



# esprit de corps

IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE MAGAZINE  
ISSUE 18 • 2019





Front Cover: IGSSA Year 12 Swim Team

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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) by 4 October 2019.

# message from THE PRINCIPAL

**Welcome to the latest edition of *esprit de corps*, this time with a refreshed design.**

What an exciting time for Past Pupils with the re-launch of IPPA- Iona Past Pupils' Association.

Ably led by Jane-Mary Richardson (née Ellis) Class of 1989 and a team of dedicated, talented and diverse members, the IPPA committee is planning some fantastic events and initiatives to reconnect Ionians of all generations in a number of meaningful ways.

For, '*Once an Ionian, always an Ionian*' is a phrase often used here at Iona and, in particular, as our girls leave the College in their final year. As a part of a greater network of thousands of Ionians, we encourage you to do what you can to stay connected. Julie Mazza's (née Bailey) story on Page 8 is a testament to the friendships that have been preserved and strengthened, as a result of staying connected for so many years since leaving school.

Whether it's by lending a helping hand to another when needed, or mentoring a current student, returning to the College to assist with telling your story or coaching a team, the options are limitless. Perhaps all you need to do is keep your details up to date, so that we can keep you informed, and you can continue to feel connected.

IPPA's first event is an inaugural Business Breakfast. Excitedly underway as we go to print, this fabulous occasion will provide opportunities for Ionians to hear from a panel of successful Past Pupils working in very different areas of business. Enabling important networking to occur, this event is also designed to foster new and important mutually-beneficial relationships amongst our IPPA community. Our hope is for this to become a regular event in the calendar, so please keep an eye out for the next one.

Maintaining the Presentation charism and the mission of Nano Nagle continues to be of utmost importance to all Ionians and will provide the framework in which the IPPA network can grow and flourish.

God bless,

**Anne Pitso**

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

*Principal*





# message from THE CHAIR OF IPPA

**As the Chair of the newly appointed IPPA committee, it is my great privilege to represent Ionians from as far back as 111 years.**

Past Pupils of Iona are genuine and well-rounded. As individuals, we continue to uphold the values of Iona. We live with honour, we are lifelong learners with strong work ethics, we show kindness and compassion in our daily lives and many of us continue to volunteer in the wider community, as our way of giving back to others. Our past pupils are continuing the work of our founder Nano Nagle & the Presentation Sisters throughout their daily lives and in their chosen fields.

As part of a wider network Ionians prove repeatedly, that they really can and do make a difference.

In March 2019, the newly formed IPPA Committee met for the first time. The committee is made up of Ionians from a range of generations and expertise and we are still growing. If you are interested in being involved in some capacity or feel you have something to give back, please contact Georgia Allen, [georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au)

Together we hope to help you reconnect with your classmates through a range of diverse events and reunions, and in doing so build a strong, enduring and supportive community.

My hope is that you will connect with IPPA and share where you've been, what you're up to and how you can give back to Iona. We encourage you to talk to each other, engage and enjoy connecting through the IPPA Online Community- [www.iona.wa.edu.au/view/past-pupils](http://www.iona.wa.edu.au/view/past-pupils)

*For, Once an Ionian, always an Ionian.*

Kind regards,

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

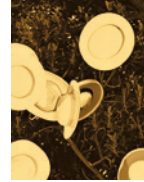


# COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

In keeping with the 2019 College Value of Courage and Integrity, 'to be true to ourselves, to be genuine to others, to live with honour and demonstrate personal conviction', we asked IPPA to tell us their stories.

Read here how some of our Past Pupils have faced their own unique challenges and adversities and have overcome them in true Iona spirit, with Courage and Integrity.





## TAKING MATTERS INTO MY OWN HANDS

**In December 2011, I boarded a plane to attend Winter School in Stuttgart, Germany. I was so excited as I was going travelling with friends beforehand, only had six months left of my commerce degree and had an undergraduate job lined up for when I got home. Everything, seemingly, was falling into place.**

I began having extremely bad hand and foot joint problems and kept thinking it was the -20c temperature. However, after my friend drove me to hospital, I was eventually diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis and prescribed Ibuprofen.

About an hour after I took it, I had what I describe as a, "Harry Potter Lightning Bolt" into the top left side of my temple. I also felt the left side of my face freeze up, along with my throat and right chest, my arm also became suddenly warm. I couldn't swallow or drink. It really felt as though I was going to die that night!

The next day in a visit to the hospital, I was told that I had had two strokes at the brain stem. I lost minor balance, some memory and had significant loss of sensation in the right side of my body. I was in intensive care, followed by a further hospital stay for several weeks.

My return to Australia brought more surprising news, then diagnosed with lupus, fibromyalgia and neuropathy. The medication prescribed was the equivalent to chemotherapy in a cancer patient; I lost most my hair and I put on lots of weight. The neuropathy was so intense and painful in my right side that meant without strong medication, I couldn't even sit down for long periods of time.

Amongst all this, I pushed myself to go to University two days a week, my part-time job and my weekly specialist appointments.

My specialists encouraged me to quit work and University and focus on getting better. Easier said than done when my parents weren't working full time and I had medical bills.

So, I took matters into my own hands. I started researching things I could do for myself that didn't involve medication and began Yoga. I also started praying to St Michael the Archangel, Patron of Warriors, the Sick and the Suffering; and after a year, miraculously, I stopped seeing my specialists.

I still have lupus, fibromyalgia, sciatica, neuropathy, loss of sensation, endometriosis, memory loss, forgetfulness, extreme fatigue, auditory overload and anxiety. Some days I experience all the symptoms which can make it difficult for me to even get out of bed, and other days only one or two. It's too much of a risk for me to have children.

But this doesn't stop me from being a Chartered Accountant and working in Corporate Finance. It doesn't stop me from working out, taking German classes again or being a Treasurer on a not-for-profit board of a women's refuge.

I made the choice to do these things and will never let my health issues stop me!

**Nela Kosec**  
*Class of 2005*



# COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

## TENACIOUS TRIPLETS

**When I think of courage I think of my beautiful and tenacious triplet girls, who are now thriving despite their difficult start to life.**



In March 2015 my GP phoned with the blood results that I was pregnant and we were so happy! I couldn't wait to hear our baby's heartbeat. My husband Samudra met me at the hospital for the scan and we planned to return to work as normal later that afternoon.

Everything was going really well and the sonographer cheerfully pointed out two sacs and two heartbeats before she surprisingly said "don't be alarmed, but I think I see three heart beats!"

Of course, we were very alarmed and I was too shocked to say anything. Samudra who is always practical said, "well, I guess we'll need a new car!" We were acutely aware of how high risk our pregnancy was and were told that because it was so early on and as they couldn't see a dividing membrane between our identical girls there was a chance that not all our babies would be strong enough to make it. We prayed for the health of our babies and waited for our specialist obstetrician appointment which was the longest five weeks.

The scan at 13/14 weeks couldn't have gone better and our obstetrician instantly made me feel at ease, promising to care for our babies like they were his own.

We let ourselves become excited about becoming a family of five. At 16 weeks another challenge was thrown at our girls when a scan showed that they were developing twin to twin transfusion syndrome. Again we prayed and anxiously awaited our weekly scan. At 21 weeks when their measurements stabilised, we knew our girls were fighters!

On 15 September 2015 Anna, Isabella and Felicity were born only minutes apart. Anna, our first born was held up to me kicking and screaming and it was such a relief. I got to briefly give the girls a kiss before they were taken to the neonatal intensive care unit. They were so tiny and fragile weighing 1.3kg, 1.2kg and 1.1kg and all with respiratory distress syndrome. Nothing could have prepared me for seeing how hard they were working to breathe, the attachments and constant beeping of the monitors. They could only tolerate being held for short amounts of time and I cherished this contact so much. Being separated from them once I was discharged from hospital is one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. The NICU nurses were our guardian angels, giving the girls love and care when I couldn't be there,

and my family and friends too were a huge support to us at this time.

The girls had to learn to breathe independently, keep a stable heart rate, regulate their temperature and learn to suck their feeds. We celebrated each little milestone that meant they were a step closer to coming home and then, after seven weeks of constant monitoring and investigations, our tiny miracles were ready to come home!

It was such a surreal feeling walking out of the hospital! I just kept smiling at everyone staring at us as we carried three capsules, I couldn't believe these perfect tiny babies were ours.

Our precious girls are now three and a half, and they have continued to strive for wellness and to keep up with their friends. They have passed all their developmental tests and are a constant source of joy to everyone around them. I know that we are the lucky ones and are grateful every single day, even amongst the chaos and tantrums!

Anna, Isabella and Felicity have defied the odds to be here today and I can't wait to see what they achieve as they continue to learn and grow.

**Laura Sarubin** (née Wilson)  
Class of 2003







# COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

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## FRIENDS TO LAST A LIFETIME

**I remember my first day at Iona like it was yesterday. I left my house in Rockingham at 7am to catch three buses to school. I was excited yet apprehensive because I didn't know anyone in Year 8. On the way, my mind raced with questions like, 'What if I left my hat on the bus?' 'Would I have the courage to make new friends?'**

Thankfully, I didn't leave my hat on the bus and I did make friends – of whom I am pleased to say, are still my friends today. In our own unique way we are all leading meaningful lives, lives filled with daily doses of both courage and integrity.

When I reflect on my education at Iona, I am immensely grateful. I had opportunities that my parents did not have: my father Kevin left school at the early age of 13 and my mother Vinka at 14 to support themselves and their families.

My Iona education helped me intrepidly to 'go against the grain' of what my family had done before. It took a lot of personal conviction to balance study, travel long hours and help with household chores. I went on to study at a tertiary level, which made my parents proud.

The Sisters too were as true to themselves as they were to my family, allowing my parents reduced fees as a way of helping our family of seven.

It has been said that we have three types of friends in life. Friends for a reason, friends for a season, but in my case, friends to last a lifetime.

My Iona-friends, Sandy Oldham (née Hawkins), Aylmyr Sequeira (née Gomes), Donna Kelly (née Lesque), Genevieve Robbins and Sue Raiter (née Richards) and I are still close to this day.

Earlier this year, some of us went on a trip of a lifetime to India. It was a poignant and meaningful experience, one that honoured our friendship and paid homage to our faith.

On the long bus trips across India, we reminisced about our Iona days, grateful for our education and the friends we made. We recalled the hard-working Sisters who taught us, inspired us and soothed us with cups of tea at the Convent when the going got tough. More than 40 years after leaving school, we are still in contact with some of the Sisters, including Sr Mary whose quick wit, keen intellect and genuine interest in her students sustained us.

At one of our reunions, she said, 'I pray for each of you every night.'

We are never too old for a prayer.

**Julie Mazza** (née Bailey)  
*Class of 1981*

## FRENCH CONNECTIONS

**After completing my last ATAR exam, graduating and receiving my ATAR results; it was fair to say that I was well and truly ready for my gap year.**

I am currently taking on the role as an English Language Assistant at "St Jean et La Croix" in Saint Quentin, situated in the North of France. I spend my days practising English with students ranging from Primary School to beyond Year 12. I also help many of them prepare for their oral exams, correct their written English work and inform them of the Australian (and Ionian) culture.

To say I was nervous is an understatement! I received an onslaught of bon voyages as I said au revoir to my friends and family at Perth airport. I knew I was leaving the comfort and familiarity of home and that it would be a challenge. I had to acquire a great amount of courage as I was launched into a completely new culture and an alternative community.

I've endured many obstacles whilst working and living here in France. Homesickness and enduring the cold weather are some that I have battled. It was definitely no La Vie en Rose.

I have had to be vulnerable in my French language abilities which in itself required courage. This notion has allowed me to become so adept to learning the language and culture. Furthermore, seeing education from the teacher's perspective has required me to maintain virtue and integrity – especially as I must work with students so close to my age.

Through my decision to plunge into the unknown, this experience so far has allowed me to grow in maturity and become a more cultured young woman.

I know that my experience in France will provide me with many fond memories to look back on in the future and the courage to face any new challenge I am presented with in life.

**Alanna Caluya**  
*Class of 2018*







# COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

## CAMERA STORY

**Camera Story is a Perth-based charitable organisation that champions positive photography. We use the camera lens to educate people about photography, so they can build practical skills and confidence; communicate more effectively; increase their vocational capacity; explore social issues and build connections with other members of their community and environment.**

My name is Sarah Landro and I graduated from Iona in 2005 and in 2013 I founded Camera Story. Like most 17 year olds, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life and while I still find myself in a very similar position, I am now a little wiser and I own a lot more photography equipment.

I spent a good part of my postgraduate studies at the Pathshala South Asian Media Institute in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It was here where I not only learned a lot about the medium of photography but was also exposed to the philosophies around photography and so established my own approach. I knew I was 'never' going to be a commercial photographer – in saying this, it does happen from time to time.

For me, the camera opened doors in a country that was very foreign enabling me to communicate with people where the language wasn't common. I have continued to travel back to Bangladesh for the last eight years, photographing in rural communities and solidifying relationships. While I was travelling back and forth to Bangladesh, my now business partner/dear friend was doing very similar things in Kashmir, India.

After countless conversations over coffee back in Perth, Camera Story was born very organically and bravely. We realised that we were both very passionate about photography and people. The camera was a tool allowing us to communicate and connect, and we wanted to share our skills and resources with those who couldn't quite access such materials.

I now find myself as the Co-Founder of an established charity, Camera Story and the Gallery Manager at the Perth Centre for Photography. Through Camera Story I have worked on many community initiatives in the Kimberley and Pilbara; facilitating workshops for disengaged young people; fostering connections between youth and Indigenous Elders in community; and celebrating the positive representation of women in Aboriginal communities.

I have also continued to work extensively in India, bringing workshops to the children of the Kashmir War, encouraging them to express their personal narratives and also to the young people and women of Jafalong, Bangladesh.

We also continue to collaborate with many local organisations and schools in WA delivering workshops that engage at-risk, under resourced and vulnerable people through photography.

Working with young women has become a key focus for Camera Story and in December this year, for the first time, we are inviting women from all backgrounds to join us in Varanasi, India for a cultural immersion and photography tour.

My Iona education gave me the courage and determination to see my incredible privilege and try to share it with others.

**Sarah Landro**

*Class of 2005*

[www.camerastory.com.au](http://www.camerastory.com.au)



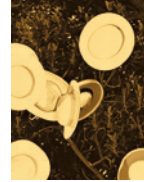


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## NEVER TOO LATE

**After graduating from Iona in 1994 I completed a Bachelor of Commerce, double major in Information Systems & Information Technology. I worked full time in corporate organisations including PwC, Water Corporation and Chevron and completed a Masters of Business Administration (MBA).**

I married, and whilst on maternity leave I had time to reflect. I realised I had to continue to be true to myself as my corporate life and travelling the world with work would be different now that I had a family. I decided to follow one of my passions and completed a short makeup course. I loved it as it was a creative outlet to my corporate world.

It took a lot of courage for me to decide to finally resign from my high profile, secure role at Chevron. I wanted to continue to stay true to myself, so in 2015 I decided to take my passion for makeup seriously. I completed a Diploma in Specialised Makeup and also flew to Los Angeles to complete additional advanced training.

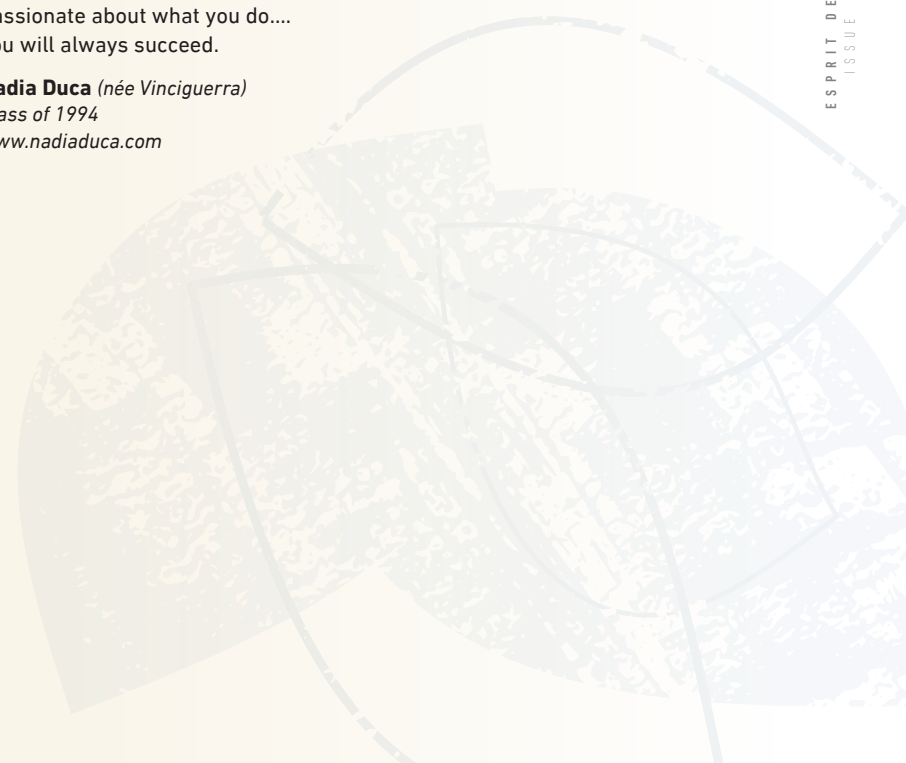
I would never have imagined how my life has changed and how staying true to myself would lead me to where I am as a professional makeup artist. I have been able to travel the world, work on celebrities, work international Fashion Weeks, work on film sets in LA, work on music videos, TV commercials, productions, keying

shows, magazine covers, teaching and being nominated as Australian Makeup artist of the Year for the last two years.

I have always had a passion for sharing my knowledge which I continue to do through teaching makeup to everyday women and beginner artists. I love doing bridal makeup. However, when I do ball makeups and an Ionian is in my chair it brings me back to all the good times I had at Iona.

Life presents challenges and opportunities. However, if you stay true to yourself, have the courage to pursue what you believe in with integrity you will achieve what you set your mind to. I always say that it's never too late and if you are passionate about what you do.... you will always succeed.

**Nadia Duca** (*née Vinciguerra*)  
*Class of 1994*  
[www.nadiaduca.com](http://www.nadiaduca.com)





# COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

## PURSUIT OF HOPE

**I graduated from Iona in 1988 and went on to study Nursing. In 1993 after qualifying as a Registered Nurse, I embarked on a mission to Kolkata (then Calcutta) to work with Dr Sujit, the Founder and director of the Institute of Indian Mother and Child. (IIMC)**

Dr Sujit was born in a rural village in Bangladesh, educated by the Belgium Red Cross and went on to become a doctor, specialising in paediatrics. Later, he returned to Kolkata and worked as Mother Theresa's Medical Director before embarking on his own project, to extend health care and education to the remote areas of West Bengal.

In 1993, I worked on a volunteer basis with Dr Sujit. There were only four international volunteers at this time including myself. The accommodation was basic- a very small two-roomed mud hut with a dirt floor kitchen.

The work in Kolkata was exhausting, the suffering extreme and the poverty overwhelming. Working with a community so highly spirited, despite their impoverished conditions, as a young girl was incredibly energising, and in the end, it took a lot of courage to leave this community.

Two years later, my sister Tammy (Class of 1990) and I felt the need to help Dr Sujit again. We were overawed to see the project grow from not only health care, but now to education. In a small school house Dr Sujit, his wife, Barnali, and volunteers had begun the mission of educating and sponsoring local children.

On this trip, my sister Tammy, who had no nursing experience, was tasked with treating the poor mothers and children of West Bengal. This included long days of travel to remote clinics, dealing with constant noise, over-crowded slums and humidity, not to mention that treatments were basic and harsh. Draining wounds without anaesthetic and with limited medical equipment, meant daily doses of courage, determination and commitment were needed. Something our presentation education had instilled in us.

Last year, Tammy, my sister in law Ella and I returned to Kolkata again, this time spending two and a half weeks volunteering at IIMC with 20 other international volunteers. As more mature women and now mothers, we were amazed at just what Dr Sujit and his team had been able to achieve. Much had stayed the same, although the hope and opportunities available to the poor had dramatically increased.

Yes, we felt moments of hopelessness, but despite this we just 'got on with it' in the knowledge that to help even one or two people to become better, heartened and educated, might just give them hope, help to maintain their dignity and honour their unique culture.

Dr Sujit will be visiting Perth on Monday 12 August. We would like to extend an invitation to all those that would like to meet this remarkable and inspirational man and hear more of his work. Please contact Georgia Allen, [georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au) if you'd like to know more.

**Jill O'Callaghan** (née Turnbull)  
Class of 1988









## YUCK CIRCUS

**Growing up in the isolated coastal town of Broome, there wasn't much to do apart from join the local circus! I began training at Theatre Kimberley's Sandfly Circus at the age of 11 and haven't stopped since. I graduated in 2018 with my Bachelor from the National Institute of Circus Arts in Melbourne, and am now the Director of YUCK Circus.**

YUCK is story of mateship, empowerment, and a really good time. The show's content is a commentary for the masses; our mission is to speak freely and comedically about social topics to open a gateway to the human experience. We're talking gender, addressing toxic masculinity, trying our worst pick-up lines, and celebrating our Australian pride. As an all-female cast, with an all-female brains-trust, we provide a humour that you wouldn't expect. Couple that with some high standard circus feats- we're ready to make a social change.

Broome is the birth place of my artistic career and being SO far from almost everything is what I believe creates my unique work. Broome has an absolutely ridiculous amount of Circus Performers who travel the globe starring in world-renowned companies. How did that happen?! To come from a tiny place in an often-overlooked WA is a treasure. It's the pride you feel in your heart to represent your family, friends, and town. I had the honour of developing my work in Fremantle and Margaret River, and while staying at the Boarding House at Iona.

The link between my formal education at Iona and the creative career I've taken is female camaraderie. With our all-female cast and crew YUCK is a testament to female mateship, a suit found strong within the Iona community. To have a company founded on trust, empowerment, support, and bravery is a trait every young woman should instil into their lifestyle.

**Georgia Deguara**  
*Class of 2013*







## CLASS OF 2018 – YEAR 13 BREAKFAST

**On Wednesday 13 February, the Class of 2018 was warmly welcomed back to Iona for the much anticipated 'Year 13 Breakfast'. The year group gathered on the College Green and we were all eager to catch up not only with each other, but with the staff who guided us through our schooling years.**

Being welcomed by the newly appointed IPPA Chair, Jane-Mary Richardson (née Ellis, Class of 1989) was a timely reminder that we are

now part of a much, much wider network of Ionians. Past Pupils who are only too willing to support us all along our next journey and a soft place to fall if ever we should need support.

We were then kindly joined by Past Pupil Emily Eaton (Class of 2003), who spoke to us about how her time at Iona has helped her navigate life after school with patience and perseverance. As fresh graduates, we were inspired to hear how those virtues have led her to her dream

career as a sports dietitian and were left reassured the values Iona taught us will serve us well in the future.

On behalf of the Class of 2018, I would like to thank the College for hosting us and in particular Ms Georgia Allen for coordinating the event.

Though the campus may be undergoing dramatic changes, we all felt very much at home when we entered the gates.

**Anna Harris**  
*Class of 2018*













## CLASS OF 2014 – 5 YEAR REUNION



**The Class of 2014 came together in February this year at Cottesloe Beach Hotel, for the much awaited 5 Year-Reunion. It was a wonderful afternoon of catching up with old friends and teachers and finding out what everyone had been up to since leaving school.**

A particular thanks to Mrs Anne Pitos, Ms Gemma Beekink and Ms Megan O'Leary, staff who took time out of their weekends to catch up with us. It was great to see you!

It was especially great to have the opportunity to see girls we haven't seen in a while, as well as spend time with those with whom we have continued to stay in contact. It was so exciting to hear about the different trajectories our lives have taken since leaving Iona, the stories everyone had to tell, and plans for our futures.

Thank you to Iona, especially Georgia Allen, for the work that went into organising this reunion, and for giving us the opportunity to reconnect and remember all the good times we shared together.

We're looking forward to catching up with everyone in another five years, when I'm sure there will be plenty more stories to share!

**Erin Hassett**  
*Class of 2014*





## CLASS OF 2009 – 10 YEAR REUNION

**The Class of 2009 attended its 10-Year Reunion Saturday 9 March 2019 in the Iona Sports Centre, followed by impromptu drinks at 'Rodney's Bait n' Tackle'.**

It was a great opportunity for classmates to catch up and find out what everyone has been up to over the past 10 years since leaving Iona. It was also great to see firsthand all the positive changes and exciting developments that are happening at Iona.

While we wish the whole year group could have been there, a number of classmates were missed who were interstate or overseas.

Thank you to Anne Pitso, Georgia Allen and her team for organising such a fantastic event.

We are already looking forward to the 20th!

**Louisa Harris**  
*Class of 2009*













## CLASS OF 1994 – 25 YEAR REUNION



**Around 40 people gathered on a sunny Saturday afternoon in April for the Class of 1994's 25 Year Reunion, to enjoy reconnecting, catching up on news, and sharing memories of school days.**

Former Principal Margaret Herley and current Principal Anne Pitso, who was Deputy Principal in 1994, both joined us for the occasion, and spoke warmly of their memories of our year group. We also heard about the plans for Iona's growth, and from the College Sports Centre had a bird's eye view of the significant building project underway.

Past Pupil and IPPA committee member, Aymee Mastaglia (née Bartlett) gave an engaging overview of highlights from sport, culture and the world in 1994, bringing laughter and smiles with her recall of stories from our school years. The rousing reminder that we were the last group of Year 12s required to wear the brown winter uniform had us all shuddering at the thought!

Thank you to all the Past Pupils from the Class of 1994 and to teachers John Hibble and Alan Karasavas for attending the reunion, and many thanks to the Iona Community Relations & Development Team who organised the event and the students who assisted on the day.

**Elizabeth Fells**

*Class of 1994*





## CLASS OF 1989 – 30 YEAR REUNION

**The hubbub of laughter and talking reminded me of the noise we used to make as we all left the hall after assembly, or were let out of school on the last day of term. And in some ways it felt like we had just left school, yesterday, in 1989. Yet here we were at our 30 year school reunion.**

Georgia Allen and her colleagues in the Community Relations and Development team hosted a lovely gathering for us. We were very pleased to have Sr Terri join the group as well as some talented current Iona students who - just before their exams - generously provided music and hospitality.

There was something very relaxed and easy about the afternoon. Although some of our group catch up regularly others of us hadn't seen our classmates since the day we left school. But we picked up again where we left off. Older, wiser, kinder, having been through joy and troubles we shared our stories. Running through many of the conversations was reflection on the way our shared experiences, as young girls at Iona, impacted our lives. It created a bond that we treasure and we look forward to many more gatherings.

**Anne Wayne**  
*Class of 1989*









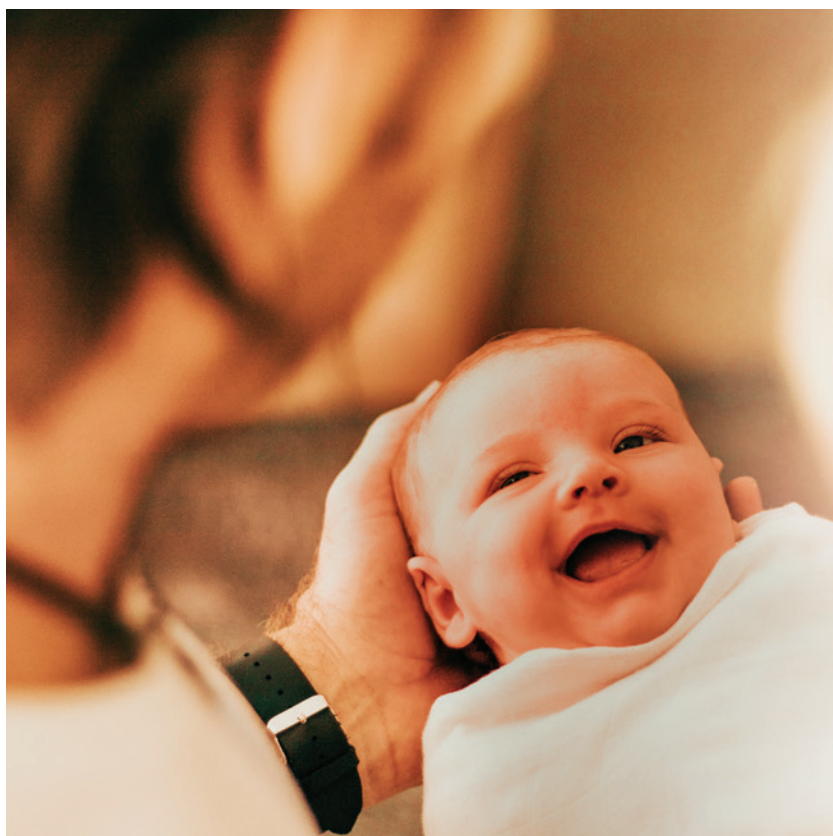


## FIERCELY TALENTED

Maria Ceccarelli (Class of 2014) has been studying Music at the University of Western Australia since she graduated from Iona. The magnificent culmination of her piano studies was her Honours Recital, held in February at the Callaway Music Auditorium. She performed in front of an extremely appreciative audience which included (delightfully) her entire 2011 Year 9 Music Class!

Maria performed a fiendishly difficult program, including Beethoven's 'Waldstein' Sonata and Kapustin's Toccata, making it all look very easy with her technical mastery of the piano.

We are all super proud of her achievement.



## WELCOME TO THE WORLD, MADALYN JOY

Congratulations to Amanda Power (Class of 1996) and her husband Colby Bird on the birth of their precious girl, Madalyn Joy, 5 February 2019. She is thoroughly loved by her Mummy and Daddy and is already queen of the house! Best wishes from all at Iona, another future Ionian in the making.





## WATERPOLO WONDERWOMEN!

Congratulations to Past Pupil, Maddy Quinn (Class of 2011) who also happens to be Classroom Teacher to our Year 5C class, for her recent Waterpolo success in the finals of the Australian Waterpolo League.

Sponsored by OVO and playing for Fremantle Water Polo Club's Marlins, Maddy's team fought hard in a gruelling contest. Travelling to Sydney to play amongst the top six teams, the Marlins went into the finals in 4th position, finishing second overall to Qld Thunder. In a nail-biting last 35 seconds, Maddy and her team, battled fiercely to eventually come home with the silver medal.

This triumphant team was also managed by our very own Gabby Groves (née Neesham), Class of 1992 and supported by a stellar squad that includes two current Ionians, Stella Watson (11 Columba) and Lucy Marsh (12 Columba)

Well done everyone!

## WE REALLY SHOULD CATCH UP...

### 2019 REUNIONS

<b>CLASS OF 1979</b>	40 Year Reunion	Saturday 10 August 2019
<b>GOLDEN GIRLS</b>	50 Year plus Reunion	Friday 13 September 2019
<b>CLASS OF 1999</b>	20 Year Reunion	Saturday 16 November 2019

### SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2020 REUNIONS!

<b>CLASS OF 2019</b>	Year 13 Breakfast	Wednesday 12 February 2020
<b>CLASS OF 2015</b>	5 Year Reunion	Saturday 15 February 2020
<b>CLASS OF 2010</b>	10 Year Reunion	Saturday 14 March 2020
<b>CLASS OF 1995</b>	25 Year Reunion	Saturday 4 April 2020
<b>CLASS OF 1990</b>	30 Year Reunion	Saturday 16 May 2020
<b>CLASS OF 1980</b>	40 Year Reunion	Saturday 8 August 2020
<b>GOLDEN GIRLS</b>	50 Year plus Reunion	Friday 11 September 2020
<b>CLASS OF 2000</b>	20 Year Reunion	Saturday 14 November 2020
<b>ALL YEARS REUNION SYDNEY</b>		Date TBC



## SWIMMING SUCCESS AS IONA BRINGS HOME THE TROPHY

**This year at the 55th IGSSA WA Swimming Carnival, the Iona Swim Team were triumphant, finally earning the top spot after eight years spent in second place.**

Coming away with the top prize was a wonderful and well-deserved achievement for everyone involved. From our swimmers, to coaches and support staff, each and every one worked tirelessly throughout the year to earn their place at the podium.

Iona was triumphant over St Mary's by just three points, followed by St Hilda's, Santa Maria, MLC, PLC, Penrhos and Perth College.

It was an incredibly close event during which many records were broken. Highlights of the night include the amazing swim by Kara Broadbridge (12 Kildare) who created a new Year 12, 50m Freestyle record (27.04).

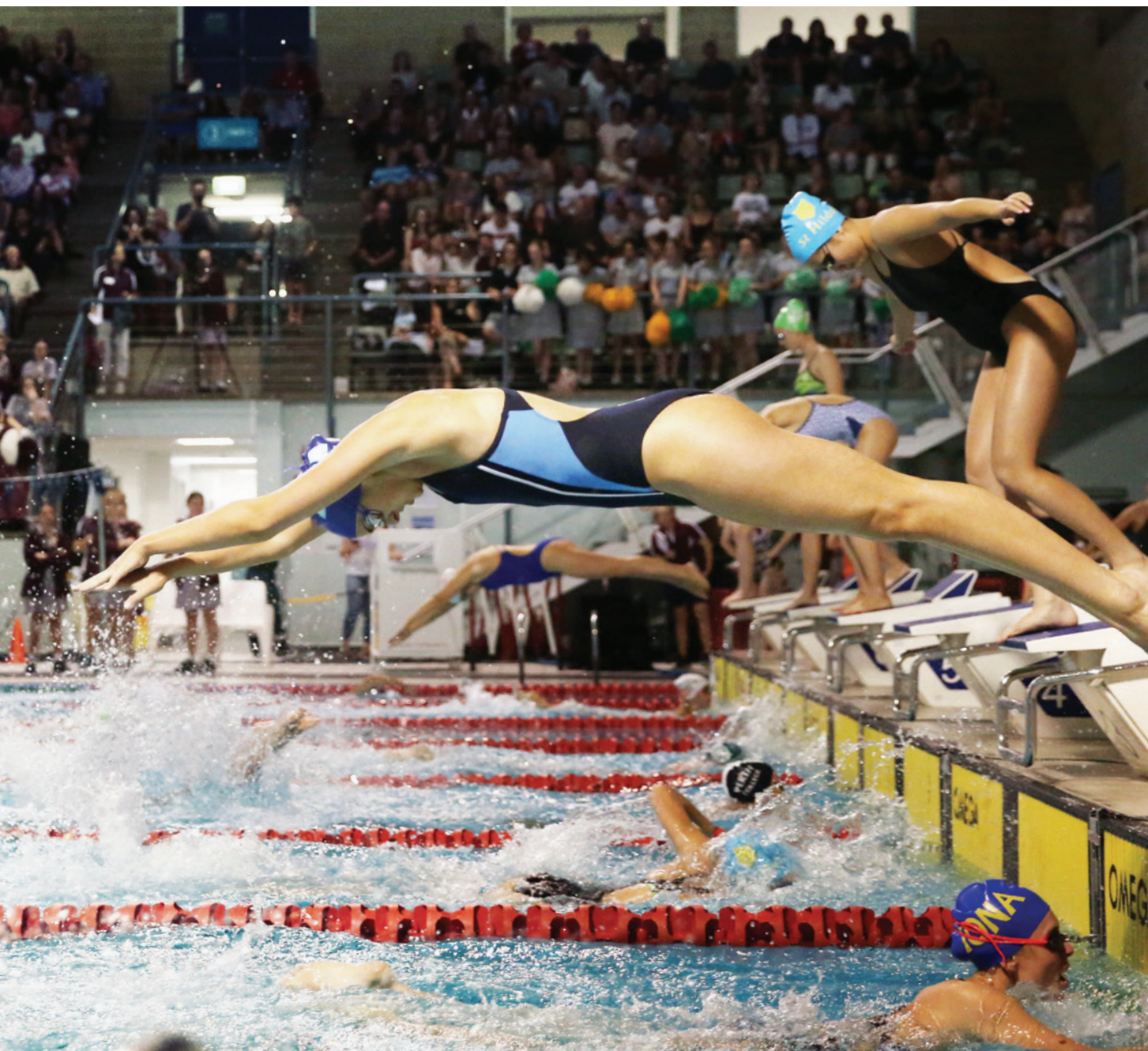
For the fourth year in a row, our Year 12, 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay team also broke their record (1:53.91), and the Year 12, 4 x 50m Medley Relay team created a new amazing record (2:05.55).

The win certainly did not happen by chance or luck. The team have been training solidly since the beginning of January under the guidance of Coach Ryan Steenkamp, and with the support of the assistant coaches (all of whom are Past Pupils). This dynamic combination of skill, experience and expertise, created an inspired team focus who led by example and prepared the team exceptionally well.

For the Year 12 students on the team, the win was a really significant one, having been second place getters since they began in Year 7. To conclude their time at Iona with a win, will be a memory that is bound to stay with them forever.









## PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES OF DESIGN

**The Year 12 General Visual Arts class spent time with local ceramicist artist Fleur Schell recently. In a recent tour of her studio, students learnt about the basic properties of porcelain clay and how it can be manipulated and used in a number of different ways.**

The opportunity to explore her work environment provided students with an insight into the professional life of an artist. With Fleur's guidance, students learnt about the development process from the initial inspiration stages right through to the finalised piece ready for exhibition. Then, sharing a cup of tea together at the conclusion of the visit, students jumped at the chance to ask the essential questions about functionality, making it all a reality.

In Semester One, students studying this course, participate in an assessment task to design, construct and decorate a set of mugs from porcelain clay inspired by the works of leading Abstract artist Wassily Kandinsky. So, following on from their workshop, Fleur then spent time with the students demonstrating slab-building techniques in preparation for their assessment. The opportunity the students had to spend time with a working artist has enabled them to utilise their experiences to create a vast amount of their own clay mugs; continually exploring and experimenting with the limits of porcelain and powder glazes and pushing the boundaries of design.





## FOODIES TOUR

Year 11 and 12 Foods students took a whirlwind trip around the Southern Forests region of WA and visited some of the genuine farms in the area on a 'Foodies tour' this year.

The autumn season was perfect for tasting fresh local produce!

Accompanied by teachers, Mrs Frampton and Ms O'Leary, the girls visited a number of farms with highlights including meeting 'Teddy the Truffle Dog' and searching for Truffles at

the Truffle & Wine Co; picking apples and riding in the tractor at Fontanini's Nut and Fruit Farm; handling live marron at Forest Fresh Marron; watching green tea being harvested in the only Green Tea processing plantation in the Southern Hemisphere and viewing behind the scenes at Bannister Downs Dairy.

It was a wonderful experience and gave the girls a greater appreciation of the foods produced in Western Australia and what it takes to get them to market.





## LEGALLY BLONDE

**From March 22 to March 24 2019, Iona's Legally Blonde The Musical opened and closed at the Regal Theatre in Subiaco, with four shows, including two night performances and two matinee performances.**

In the weeks and months leading up to the performance, the cast, crew and orchestra rehearsed both day and night to ensure a solid preparation in all aspects of the show. All in all, over the past six-

months, the cast have put in about 200 hours of work each, rehearsing four days of the week, and it was worth it!

Performing to sell-out crowds, Legally Blonde The Musical wowed audiences with its hilarious script, fantastic tunes, inspired choreography (led by none other than our very own, Mrs Coby Brant) and the exceptional talent by our students.

A special acknowledgement must be made of Tabitha Kerlin (11 O'Dowling) who played the lead role of Elle Woods. Her talent, dedication and brilliance was most certainly on-show for all to see. Watch this space, to see what Tabitha does next.

Expertly directed by Director of Performing Arts, Mr Josh Brant, and superbly supported by the Iona Performing Arts Team, students were given the opportunity to work in a professional venue in collaboration with professionals in the fields of Music, Staging, Lighting and Sound. Simply, an amazing opportunity for them all.









## ITS PLAYTIME AT THE JUNIOR SCHOOL!

**With rocks, slides, water elements and places to hang, students are thoroughly enjoying investigating the multitude of elements found within the new NatureScape at the Junior School.**

Together they are creating imaginative games, exploring, problem solving and challenging their senses. It is during this time, unstructured play, where our students develop physical, emotional and social skills that will underpin their learning for years to come.

Designed by EIW Architects, landscaped by Four Landscape Studio and managed by Total Project Management, the NatureScape was created as an area for learning and play. A place where the children would be able to challenge themselves, without knowing they were doing so. A place they could activate their senses and a place for them to run, jump, climb, hang, slide and balance.

Throughout the early years of learning, it is paramount that children have the time to experiment with their abilities in a safe environment. Yes, there are some tricky areas throughout this NatureScape, and some children will find it difficult to navigate through these areas; however, it is during this time they will use their problem-solving skills. They will take calculated risks and develop a wonderful sense of achievement when they succeed.

The creation of the NatureScape is just one element of the changing landscape that is Iona Junior School. Now educating boys from Pre-Kindy to Year 6, we have increased the number of classes and have introduced a myriad of additional Co-curricular opportunities that cater to all and that provide balance to an already stimulating and rich curriculum.









## PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE



**Welcome back to another exciting year of social gatherings and activities from your Parent Council for 2019. I would especially like to extend a very warm welcome to the families that have joined our Iona community this year.**

Please keep a look out for notices of upcoming events as these are great occasions to meet and mingle with other families. I like to think of it as 'Co-curricular activities for grown-ups'! Some of our recent activities have been the Year 7 Family Pizza Night, a great night at Coast on Port Beach for Years

8-11 parents and the inaugural MOI camp-out which was a HUGE success! Read more on page 41.

Please 'Save the Date', Saturday 31 August, for our event of the year, 'Jazz & Shiraz'! Following on from the success of our 110 Year Celebration Ball at Optus Stadium, 'Jazz & Shiraz' will be another fun-filled night to catch-up with other Iona parents and dance the night away. One definitely NOT to be missed!

The Iona Parent Council is a group of enthusiastic parents who volunteer their time to create opportunities for our Iona community to fundraise and more importantly 'friend -raise'. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Georgia Allen, [georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au](mailto:georgia.allen@iona.wa.edu.au)

It really is one of 'those' things, you'll only get out, what you put in! So please get involved whenever and wherever you can. You'll love it!

**Kate Smyth**  
*Chair of Parent Council*

A poster for the 'Jazz &amp; Shiraz' event. The background is a dark red with a bokeh effect of light spots. At the top center is the Iona crest, which is a shield with a cross and the text 'IONA', 'PRO DEO', 'ET PATRIA'. Below the crest, the words 'Jazz &amp; Shiraz' are written in a large, elegant, white cursive script. At the bottom, the text 'SAVE THE DATE!' is in bold white capital letters, followed by 'SATURDAY' and '31 AUGUST 2019' in the same style. At the very bottom, it says 'PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE IONA PARENT COUNCIL' in smaller white capital letters.



## MEN OF IONA CAMP-OUT

**The Men of Iona inaugural camp-out, held in Toodyay was a magnificent success with more than 125 people attending!**

From camping (in close-to freezing conditions), feasting on marshmallows, touring the local area and olive-picking, the event was filled with laughter, good times and a lot of bad and not-so-bad, 'Dad jokes'!

The olive picking too was a great success, with Dads and their daughters collecting more than 900kg of olives. The olives have been pressed, with a fantastic result! With more than a 20%

return, the MOI and their daughters have been able to produce 190L of Olive Oil, making 760 bottles of the MOI's very first ever brand of Extra Virgin Olive Oil. Please keep an eye out for how to get your hands on a bottle!

Thanks to Di Taylor and the Iona Catering team for the delicious dinner they prepared; and to Steve Young, MOI Rep, a heartfelt thankyou for all his efforts in bringing the Camp-Out to life! Not a simple task, but heaps of fun and well worth it!

We look forward to the MOI Camp-Out 2020. Get in quick as these tickets are hot!





## STORIES OF COURAGE...

**Courage and Integrity are nothing new to Iona girls. From the earliest days our girls have displayed these amazing qualities. Read here three examples of courageous Ionians, from the Iona Archives.**

### IVY MARY WOODS

Ivy Mary Woods (later Kent), Class of 1908, was born in 1893 in Paramatta and as a child moved to Western Australia. In 1910 Ivy married Arthur Kent and had a very active public life.

Ivy was a leader in the Labor Women's Movement of Western Australia, a worker in youth welfare and an officer of the Housewives Association, and established a club for neglected girls during World War I. She became a Justice of the Peace in 1936. She served on the Married Women's Relief Court for 20 years and was a member of the Lotteries Commission, the Adult Education Board, the National Fitness Executive and Soldiers' Dependents' Appeal. In 1944 Ivy became the first woman commissioner of the Australian Broadcasting Commission (representing Western Australia from 1944-1951). In 1953 she was elected Foundation President of the Association of Civilian Widows in Western Australia, a movement which became national five years later. In 1959 she was elected National President, and later, National Life Governor. On 1 January 1968 Ivy Kent was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire for her service to the welfare of women and children in Western Australia.<sup>i</sup>

### MOLLY HOLMES

Molly Holmes, Class of 1926, attended Iona from about 1911. As well as a full-time career in business, Molly was an indefatigable worker for the Womens' Labor Movement. She was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1942 and became the president of the Old Ionians, of which she was a foundation member, in 1950. She was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1978 for her services to the Women's Labor Movement in Western Australia.<sup>ii</sup>

### EILEEN KENNEALLY

Eileen Kenneally (later Ladyman), Class of 1931. Eileen and her sister Kathleen started as boarders at Iona in 1921 after their mother died; Kathleen was five and Eileen three and a half. Mother Paul O'Halloran became a second mother to them. Both the girls were talented musicians and won many awards.

The Record, 26 March 1938, p. 11, notes that Miss Eileen Kenneally, just returned from the Melbourne Conservatorium, played at the St Patrick's Day Concert at His Majesty's Theatre. She played a medley of Irish melodies and music by Bohm. She was accompanied by her sister Miss Kathleen Kenneally.

Eileen had a great musical career and often came back to play for the Sisters and students at Iona.



Ivy Mary Woods



Molly Holmes

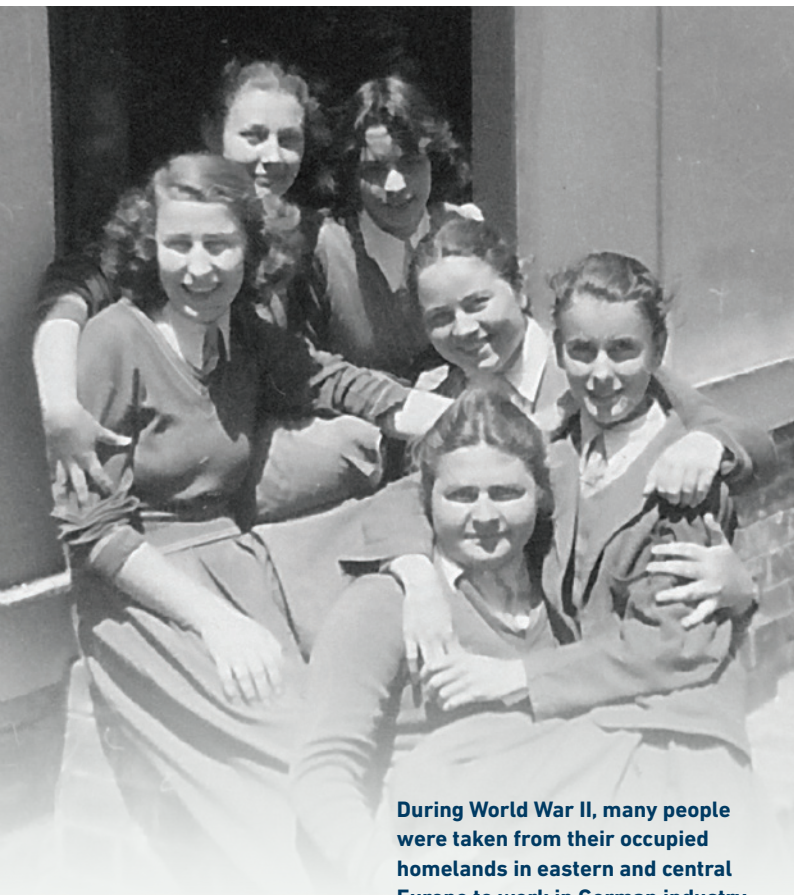


Eileen Kenneally

<sup>i</sup> Popham, D. (Edit). (1978). Reflections: Profiles of 150 women who helped make Western Australia's history. p. 130.

<sup>ii</sup> TROVE





**During World War II, many people were taken from their occupied homelands in eastern and central Europe to work in German industry. Others fled their homes in the face of occupation. After the war many were unable or unwilling to return, and many millions were living in refugee camps.**

In 1947, the Australian Government agreed to include such people in its migration program, under the Displaced Persons' Resettlement Scheme. For a country whose immigration policies had always prioritised people of Anglo-Celtic heritage, it was a significant political shift, which in turn effected a cultural shift. Between 1947 and 1953 the Australian Government assisted over 170,000 Displaced Persons to migrate to Australia, largely from Poland and the Baltic states.

Most of the Polish refugees who came to Western Australia were housed in camps in Africa before coming to Australia. There were an estimated 35,000 Polish refugees in Eastern and Southern Africa. In all, there were 22 different camps for displaced Polish persons in Africa. Children made up the vast majority of the refugees.

Most of the Iona "Polish Girls" came to Western Australia in 1950. The Polish girls and their experiences are mentioned often by ex-students and teachers. Most arrived with their mothers and they noted the lack of food and water on the cattle trucks in which they had been transported across Europe and how they no longer knew whether their fathers were alive or dead.

When the first Polish girls arrived at Iona boarding space was at a premium. They were accommodated in the Boarding House on the enclosed verandah. St Joan (Raymund) Evans was the Boarding House Mistress for 17 years (and this included much of the time the Polish girls were here.

**Margaret Pember**  
*College Archivist/Historian*



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## KEY DATES 2019



### JAZZ AND SHIRAZ

Saturday 31 August 2019



### CREATE – CREATIVE ARTS EXHIBITION

Friday 15 November to  
Sunday 17 November 2019



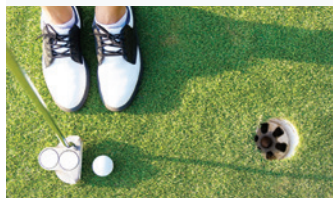
### PRESENTATION NIGHT

Saturday 19 October 2019



### CAROLS ON THE GREEN

Friday 29 November 2019



### IONA CLASSIC

Friday 25 October 2019

## OPEN MORNINGS

Senior School – Tuesday 10 September 2019

Junior School – Wednesday 18 September 2019



[www.iona.wa.edu.au/openmorning](http://www.iona.wa.edu.au/openmorning)



# ANNUAL GIVING: YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are proud of our long and rich history of service at Iona, established by the Presentation Sisters in the example of our foundress, Nano Nagle.

The Presentation Sisters, who have given so much to each of us, have been for more than one hundred years a living example of generosity within our community. It is this spirit of giving passed on to generations of students that resounds most prominently with our graduates and stays with Ionians long after they have left the College gates for the last time.

Through our Annual Giving Program, we invite you to contribute to the education of future Ionians by supporting one of our future funds; Building, Library or Scholarships. These funds, allow the growth of Iona beyond what can be supported solely by fee income. All donations through this Annual Giving Program are tax deductible.

Your contribution, whatever the size, will help continue the Iona tradition of providing an education that will empower our students to be discerning, self-reliant, technologically savvy leaders who are able to make positive contributions to the lives of others.

To make a contribution, please visit our website: <https://www.iona.wa.edu.au/view/our-community/annual-giving>

**Anne Pitos**  
*Principal*

## DONORS

Iona Presentation College would sincerely like to thank the following families who have generously donated in 2018-19.

### DONORS:

Ms Rosalie Anderson  
Ms Helen Benninger  
Ms Dale Best  
Ms Gay Branchi  
Mrs Jacqueline Bruining  
Ms Robin Burrridge  
Ms Alicia Dube  
Mrs Rita Quartermaine  
Mrs Sharon Schubert  
Ms Elizabeth Stewart (in honour of Antoinette Podger)  
Miss Larissa Strk  
Mr & Mrs Ben & Catherine Stubbs  
Mrs Jessica Thompson  
Mrs Annemarie Wyatt

As well as our many anonymous donors.  
Thank you kindly for your support.

## SCHOLARSHIP FUND- NANO NAGLE BURSARIES

Nano Nagle has inspired generations to reach out to those who are less fortunate and this continues to be an essential part of our vision for Iona. By continuing this legacy and supporting Iona in the form of a financial donation to our Scholarship Fund, you can assist us to provide an Iona education to a student that might otherwise not be in a position to receive it.

## BUILDING FUND- NAGLE HALL REFURBISHMENT

The Iona campus, founded more than one hundred years ago has grown beyond imagining and in coming years, there is much to do to improve Iona's facilities in line with our Capital Development Plan.

With your generosity, we hope to refurbish and transform Nagle Hall into a multipurpose performance and teaching space for future Ionians.

## LIBRARY- iCENTRE RESOURCES

The Library or iCentre as its known, is a vital resource centre and learning space designed to provide a technologically rich environment for our students.

Your donation to our Library Fund will help provide resources to ensure Ionians will continue to graduate with a well-rounded education, confident to embrace technological opportunities well into the future.



**A Catholic School, Pre K-12.**  
**Boys and Girls Pre K-6 | All Girls 7-12.**  
**Established in 1907 by the Congregation of Presentation Sisters (W.A.) Inc.**

**Junior School**

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PRESENTATION COLLEGE

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