soon we'd be able to surprise everybody.

Three months later, I was once again thrilled with a positive test. The light reappeared, but the anxiety set in. I just had to get past the first few weeks and I'd be fine. No blood. I was at ease. We entered the dating scan, and for the

first time, got to see a developing foetus inside of me! It measured nine weeks and one day. Then the technician scrambled. He checked again. And again. No heartbeat. Darkness. I distinctly recall my numb and shaky legs struggling to carry me while my mind wished and waited for the ground to swallow me whole.

I recall observing the elaborate river views from our 15th floor South Perth apartment with the deepest understanding that money can't buy happiness.

After some time, I finally shared the news with my poor mum, who was mortified. She'd had no idea we'd been on this devastating rollercoaster. And so, she recruited the big guns: a doctor and a priest! We prayed and cried and prayed.

Four months later: a positive test. Light. Anxiety. At seven weeks pregnant I recall asking God in tears that if he were to take this baby, please may he take it soon because I was already falling deeply in love.

We had successful scans at nine weeks, 12 weeks, and 18 weeks, after which I was finally ready to release the anxiety and tell the world: 'I am going to be a mum!' My pregnancy was absolutely jubilant, and we welcomed perfect little Freddie into the world in 2015! We've since experienced another miscarriage, but welcomed darling Hugo in 2017, and are due to meet number 3 in early 2020!

I don't know what the future may hold with the health and well-being of my little family, but for the time being I am living a tremendously blessed and happy life juggling motherhood and a job I still love.

I am cognisant that our story is not uncommon, and many couples endure significantly more than we have. I'm speaking about our experience with the thought it may provide others hope. For those with their own struggles, I wish you peace and happiness, and pray for your fertility success.

**Hayley Roseby**  
(née Quartermaine)  
Class of 2005





# PURSUING PASSIONS





## BECAUSE I COULD

**16 years ago as a Year 10 student, I had absolutely no idea what to do with my life.**

That all changed the day my family and I passed an accident on our drive back from our farm to the Iona Boarding House. Whilst many people I have met can trace the time and place they decided to get into healthcare back to a moment of heroics, seeing a doctor save someone's life or a nurse caring diligently for a patient; my moment of inspiration was the sight of a paramedic covering a lifeless body with a sheet on the side of the road.

I couldn't help but think that whilst someone was having the worst day of their life, I was still just sitting in the car and there was absolutely nothing I could do about it. This bothered me for weeks until one day my mother simply said to me: 'Well why don't you do something about it? Become a Paramedic?' To my reply, 'Because, I can't.'

I thought a lot about that statement over the next decade. It seemed obvious that doing something so challenging was simply not an option for a 'simple' student like me. Later something else popped into my head, 'Well, why not me?'

Over the next few years I decided that what I really wanted was to become a Paramedic. At the time I had chosen a non-TEE pathway (or Access Learning today) and to achieve my dream it meant I would have to go to university.

What followed was probably one of the more non-conventional university entry pathways, a Portfolio Pathway offered through Edith Cowan University. I did well in my non-TEE courses and my extensive Co-curricular involvement put me in a good position to eventually enrol and gain

entry into a Bachelor of Science Human Biology course.

I soon applied to become a Paramedic and after a five-month interview process finally got the result, unsuccessful! I soon learnt that it is a rather competitive field to break into. I applied again six months later, again unsuccessful. Applied again the following year and finally after five long years was accepted. I immediately transferred into the Bachelor of Science Paramedicine course and began work on the road with St John Ambulance.

For eight years I've had the very great privilege to work as a Paramedic, truly the best job in the world. I've saved people's lives and comforted the families of those I couldn't save. My hope is that in some way, I've made the worst day of their lives a little more bearable.

I was always driven to do more as a Paramedic and so, I again went back to university to complete my Masters Degree in Critical Care Paramedicine in the hope of one day working on the RAC Rescue Helicopter!

This further training required me to gain extensive hospital experience and as such, opened my eyes to the world of medicine outside of paramedics. I began to wonder, 'What would being a doctor be like?'

Within a week I was studying for the entrance exam into Medicine and my poor fiancé (now husband) was spending every waking moment attempting to teach me Chemistry, Physics and Maths (a lot of which I hadn't seen since Year 9!) Somehow, I managed to scrape through the exam and was accepted into studying Medicine at UWA.

At this point in my life I felt like I was doing the wrong thing. Surely, this wasn't what I was 'meant' to be doing with my life. I had never been a natural academic, having been previously advised that I was not cut out for university. Yet, here I was, about to go to Medical School at one of the best universities in WA! I had never felt like more of a fraud and I was terrified that before long, I would be exposed as one.

Studying Medicine was unsurprisingly hard, and the path I've taken certainly hasn't been the typical one.

Paramedicine and Medicine have taken me to some of the most incredible places. I've spent time volunteering in hospitals in Tanzania, working with the Essex and Hertz Air Ambulance Helicopter in England (something I describe as the best experience of my life) and as I sit and write this, I'm on a plane headed to Kalbarri with the Royal Flying Doctor Service team to retrieve a critically ill patient.

To top it off, quite literally two days ago, I received a life-changing email, 'Congratulations Doctor Jones, you have been successful in passing your examinations'.

I've certainly not taken the most direct or traditional route through life and study, but I've gone from someone who 'was never going to go to university' to a newly graduated doctor.

Even if it seems out of reach, even if people tell you it is not what you are meant to be doing, if you want to do something and you dedicate yourself to achieving it, it can be done, it's totally up to you.

**Kelly Jones**  
*Class of 2005*

# PURSUING PASSIONS

## MY TALE OF REINVENTION

**I was 16 years old when I completed my schooling at Iona and there was never a question as to whether or not I would go to university. I was the first female from both my mother's and father's family to have this opportunity and I was determined to grab it with two hands.**

My mother and her mother had been nurses and both had tried to steer me away from the profession. I remained determined in the face of opposition and commenced my career as a Registered Nurse following completion of a *Bachelor of Science* at Curtin University. Initially specialising in the field of oncology (cancer) nursing, I had found my purpose and my passion.

After two years however my career as a clinical nurse was cut short. A significant car accident saw me take two years off work, never able to return to bedside nursing again. I took opportunities as they came to me, constantly seeking out new challenges and a way to forge a career. From occupational health, specialising in expatriate travel medicine, coaching General Practitioners, project work, safety initiatives to complaints management in health care, I had a broad range of experiences using the knowledge and skills I had developed as a clinical nurse. A Richard Branson quote stuck in my mind through these years, 'if someone offers you an amazing opportunity but you are not sure you can do it, say yes – then learn how to do it later'.

Sometimes reinventing your path, takes bravery.

I worked in the health care sector for over twenty years, with the final five of these working in Human Resources. At the age of forty, through the support of my then manager, now mentor, I changed industries and have been working in human resources in the Oil and Gas sector for the past six years. I have found many new skills but continue to use those learnt through nursing – compassion, empathy, respect, excellence, safety and caring for the wellbeing of others.

I have never lost sight of my roots in oncology nursing, having recently completed the MACA Cancer200 taking on the personal challenge of cycling 200km in two days to fight cancer and support medical research for the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research.

**Jo Middleton** (*née Miles*)  
Class of 1989



## CLASS OF 1979 40 YEAR REUNION

**On 10 August 2019, 20 'old' Ionians walked back in time when we returned to 33 Palmerston Street to rekindle old friendships that spanned four decades.**

It was exciting to be back at Iona after 40 years. So much had changed, yet so much had stayed the same. It was a relaxed and sunny environment where we reconnected with old friends bound together by our school experience and the strong bond of sisterhood.

There was love and laughter in the air as we reminisced about our days

at school (and boarding) and caught up with what had been happening in the intervening years. There were tears and there was laughter. We remembered our sisters who had passed including: Donna Watts, Kristen Bouckaert, Kathleen Darcy, Wendy Sherwood, and Tooty (Valerie) Lamb – all wonderful women who touched our lives.

It was lovely that some of the Sisters were able to join us for the afternoon and we thank Sister Lucy (Congregation Leader of the Presentation Sisters WA); Anne Pitos (Principal) and the Iona Community Relations and Development team for organising the event.

People travelled far and wide to be there and all agreed it was something not to be missed.

A school reunion is a special group; we are bound by shared experiences; a sisterhood that keeps us connected. To all in attendance – Helen Dale, Liz Cotterill, Jenny Connelly, Caroline David, Lorella Crugnale, Sarah Beasley, Sue Wear, Donna O'Brien, Julie Cavanagh, Sally Lynch, Liz McAdam, Sharon Mondy, Fiona Whalley, Leanne Hinck, Louise Rampant, Liz Hird, Gabrielle Lesque, Francie Wray, Ged Kennett and Danielle Wooltorton – may we continue to be blessed with the gift of friendship and be forever thankful.

**Danielle Wooltorton**  
*Class of 1979*







## GOLDEN GIRLS' REUNION

**Fifty years since man walked on the moon, and fifty years since we left school in 1969, one of the smallest ever Year 10 and Year 12 classes eventually made it to become, 'Iona Golden Girls'.**

The unfamiliar grounds of the Junior school provided the venue and the warm welcome and directions from students was appreciated by all. We enjoyed a morning cuppa in Nagle Square, as we sought out familiar faces amongst more than 80 Golden Girls. A vibrant string orchestra provided the lovely backdrop for the gathering to occur.

Mass was held in the quaint and colourful Junior School Chapel. How grateful we were to hear the familiar and mellifluous voice of Pep (Sr Bernadette) leading us, whilst accompanied by a choir of angelic voices. Being escorted to lunch by Year 1s and 2s was a highlight and as we gathered in Treacey Hall for an elegant lunch, we were warmly welcomed by College Principal, Anne Pitos.

Six members of the Class of 1969; Della, Jo, Cheryl, Sr Irene, Joan & Susannah, were inducted as Golden Girls. With four of us originating from the country and two the city, together we celebrated this special occasion with the cutting of a beautiful celebratory cake.

Our class were delighted to share the table with Sr Bernadette and trust there will be a few more from '69 in town next year. Our Head Girl Kerry-Ellen sent best wishes from Israel, and a message highlighting her boarding school memories, the speech, drama and concert skills we all acquired and our sporting fun. She also expressed 'appreciation to the dedicated nuns who prepared us so well during the blessed period of our lives'.

Among the absentees were women in business, interstate residents, overseas travellers and old friends in poor health to whom we wish the best.

Having travelled from Queensland, I was fortunate to propose a toast to the Golden Girls, and spin a few stories, before a wonderful video, 'Once an Ionian, always an Ionian' featuring our very own star of screen, Susannah Carr, was played. In this moving video, Susannah reflected on her time at school and how it positively impacted her life. She noted that the values of the school seem not to have changed throughout the decades, and that the helpful and happy atmosphere of Iona was still the same today.

My fortunate family connections with the Sisters at Iona emboldened me afterwards to visit the convent and chat with some familiar faces who could not make it to the celebration. Catching up with Sr Joan, Sr Consuela, Sr Nora and Sr Maureen was a golden conclusion to a delightful day renewing friendships of old.

**Josephine Ryan**  
*Class of 1969*



## CLASS OF 1999 20 YEAR REUNION

**Sixty familiar faces gathered on Saturday 16 November, to celebrate the 20 Year Reunion of the Class of 1999.**

It was a record turn-out from an amazing group of ladies who have spent the last twenty years making a difference in the way that Iona girls know how.

Excitement built early for our reunion when eighteen months ago, a Facebook page was created, and we encouraged each other to come from far and wide to attend the event.

There were squeals of joy as we reminisced about our wonderful memories at school together and on how quickly the time has passed. It felt like yesterday that we donned our blue dresses and straw hats.

Thank you to the Iona Community for creating such a memorable event for our class.

The clarinet choir and Music Department entertained us all afternoon and we appreciate the time you gave up to do so.

In particular we wish to thank Georgia Allen and all the Community Relations and Development team along with the IPPA Committee. We were looked after beautifully and

enjoyed delicious food from the catering department at the school.

To Mrs Anne Pitos and our former Principal Ms Margaret Herley, we thank you for leaving an inspiring imprint on our education and lives at school. Ms Herley, your speech on the day encouraged us to look at life again through the eyes of our seventeen year old self, where anything felt and still is possible.

We all came away wanting more time together and vowed to see each other before the next reunion.

Until we meet again though, here's to laughter, luck and love in all of our lives.

**Katie Cook** (*née McRae*)  
*Class of 1999*





## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Golden Girl, **JOSIE RYAN** (Class of 1969) who won her age division at the *Australian Senior Women's Golf Championships* in Nelson Bay NSW. Not only did Josie win the age division but was also awarded a gold medal for leading the Annual Order of Merit for Super Seniors (65-70 years). Josie encourages all to play golf. In her words, 'a great sport for life!' Well done Josie.



1999 graduate **SHAVAURN HANSON** has been setting the art world on fire. Her community engagement projects have culminated in the execution of a large mural at the Mingenew Midwest Expo, funded by Plum Grove, and a collaboration with Stephen Pennock, that has resulted in several art installations for the Town of Vincent. Such beautiful work Shavaurn, congratulations.

Since graduating from Iona in 2016, **STACEY GOBEY** has been studying Contemporary Music Artistry at WAAPA whilst gigging around Perth with her band *Stacey Ann*. *Stacey Ann* is now excited to announce the release of the debut single, *She*, now available on all streaming services following a successful launch in November. Congratulations *Stacey Ann*, we will be watching this space with great interest.





## WE REALLY SHOULD CATCH UP...

### SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2020 REUNIONS!

<b>CLASS OF 2019</b>	Year 13 Breakfast	Date TBC
<b>CLASS OF 2015</b>	5 Year Reunion	Saturday 15 February
<b>CLASS OF 2010</b>	10 Year Reunion	Saturday 14 March
<b>CLASS OF 1995</b>	25 Year Reunion	Saturday 4 April
<b>CLASS OF 1990</b>	30 Year Reunion	Saturday 16 May
<b>CLASS OF 1980</b>	40 Year Reunion	Saturday 8 August
<b>GOLDEN GIRLS</b>	50 Year plus Reunion	Friday 11 September
<b>CLASS OF 2000</b>	20 Year Reunion	Saturday 14 November
<b>INTERSTATE REUNION SYDNEY</b>		Date TBC



### WE ARE LOOKING FOR A CLASS REP?

Are you from one of the above classes? Would you be interested in working with our Community Relations team and your Head Girl to bring your Class Reunion to life? Please contact Georgia Allen, [georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au)

**IPPA, HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR CONTACT DETAILS RECENTLY?**  
Please visit [ippa.iona.wa.edu.au](http://ippa.iona.wa.edu.au)



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To give by phone- call Georgia Allen at 9384 0066

Compassionate educators, the Presentation Sisters have devoted their lives to education. Their generous gifts over more than 100 years have had an enduring impact and have been the life-changing difference to so many.

In honour of this spirit of giving, we now invite you to help continue the mission of Nano Nagle.

**Give back to our Scholarship Fund and your donation will assist future Ionians to unlock their full potential.**

Your thoughtful gift will assist in providing an Ionian education and opportunities, which may otherwise be unattainable.

Create your long-lasting connection to Iona today.

**At Iona, we are blessed to have many opportunities to come together as a Presentation faith community. On Sunday 22 September, we held our annual Iona Family Mass at St Patrick's Basilica in Fremantle. Iona has a longstanding relationship with the Fremantle Parish and we relish the opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist in the stunning Basilica.**

Eleven of our students and one staff member received Sacraments at this Mass in front of the College community. The girls engaged wholeheartedly in their Sacramental preparation in the lead up to the Mass and Father, John Sebastian, Parish Priest, encouraged the students in his homily to reflect on the many spiritual gifts they receive from the Sacraments.

Our Year 7 and 8 Choir, accompanied by Mrs Lamborn, was beautiful as always and this Mass was a wonderful opportunity for our Choir to lead the school and parish congregation in Presentation-inspired hymns such as *Nano's Song* and *Who will light the Lantern?*

Thank you to all who attended our Family Mass this year and congratulations to all in our College community who received Sacraments.

**Gemma Thomson**

*Leader of Mission and Faith Formation*



## IONA FAMILY MASS





## GETTING IN THE SPIRIT

**Iona's House system enables connectivity throughout all year levels, vibrancy, passion and friendly rivalry, and plays a significant role in the pastoral care of every child.**

Being a part of one of our six Houses: Columba, Kildare, Moynihan, O'Dowling, O'Halloran or Treacey helps to provide students with a sense of belonging as they work together to foster healthy team spirit. The House system also provides an excellent opportunity for students to harness and develop their own individual and unique leadership skills.

The Houses compete throughout the year in a myriad of events ranging from:

- Sport: Volleyball, Cross-Country, Swimming and Athletics
- Music: Chorale
- Performing Arts: Dance
- St Patrick's Day Cup- Novelty events
- Academic Quiz and Spelling Bee

The coveted Nagle Shield is hard fought and won each year, allowing our students significant 'bragging rights' amongst their peers, stories regaled and memories made for years and years to come.

This year for the first time ever, Kildare were victorious, taking out the 2019 Nagle Shield. Congratulations!

## SPORTS UPDATE

Following the success of the IGSSA Swimming victory in March, our representation in all sports throughout 2019 has continued to go from strength to strength – with Iona an absolute force to be reckoned with across many disciplines.

### AFL

Iona were victorious in winning the Year 6 and Senior Freo Dockers' Cups.

### ATHLETICS

Iona triumphed, placing 2nd to St Mary's by just the slimmest of margins- a mere 6.5 points.

Adding to that wonderful result, Iona were successful in winning three of a possible five age group pennants with Years 7, 9 & 10 awarded age group champions. We were second-place winners in both the overall track and field events. We are now in a wonderful position for IGSSA Athletics 2020.

### BASKETBALL

IGSSA (WA) Pennants were won by 7/8 B Basketball, 7/8 D Basketball and Senior A Basketball.

### SOCCER

IGSSA (WA) Pennants were won by 7/8 A Soccer and Senior A Soccer.

Our Soccer teams (5 in total) narrowly missed winning Champion School this Semester with only 2 points away from St Mary's. A Champion School title is still something we are aiming for in Soccer!

### SOFTBALL

An IGSSA (WA) Pennant was won by the Junior A Softball team. With a condensed season, the girls won their pool, becoming successful pennant winners in Softball for the first time in 5 years.

### WATERPOLO

With three of our Senior A players, part of the Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS) scholarship program, our representation was always going to be strong! As such an IGSSA (WA) Pennant was won by the Senior A Water Polo team.

With only one game remaining at the time of print, the Junior B and C teams were also undefeated! Iona could well be on track to take out Champion Water Polo school too.

Iona continues to improve each year in Sport and remains fierce competitors amongst all the IGSSA schools.





## CREATE- ANNUAL CREATIVE

**This year for the first time, the annual CREATE, Creative Arts Exhibition was held at MosArts, a short stroll from Iona's Senior School campus.**

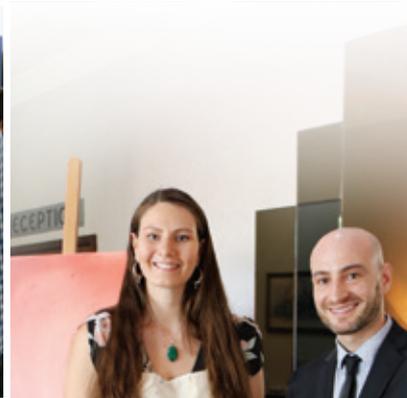
The Art Deco and heritage listed MosArts building provided a magnificent canvas for the work of our talented students to be exhibited. From paintings, to sculpture, to fashion and graphic design, the work on show was exquisite and unique, a fabulous showcase of overall student skill and capability.

Students' short films were showcased on the big screen in a celebration of the Media Production & Analysis course, and guests sampled an array of delicious morsels prepared by students straight from student-run food trucks!

The expertise and talent of the entire Productions Arts Department was once again on show reminding us just how blessed we are to be working with dedicated staff of such high calibre.

This widespread community event welcomed hundreds of people to view the magnificent work of our students, congratulations to all involved.





## PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

**It has been another successful year for the Iona Parent Council and its network of hard-working parents.**

It was always going to be a tough act to follow the success of our 110 Year Ball at Optus Stadium in 2018 but the Parent Council did not disappoint with this year's big event, 'Jazz & Shiraz' held at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club. The ballroom was full to capacity with more than 300 parents and friends chatting, eating and dancing the night away! Thanks to the support of some very generous community donors, several lucky parents even went home with fantastic door prizes!

The Men of Iona (MOI) have continued to provide fun filled activities for dads and their children this year; including barefoot bowls, networking drinks, a camp-out and olive picking. If you haven't had a chance to get your hands on a bottle of the first ever MOI Olive oil, not to worry it's still on sale through the Iona Uniform Shop.

Sadly, we say farewell to two of our most hard working and dedicated members of the Iona Parent Council this year, Steve Young and Jeanette Radici.

Steve has coordinated the MOI for the past six years and has done an incredible job, not only fostering a great network for Iona Dads to come together but also by providing activities that nurture the 'father and child' relationship. Steve has displayed incredible energy and initiative and will be sorely missed.

My deputy, Jeanette Radici has given her time to the Iona Parent

Council since her daughter was in the Junior School. Not only has she been constantly at the ready to provide great ideas and hard work, she has assisted at events without complaint. Jeanette's enthusiasm and drive will be sorely missed.

On behalf of the Iona Parent Council, I would like to say a heartfelt thanks and farewell to both Steve and Jeanette for their tremendous input over the years.

Thanks also to all of the Parent Council members who have volunteered their time this year. We have a fantastic group of energetic and committed parents onboard.

On that note, it's time for me also to bid you farewell. After 16 years serving the Iona Parent Council at both the Junior and Senior school campuses, my time has come to say goodbye as our youngest daughter Annabelle graduates. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience working with parents and the community and seeing our events and initiatives grow each year.

I would strongly encourage all parents to get involved in some way big or small. Being part of this team has been a great way to meet others and contribute in some way to our wonderful community.

I would like to wish Teresa Leone, Parent Council Chair for 2020 all the very best in her new role. I have no doubt she will enjoy the same support I have had from the Iona community over the years.

**Kate Smyth**  
*Chair Iona Parent Council*



## STAFF FAREWELLS

### ALISON THOMAS

I started Iona-life halfway through 1998 having previously worked at Stella Maris, a Presentation School in Geraldton, and also at Santa Maria College.

For a number of years I taught Physical and Health Education and helped to coordinate IGSSA Tennis, Netball, Athletics and Softball.

Under the leadership of former College Principal, Margaret Herley, I made the move from the Physical Education Department to teaching Religious Education on a full time basis. For the past seven years I have also had the privilege of being part of the Year 7 Wellbeing Team as the Year 7 O'Halloran Homeroom teacher.

There have been numerous highlights from my time at Iona. From accompanying both students and colleagues to the World Youth Day in Sydney, attending the NEAA conference in Melbourne to participating in numerous fun concerts. Most of all, I will always cherish the lasting friendships I have made amongst staff, both past and present.

During my 20 years at Iona, I have been incredibly grateful for the support and prayers that my family and I have received from the Presentation Sisters, particularly Sr Mary and Sr Flora.

On leaving Iona, my hope is to spend more time with family and friends, travel out of school holiday time and try to perfect my golf swing.

Interestingly, I commenced Iona as a young Mum, when my youngest daughter was beginning school, and I will now finish my time an-almost-Grandmother, as my eldest daughter welcomes her first child.



### CAROLYN ROWDEN

I started at Iona in 1983, as a graduate of the University of Western Australia. I have a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Biochemistry and Pharmacology, a Diploma of Education, and a Masters of Business Administration with a double major in Human Resource Management and Finance.

Over the years, I have taught Mathematics, Religious Education, Careers, Health Education, Science, Integrated Science, Human Biology and Biology. I was the Head of Science at Iona from 1991 to 1996 before returning to teaching full time.

During my time at the College I have been excited to be able to celebrate and honour the rich heritage of Iona, while at the same time being able to introduce new and exciting curriculum, in keeping with changes in society, and the needs, interests of students.

I intend to spend more time with my husband Reg in the Perth hills where we have a small property containing numerous fruit and nut trees, chickens, bandicoots and a family of eastern grey kangaroos. A bit cliché but my husband and I plan to do some travelling, catch up on the books I have been wanting to read, do some gardening, take up a new hobby like pottery and generally relaxing at home.

I wish to thank the Presentation Sisters especially Sister Consuela and Annunciata who had faith in a young graduate and employed me all those years ago. Iona has been my firm foundation, holding fast to the principles of caring, mutual support and respect for self, others and the environment.

Thank you for being my travelling companions along a large and important part of my way. I am forever grateful for your stimulating company and the enormous collection of shared experiences indelibly printed on my mind. It's not goodbye but farewell, until we meet again.



## PURSUING THE PASSION

**Iona breeds generations of girls with individual passions across many and varied areas of interest. Our students develop empowerment, perseverance, grit and determination necessary to pursue these passions and make a significant difference whatever path life takes.**

Some examples of Past Pupils with the passion to make a difference are Danielle Gusterson (née Woodhouse), Sr Lucy van Kessel and Michelle Cowan (née Petersen). Others are Abby-Rose Cox and Ruth Marchant James (née Marchant).

**Ruth Marchant James** (née Marchant, Class of 1947). Ruth is a Fellow of the Fellowship of Australian Writers (WA), a founding member of the History Council of Western Australia, a member, and at various times, an office bearer, of the Australian Society of Authors, the Royal Western Australian Historical Society, PEN International, Friends of Battye Library, and the Cottesloe Society, and of course author of *Cork to Capricorn: a History of the Presentation Sisters of WA 1891-1991*.

**Abby-Rose Cox** (Class of 2008). Abby-Rose hails from the Kimberley region and has always been passionate about Indigenous culture and health. At Iona she won a special award for Promoting Indigenous Culture. Her University of Melbourne degree program included an exchange year at the University of Columbia in Canada. Most recently Abby-Rose was the recipient of a 2019 Indigenous Development and Training Award.

### ARCHIVES UPDATE

This year the Iona Archives department has embarked on an extensive audit of the items in our care. This ensures that all items are where they should be and are stored to the latest international standards for archives and museum collections.

One of the great finds of 2019 is a collection of photographs from the *Ardon Martell Studio*. These photographs were commissioned in 1973 for the school annual. They are mostly sporting photographs but include both primary and secondary students.

As always, we would be utterly delighted to accept any memorabilia relating to Iona. We also like to collect material about students after they have left Iona, so if you are doing anything interesting please let us know.



## VALE

### ALEX CONWAY

10/2/1971 – 25/8/2019



It is my honour to write this tribute for Alex Conway, a dear friend, teacher, scholar, educational administrator, husband, father, brother and son. In whatever role we knew him, from whatever vantage point, he stood apart as someone special!

We first met Alex when he commenced at Iona Presentation College in January

2016, as the Dean of Campus Administration, Religious Education and Physical Education Teacher. His special leadership abilities, great sense of humour and charismatic personality were readily apparent. It was clear that he would be a valued member of our community and continue his outstanding career as an educational leader at Iona.

In addition to his devotion to his work in education, Alex always found time for his colleagues, his friends, and his family, especially his wife Sandra, and their two children, Lochie and Mackenzie. Working closely with Alex over the past four years, we learned a great deal about his love for his family and that they were never far from his thoughts. Throughout Alex's illness and treatment he was determined to remain the patriarch of his family.

We are all honoured and privileged to have been a part of Alex's life, and have all gained much from his leadership and collegiality. Alex's genuine care and compassion for each of his students was outstanding and our students have been privileged to have been mentored and taught by him. Although much too short, his, was a life lived to the full. He was a determined, collaborative, goal-oriented, caring person who loved life and all that it offered.

Alex – a caring and beloved family man, a cherished colleague and friend, will be missed by the whole Iona Community, but never will he be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

**Katy Moore**

*Head of Senior School*

### LITA FAVAZZI

20/11/1964 – 19/12/2018



Lita began her education at St Mary's Star of the Sea in Carnarvon, with the Presentation Sisters. After graduating from Teachers College, Lita began her

teaching career at Iona Presentation Primary School under Sr Maureen Moynihan. Lita was a classroom teacher and later became the LOTE teacher, teaching Italian K-7. Lita considered herself having two families– her own loving parents, brother and extended family, and her Iona family. She was as passionate about her students as she was her beloved West Coast Eagles.

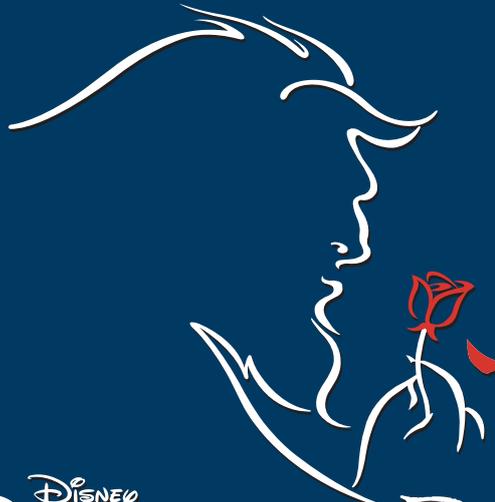
Lita was a gentle and beautiful soul, who showed genuine love and care for everyone around her. We thank Lita for her 30 years of service to the students and community of Iona Presentation College. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. May eternal light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

**Susie Kay**

*Middle School Teacher*

THE Iona Presentation College

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LYRICS BY  
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