



Sint Lucernae Ardentes



DO YOU KNOW THESE GIRLS?

FINAL EDITION

NEWSLETTER 2015

Photographs from the Morongo Collection



"NEW HOME OF PRESBYTERIAN LADIES' COLLEGE, GEELONG

Morongo, the home of Senator Guthrie, at Bell Post Hill, three miles from Geelong, which has been purchased by the Presbyterian Ladies' College Council. The council will take possession of the property on October 31, and the girls will assemble there for the first term of 1927."

From: NEW HOME OF PRESBYTERIAN LADIES' COLLEGE, GEELONG. (1926, March 18). The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), p. 9. Retrieved March 29, 2015, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3740562>

Thank you

Jenny Heath (McCann)

**To the Office Bearers,
Committee Members and all
Branches, both intrastate and
interstate, Past and Present.**

On behalf of the Morongo Old Collegians I would like to express our appreciation to all those who have served as office bearers over the many years since the inception of the Association in 1920.

Your dedication and loyalty have exemplified the true spirit of Morongo in particular I acknowledge the work of those who have carried the school banner since the closing of our beloved school and given us time to reach acceptance.

May we all continue to enjoy the friendships made during our years at Morongo and be reminded how fortunate we were to have had the opportunity to attend such a wonderful school.



1 'The Codfish Family'
Nickname for the group of boarders
1954...Boarders waiting to go to Church



"Roslyn" 1922
from Morongo Jubilee Newsletter June 1980

Final MOCA Inc. Committee

President: Jeanette Joseph
Vice President: Ann Waayers
Secretary: Jonnie Mander
Correspondence & Minute Secretary:
Janet McVean
Treasurer: Heather Lochhead
Committee:
Marie Andersen
Heather Angus
Glennycy Fordham
Susan Hurley
Gwen Jensen
Roll Co-ordinator: Sandra Oriander
Alison Peters
Di Sprague
Jan Vibert



2 Midge – at the bell that isn't there!
Helen Murray – (Mary Agnew 1953)
1 & 2 from the Album of: Jan Vibert
(Agnew)

Email: morongo.pgc@gmail.com or billoriander@inet.net.au

Thank you to all those members who added their names to our electronic mailing list.

If you haven't done so, we are still asking for you to please send us your email details or let us know any change of details.

Farewell to the Morongo Old Collegians Association Inc.

Welcome to the Morongo Old Collegians, 2015 onwards...

Jeanette Joseph (Dehnert)

Sadly, this is my final note as the final president of MOCA Inc. and the final official newsletter of MOCA Inc. but Morongo Old Collegians will live on through friendships formed over many years. Girls will continue to meet, hold reunions and continue those strong bonds.

At the AGM in October 2014, those gathered resolved to endorse the results of the survey held earlier in 2014. The MOCA Committee has met monthly:

- To 'wind up as soon as possible' and to apply for the voluntary cancellation of the Morongo Old Collegians Association Inc. and
- To disperse the assets of MOCA Inc., to The Geelong College Foundation, once expenses have been completed.

The Final Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 4 May 2015, in the Alexander Campbell Board Room at the Geelong College, Aphrasia St, Newtown, at 7pm.

All Old Collegians are welcome to attend.

Morongo Award

The Morongo Award will continue to be awarded annually to a Year 11 student, for her/his Year 12 year – a descendant of a Morongo student, who will be the most deserving at the discretion of the Principal. The Geelong College accepted our proposal, with adjustments to the criteria for the perpetuity of the Morongo Award. MOCA monies transferred to The Geelong College Foundation are estimated at \$178,000 to be allocated to the Morongo Award.

Shannon Cup & Memorabilia

The Geelong College will hold the Shannon Cup on a trust like basis. It will be a significant award at The Geelong College.

The Geelong College will become the custodian of the Morongo Heritage & Memorabilia Collection along with the database. This collection will be available for viewing on a reasonable basis.



Photograph from the Morongo Collection



Shannon Cup



Shannon Cup – from the Lucernian 1973

Rowing Cups & Medals

Each year the Year 9 and Year 10 Morongo Cups are presented at the Morongo Regatta on the Barwon in February. MOCA will pass the responsibility of continuing the trophies tradition in schoolgirls rowing to The Geelong College Rowing Parents' Support Group.

Morongo Medals will continue to be distributed by Vic Rowing, Head of School Girls Committee. MOCA has sufficient medals, together with a memorandum of understanding, for the next ten years.

Australian Youth Classical Music Competition

The Committee resolved for MOCA to become a 25th Anniversary Patron of the Geelong Advertiser Music Scholarship Trust to assist young musicians to achieve their best. In doing so, we are supporting the Geelong Community, likewise with the ongoing support of the Morongo Regatta and Morongo medals.

Morongo Old Collegians

Morongo 'girls' have been very fortunate to have had Head Mistresses of the calibre we have all experienced, and to have had competent and dedicated staff across all areas – academic, sporting activities and the arts. From these strong pillars we have all developed individually and have remained friends, whether it is as year reunions or as part of the Old Collegians Association. These strong bonds will continue with our reunions and functions in the coming years.

On a personal note, I am deeply indebted to many Old Collegians and Old Girls, including the Branches – Melbourne, Goulburn Valley and Wimmera - who have willingly assisted and made my role easier during the past two and a half years. Many thanks for your time and effort, in the memory of the School we all loved.

One girl summed it up with compassion recently, with the following words: *'As sad as I feel regarding this ending, I believe you have found the best solution, one that will secure a lasting legacy of a wonderful institution.'*

Estimated Financial Statement

September 2014 - April 2015

Total Funds: \$203,929.66 at 31 August 2014

Opening Balance Working CHQ Account:	\$7,050.20
Activities – AGM day	\$825.10
Term Deposit	\$15,000.00
Interest	\$1,273.76
Membership Account	\$56,228.00
Scholarship Account	\$128,016.21
Reunion Account	\$551.28
Working CHQ Account Balance:	\$201,894.35

Expenses	
Activities – AGM day	\$894.03
Rowing Expenses	\$326.00
Geelong Advertiser Music Scholarship	\$10,000.00
Scanning Lucernian etc.	\$2,645.28
Printing Newsletter (September 2014)	\$2,618.78
Morongo Award (February 2015)	\$3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,484.09

Estimates:

Rowing Medals Estimate	\$8,000.00
April 2015 Newsletter Estimate	\$3,000.00
Geelong College Foundation (Morongo Award) Estimate	\$178,000.00

A Brief History: Morongo Old Collegians Association Inc. 1920-2015

Elizabeth Taylor (Chapman) - Past Archivist & Honorary Life Member

"It is not often that a school has an old pupils' organisation in the first year of its existence but this was the case for the Newtown School."



So began the first line in *Morongo The First Fifty Years*, a book authorised by the council of the college published in 1969. There was already an association to assist Miss Harris as she took up her new role in the incorporated girls' school in Newtown in 1920. The Old Collegians, as far back as 1922, were prepared to give service and financial help to Morongo. Starting with the founding of the A C Harris prize for the Head Girl, bursaries and scholarships and to support school activities and fundraise for the school.

NOTABLE EVENTS IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF MORONGO OLD COLLEGIANS' ASSOCIATION (MOCA):

In 1932, two bursaries were given, one each for a day girl and a boarder. In 1935, scholarships were created for senior girls. Also during this period extra money was put into the Prize fund and new flooring and redecoration of the Nursery school were financed.

During the 1930's, a clock for the assembly hall was presented and funds were made available to stock the Conservatory. MOCA members supported school fetes, garden parties and popular social functions. The war years saw Old Collegians sending food parcels to Britain, filling sandbags, and organising dances for the Fighting Forces hostel and the POW fund.

THE GERTRUDE PRATT ASSEMBLY HALL PROJECT:

The Gertrude Pratt Assembly Hall was opened 11th July, 1959 with much fanfare. It was nearly 20 year's effort and MOCA made a significant financial contribution to its construction. In 1948, the Gertrude Pratt Hall Fund passed the first 500 pound mark and it reached over 4000 pounds in 1959. The hard work and determination of the Old Collegians over so long a period was remarkable.

THE RE-INVENTION OF MOCA 1994-2015:

The demise of Morongo Girls' College in 1994 brought MOCA to a new era. MOCA was represented on the Save the Morongo Committee which was not successful in saving the school. The Geelong College was sympathetic to the plight of the girls and over 100 of our former students were welcomed into the school.

A strong partnership was formed in 1996 with Dr Pauline Turner, Principal of Geelong College, and MOCA. Morongo House was established in 1998 where our archives are stored and displayed. Past Principal Miss Shaw officially opened Morongo House in 1999. This relationship between MOCA and The Geelong College has remained strong to the present day. Scholarships in the name of Morongo have been awarded to deserving female students and grants have been awarded to departments at The Geelong College, one being the Science department. Medals have been especially made for the boarding house captains. There was also a strong feeling among MOCA members to foster and maintain the sentiments, affections and loyalty for the Morongo name. Such projects as striking a Morongo rose, the Morongo Rowing Cups and supporting the Great Hall Appeal – Deakin University Waterfront Campus (recognised on an appeal board) all help to keep the Morongo name alive.



Joan Bognuda (Ingpen) & Liz Taylor (Chapman) at their 50th Reunion Oct 14, 2014

Photographs from the Album presented to Principal Miss Lucy Shaw on her retirement

DIVERSITY OF MEMBERSHIP OF MEMBERS OF MOCA:

With the outbreak of World War Two, Morongo received a small group of students from north of Australia whose parents sent them south to escape the hostilities breaking out all around them. Many of these students later became Old Collegians. In the 1950's, refugee girls came to Morongo from Latvia and Lithuania, many also becoming Old Collegians in later life. In 1953 'The Younger Set' of some past female students was formed. The aim was to provide informal meetings for the 16 to 25 year-old-age group. The group continued to meet in an ad hoc manner up to the late sixties. In the early days, branches in Melbourne, Goulburn Valley and then Western District were formed. In 1963, the Wimmera branch was formed. These branches allowed friendships to be nurtured and renewed. They also fundraised generously for the parent body. Since 1970's, the school greeted girls from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Nauru. Many of these past international students became Old Collegians.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

The Founders' Day church services and luncheons have played a significant role on the Old Collegians calendar for many years as have the annual re-unions. The Founders' Day luncheon has allowed those present to hear a presentation from an outstanding Old Collegian about her journey in her career. It has also been a time to renew friendships past and present and reminisce about the 'old days'.

In 1974 Morongo commenced rowing and MOCA has been involved. Please refer to the Rowing report for further information.

MOCA has supported the publication of a number of books about the history of Morongo. They include Pam Worland's book *Morongo Old Collegians Association Inc. 1920 -1995*, Lucy Shaw *Headmistress* by Wendy Black and *Morongo The First Fifty Years* by Doreen Cowperthwaite.

This report has attempted in a few words to highlight some of the achievements of the Morongo Old Collegians Association over the past 95 years.

It is a proud history with many achievements despite the occasional impediment placed in its path. The Report really shows that MOCA has been a significant and integral part of the Morongo journey. Due to the dedicated, untiring and unselfish efforts of many Old Collegians over a long period of time, the Morongo story will be told for many years to come which will keep the name Morongo alive.

SINT LUCERNAE ARDENTES

Coming Events... 4

Events Scheduled for Old Collegians' in 2015

4th & 5th May 2015

Reunion - Intermediate Class 1956 (year 10)/ Matriculation Class 1958 (year 12) Morongo class of 1955 - 60 Years Later
 RSVP: Monday 27 April 2015
 Contact: Diana Trewnack (Hirst) diana@billsojacks.com or Jeanette Middleton (Potter) jeanettemid@bigpond.com

Monday 4 May 2015

Final Committee Meeting

Alexander Campbell Board Room at the Geelong College, Aphrasia Street, Newtown, at 7pm. All Old Collegians are welcome attend.

Melbourne events

See Melbourne Branch Report



Cover of Morongo Brochure, c 1978



"When I was in Junior School....." Photograph from Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 2 1976 p62

National Council of Women – Jonnie Mander (Fargie)

Lucy Shaw, Morongo's second headmistress, was instrumental in having the Geelong branch of the National Council of Women formed in 1944, and served as founding Vice President.

Since then Old Collegians have attended all meetings and held various offices. As an Affiliate member MOCA has always been represented by 1 or 2 committee members.

June McColl, possibly the longest serving member of the Branch, was President for a term, as was the late Dorothy Ruxton, Noele Cook, Jennie Currie and Elizabeth Taylor. Jen also filled the secretarial role for a time. Judy Bent was Treasurer for many years and Jill Thom briefly.

Of the 10 Life Members of Geelong branch, 4 attended Morongo; Judy Bent, June McColl, Noele Cook and Dorothy Ruxton.

Though the closure of the incorporated body means that the Association will no longer be an Affiliate member, the Old Collegians hope to continue to have a presence at NCW. To begin with, Jonnie Mander and Heather Lochhead plan to continue as ordinary members.

AGM Photos L-R:

1. Speaker: Barbie (May) Hermon & Desma Blow (Roberts)
- 2: Mary Reilly (Thomson), the teacher between her pupils, twins L: Jillian Langdon (Bartlett), Mary R., R: Pam Cameron (Bartlett) at their 50 year reunion on AGM day
- 3: Jeanette Joseph (Dehnert)

AGM Photos 2014



Melbourne Branch Report

Faye Lee – Secretary

Last October, several of us were able to attend the Founders' Day Service, held in the Geelong College Chapel, followed by the Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting. While it is sad that we must wind up our incorporated association, the strong friendships that were made at school will continue, with ongoing reunions and functions.

On Tuesday 17th February, 12 members met at Lyn Hope's (Townsend) comfortable home in East Malvern to enjoy our last evening meeting for our Melbourne Branch. We began the evening at 6-30pm sharing a plentiful table of finger food that members had generously brought along. In appreciation for never having to rent a room somewhere, to meet together these past 20+ years, we presented Lyn with a voucher to enjoy spending at David Jones. We do thank you Lyn for always welcoming us so warmly all those past October evenings.

The loyal members who joined us for our reunions at Lyn's, will know we have always invited a past Old Collegian to tell us about their chosen career or relate a special holiday they had enjoyed. For the past couple of years we had moved to the next generation and invited our own children, nieces and grandchildren to share their interesting lives with us. This was the case on the evening of Tuesday 17th February. Elaine Howden's daughter Anna Maginness gave up some of her precious time to come and explain to us, the benefits of Pilates for "Seniors!" Anna is a Pilates Instructor and owns her own studio at 88 Bay St. Brighton ph: 95969930. With Elaine's help, Anna demonstrated many movements that showed us how Pilates helps our age group with posture and spine health. Over time, gravity compresses the bones of our spine. Pilates works to lengthen all the connections

into the spine, it enhances the flexibility of back muscles and focuses on fluid movement. Posture definitely improves through a Pilates practice to help all measures of balance, thus reducing many falls. We do thank you Anna for giving up your time for us.

On Thursday 19th February Elaine visited Dulcie Brookshaw at Regis Aged Care Home, 161 Male Street, Brighton 95911900 where she now lives. She has been quite incapacitated by a series of strokes and needs full time care. Although she found it somewhat difficult to talk, her understanding of everything that Elaine was telling her about Morongo Old Collegians was perfect.

She recognised Elaine instantly and was thrilled to hear all our news. Despite her tiring quickly, we are sure that she would love a short visit if you are passing by.

Melbourne is continuing with two of our most popular activities.

Our William Angliss Luncheon for girls of all years, will be held again at the Angliss Restaurant at 550 Little Lonsdale Street on Wednesday 13th May at 11.30am. By now you will have received your invitations from Mary and Bev if you attended last year. If you have not received notification and would like to join us at the Luncheon, please contact Mary Moors on 98537379 or Bev Skerritt on 98186861. RSVP 5th May. The Restaurant is easy to access. Geelong girls travel to the Southern Cross Railway Station then a short walk up Little Lonsdale St to No. 550. Melbourne folk catch a tram to Little Lonsdale St. and walk along.

We will continue to meet for our Bistro Evening Reunions at the Malvern Vale Club Hotel 1321 Malvern Rd. Malvern around 6.30pm on Tuesday 15th September. This evening welcomes All Girls from All Years from All Areas, yes even Geelong!! Ring around your friends and get a group together. Our contact for this evening is Marieta Jones (Moir) ph: 98027006.

Melbourne Morongo Old Collegians will send out an email in September/October to all girls on their list, advising them of the 2016 dates for the Luncheon and Bistro, our two continuing events!! We have appreciated the support of girls who have served on the MOCA Inc. Committee, girls from Geelong and girls from around the state and we know that this will continue under the banner of Morongo Old Collegians.

Convenors for 2015

Elaine Howden (Barber)	96998511
Mary Moors (McGregor)	98537379
Faye Lee (Pope)	59568411
Evie McEwan (Jones)	0412855713
Lyn Hope (Townsend)	95715949
Bev Skerritt (Price)	98186861
Marieta Jones (Moir)	
Melbourne Roll Co-ordinator	98027006
E bellposthill@hotmail.com	



Photograph from the Morongo Collection

Goulburn Valley Report 2015

In this final newsletter, we would like to express sincere appreciation from the members of the Goulburn Valley Branch. We have enjoyed the support from Geelong Branch in many ways. Thank you for printing our annual reunion report and including the photos. The newsletter was a lovely way to read what was happening with our fellow Morongo students from our school days.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the Geelong members who have driven to many towns in our valley (except one year when there was a petrol strike!), to attend our annual luncheons.

In 2015, we have changed the date for our annual lunch. It will be the third Sunday in May. An invitation / reminder will be sent in early April to Goulburn members, if possible by email.

Convenors:

Sandra Macintyre 0428 976 242
nutcundera@bigpond.com
Heather Lloyd 58269598
bandhlloyd@bigpond.com
Julie Osment 57633394
julie.osment@gmail.com

Coming Events

Goulburn Annual Lunch

Date: Sunday 17th May 2015

Time: Noon

Venue: Bunbartha, near Shepparton

Contacts: Sandra Macintyre

0428 976 242 nutcundera@bigpond.com

Heather Lloyd 5826 9598



Events Scheduled for Old Collegians' in 2015

Wednesday 13 May

Melbourne Lunch
William Angliss Restaurant 11.30am

Sunday 17 May

Goulburn Valley Lunch & Meeting
Shepparton

Saturday 29 August

Kardinia International College Visit All Welcome.

10am-12 noon

And 50 Year Reunion 1963/65

Barwon Edge Lunch 12 noon
Jeanette Watts (McWilliam): 0429 428 575

Tuesday 15 September

Bistro Dinner @ Malvern Vale Club Hotel
6.30pm

Thursday 22 October

60 Year Reunion Year 1953/55
"The Empire Grill", 66 McKillop Street,
Geelong Cost: \$28.00 2 courses or \$38.00
3 courses

Marl Ryan: 46 Pomora Ave, Torquay 3228
(ph. 5261 9644) or

Faye Lee: fayelee42@gmail.com

Friday 30 October

Golf Day/Lunch at Barwon Heads
Golf Day Contact: M 0402 067 758
lynmfraser@bigpond.com

Photograph above from the Morongo Collection



Presentation to Jenny Battye (Miles) by Jan Vibert (Agnew) 12 Oct 2014

Far right:

T: Elaine Howden, Marieta Jones, Marlene Ryan, Faye Lee B: Helen Cook, Heather Lloyd & Jenny Ekstedt

Janet Vibert (Agnew)

The Geelong College welcomed the Morongo Old Collegians to the chapel and the Rev Tim Edwards lead the Founders' Day Service of Thanksgiving.

We had an inspiring address from Rev Laurie Barker who wore the embroidered stole, on this significant occasion. The stole and lectern cloth were commissioned in 1991, and completed by the Geelong Branch of the Embroiderers Guild of Victoria for Morongo. The embroiderers included: Phyl Drew (MacMillan) and Norma Millikan, wife of Dr Millikan, our school doctor.

There were more members in attendance than other years and our voices filled the chapel with songs of praise, the School Hymn and the School Vesper.

Eathorne Pavia read to us Psalm 27 v 1-5 and Matthew 25 v 1-13.

The organ was beautifully played for us by Pat Lloyd (Murray).

Unfortunately, Miss Dulcie Brookshaw was unable to attend on the day, as she was not well, currently Dulcie resides in Regis Bayside Gardens, Brighton.

After the service we stayed on for the AGM. President Jeanette Joseph ably took us through the process of giving us the information necessary for us to vote on and resolve issues concerning the finances and assets of our association.

Following the meeting we enjoyed a delectable luncheon provided by the staff at The College dining room.

Our guests were Rev Tim Edwards and Rev Laurie Barker and his wife Ruth.

Our interesting guest speaker, Barbie (May) Hermon told us of her journey in business, starting in her Highton shop, selling home decor and now with her husband John they have successfully built the Hermon & Hermon reputation throughout Australia from their Swan Street, Richmond shop.



Alison Lloyd (Williams) & Eathorne Pavia (Stewart)

The Committee had arranged to bring the *Margaret Shannon Memorial Cup for Athletics* to the Dining Hall for all to see. We used to see it on Speech Night, when it was presented to the House Captain of the winning House for the year.

We are especially grateful to all the Geelong committee members who have given their time to MOCA since its formation, so it was with heartfelt gratitude that we thanked retiring member Jenny Battye for her diligent service to our Association for many years, probably since leaving school. A Wonderful contribution.

We are obligated to The Geelong College who have accommodated our association in many different ways; we have been served delicious meals at our annual lunches and this year was no exception, our sincere thanks to the catering staff who contributed to the milieu in the dining room.

The day was rewarding for the 90 members and friends who attended. We received 60 apologies. One attendee from the other side of the world, Elizabeth Piesse (Roland) from London, and there were 3 Alisons from NSW. Alison Kingston (Read) from Eugowra, Alison Lloyd (Williams) from Sydney and Alison Arnison (Dehnert) from Bathurst. We appreciate the attendance of other old collegians who travelled from afar.

Comprehensively it was a most enjoyable day starting with the Thanksgiving Service and concluding with the dining hall luncheon where many old friendships were renewed. It was befitting that the weather was perfect for our final Foundation Day gathering.



Miss Gertrude Pratt Headmistress 1920-1941

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Su Tayler (1975-1980)

The evolution of women's education during the past century, a time of solid progress and notable achievement, marked by years of amazing change, which had altered the whole aspect of human life. (Miss Pratt, 15 Dec. 1934 15th annual report: The Argus)

In this day and age, one would say Miss Gertrude Pratt was an amazing go getter; in her day she would have been seen as ahead of her time.

In reading about teaching in 1915 there were contracts for women teachers; with clauses that stand out: they must not marry. A married woman must be at home! Dresses had to be a certain length, colour and more very staid rules.

Gertrude Pratt was described as a tall, commanding and capable teacher, accomplished at keeping perfect discipline, a woman with the gift of quickly winning the affection and esteem of her staff and pupils.

Miss Pratt began her schooling at age 2½ years! ...and was educated at the Methodist Ladies' College in Hawthorn. She graduated from Melbourne University, and prepared for her career by post-graduate study in England and France.

As the foundation head mistress of Morongo, beginning first term 1920, age 44, she went on to establish what she had studied – introducing modern practices from her time in Europe.

Morongo informally opened on February 17, 1920; there were present 91 girls, 20 of whom were boarders. Prior to Morongo, Miss Pratt was head mistress of Girton, Bendigo (1917-1919).

Miss Pratt retired at the end of 1941, after 21 years of service at Morongo, age 66.

Background

NAME: Agnes Gertrude Lovdye (Loveday) Pratt

MOTHER: Mary Jane Beaney

FATHER: William Nathanael Pratt

BIRTH: 1876 - North Adelaide, S A

Miss Pratt was born in South Australia on the 16th of June, 1876, daughter of accountant and Melbourne General Cemetery Secretary William Pratt & Mary Jane Beaney. Miss Pratt went to read History at Melbourne University and it was there she undertook her BA and subsequently M.A. degrees, going on to work in important appointments in girls' schools in Melbourne, Adelaide and Bendigo.

Centre Column: GIRTON GIRLS' SCHOOL. (1917, February 9). Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918), p. 2. Retrieved March 30, 2015, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article90717852>



"While in England, Miss Pratt attended the Bedford College for Women, London, and secured her teaching certificate. She also obtained by practical and theoretical examination the Diploma of Education of the London University, which is one of the highest qualifications in the teaching profession at the time. Miss Pratt also holds a certificate of attendance, at the Oxford Summer School for Geography, where she did practical work under leading English professors. Proceeding to France for further study of the language, experience was gained in French methods, and lectures attended at the Alliance Francaise, Paris. She was in France during the Hun invasion. On her studies being completed Miss Pratt returned at the first opportunity to Australia, and Girton board believed it would "have the full result, of the application of the most modern school methods, modified of course, in the light, of Miss Pratt's experience with her knowledge of Australian conditions, and of the Australian girls' temperament.

The new head mistress purposes to continue the system lately introduced, of including a business training course of shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping and business methods in the senior class subjects, in view of the many openings now becoming available to girls.

Under the experienced and capable management of Miss Pratt and with the advantage of her qualification in the best and most, modern educational methods, Girton, the chief educational establishment for girls for this Northern district, should continue and improve upon the prosperous career on which it has already entered..."

"GEELONG'S NEW COLLEGE.

MISS PRATT & HER STAFF WELCOMED

At 'Roslyn' on Saturday afternoon, Cr. J. Pettitt, chairman of the Presbyterian Ladies' College Council, entertained a number of friends of the school and old girls in order to give them an opportunity of meeting and welcoming the Principal, Miss Gertrude Pratt, M.A., and her staff.

... We hope to make it the best school in the district. We are proud of the staff we have gathered together, whom we chose from many aspirants for the positions. We owe much to Miss Harris for the great amount of good she did for the Newtown Ladies' College, and we trust in the future to continue the work of character building. It is a true saying that the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.' Every one of us knows how much we owe to our mothers and sisters; therefore it is of vital importance that girls should be trained to act and think only in the highest and noblest way, so that they will be a credit to the community. The staff will have to work hard to build up the school, and we hope the Old Collegians will help, too. On behalf of the College Council and Old Collegians, I wish Miss Pratt and her staff every happiness, success and prosperity.

Mrs Vernon Purnell (president of the Old Girls' Association) assured the council and staff that that association would have the same love for the new school as for the old and its members would give all possible assistance for the benefit of the college.

In thanking those assembled for their hearty welcome, Miss Pratt said that she considered it a privilege to be placed in the position of principal of the school, and she fully realised the responsibility laid on her. She remarked that the new buildings had sprung up as if by magic, and she added that a warm welcome would always await Old Collegians when they cared to visit 'Roslyn'. ..."

Photo from: Lucernian Vol. 2 No. 21 December, 1950

GEELONG'S NEW COLLEGE. (1920, February 16). Geelong Advertiser (Vic. : 1859 - 1924), p. 3. Retrieved March 31, 2015, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article165415438>

Miss Lucy Shaw Headmistress 1942-1970

Dina Monks (Cannon)

*More than 20 years ago when we first heard that Morongo was to close, I wrote a story that began:
Binga Banga Bonga we don't want to leave Morongo, oh no no no no. . .*

As editor of the Frankston Standard where the article appeared, our readers must have wondered what I was going on about.

But we all knew. The best girls' school in Australia was closing down after close to 80 years on the outskirts of Geelong. For a time I was the youngest boarder at Morongo Presbyterian Girls' College and it was to be my home for nine years.

But why did we think it the best school in the world? It was all because our principal was a Queenslander called Lucy Shaw.

Miss Shaw, daughter of a Baptist minister and with degrees from Queensland University and Brisbane Teachers Training College, had discovered Geelong when her father was posted to the Aberdeen Street Baptist Church. She joined the Geelong Presbyterian Girls College then known as Roslyn and later to become Morongo when it moved to Senator Guthrie's old bluestone mansion on Bell Post Hill just out of the town.

In the 1930s she had become headmistress at Clarendon PLC Ballarat and then at the Presbyterian Girls College at Glen Osmond in South Australia where she remained until 1942 when the Morongo school council persuaded her to return to Geelong.

There is no doubt we all revered her. Handsome and stately she ran our lives like clockwork and instilled in us the virtues of "shoulders back, elbows off the table and NEVER eat in the street".

Not only those commands but she expected us all – and remember this was the 40s – to go out into the world able to support ourselves. She believed that girls could do anything. Indeed it was wrong NOT to use whatever talents you had. She expected all girls to Matriculate, or at least finish Leaving Certificate, and then go off into the world to earn your keep.

With more than 100 boarders, mostly country girls from farms far and wide and double that number of day girls, the war years must have been hard. Food and clothing rationing were at their height and for the first time many mothers were working outside the home while their men were away at the war. My own mother, a journalist, was at The Argus – and its first female Parliamentary reporter – and while my sister Jill and I were often homesick, we always had Miss Shaw to turn to.



Photographs from the Album presented to Lucy Shaw on her retirement



Lucy Shaw, Dina Monks & Jean Rentoul photograph provided by Dina Monks

She was of the era of spinster teachers, many of whom had had boyfriends and fiancés killed in World War 1 and we all thought especially of her when we sang "O Valiant Hearts, who to your glory came" on Anzac Day.

She was a strong and independent woman who must have had many a lonely battle with a school council run, of course, by men. And despite her strict discipline, I cannot remember anyone saying a bad word about her. At her wish we gave what pennies we had to the Presbyterian missionaries in the Pacific. And remember those were the days when we went off to boarding school with one good dress, one pair of slacks (jodphurs) and one change of uniform, plus two blankets for those cold Geelong nights. That was it!

As I wrote in her obituary for The Age in 1999 – she was 101 when she finally gave up – Miss Shaw was way ahead of her time.

She was a pioneer in offering superannuation as well as attractive salaries to teachers. She became secretary of the Victorian Girls' Schools Association and sat on the wages board. In 1952, she became president of the Victorian Headmistresses Association and later president of the national association.

A founder of the Australian College of Education, seconding Geelong Grammar's Dr Darling (later Sir James) motion to set up the ACE, she fought hard for the equality of girls' schools in a male-dominated society which still regarded principals and teachers at girls' schools as not as important as those of boys' schools and certainly not to be paid the same.

She encouraged girls to study physics and chemistry to the highest level and eventually persuaded the school council to build a good laboratory so that girls did not have to travel to Geelong College for lessons.

In 1966, her career was recognised when she became an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours list. Then at the age of 72 she shocked the school by announcing her retirement. She moved to a small unit in Ocean Grove and spent much of her now spare time with her old friend Jean Rentoul, for many years the school manager, travelling through Australia by car. She gave up her licence at 99!

Until the end, this indomitable woman did her own housework, wrote hundreds of letters, many to old girls whom she welcomed to her home for afternoon tea. She often spoke of her belief that adolescent girls should be taught in girls-only schools so they could learn to become leaders without distractions!

She told me then: "In mixed schools, boys so often naturally take the lead. Girls must have their chance to assert themselves and take up various offices. In the old days, I saw so many girls bursting with energy but expected to remain second fiddle. Of course, men had the money and few women controlled the purse strings. Women were so used to being put down – expected to sit at home sewing a fine seam. But not many Morongo girls did that!"

To end on a lighter note: My late sister Jill (Cannon) Smailes wrote on hearing of Miss Shaw's retirement: "Long ago I realised why my Morongo days had been such happy ones. We were one big happy family and the head of that family was Miss Shaw who lovingly dealt with our education, our health, our fun and our many teenage upsets.

"Who can forget our concerts – how many Fruity Melodramas did Miss Shaw sit through; raising the flag on VP Day 1945, those school dances and getting us to Geelong College and back in one piece; those puddings – chocolate blancmange we called "Yarra Mud and Dandruff" and jam roly poly which of course was "baked baby"; midnight feasts on the boarding school roof at the end of term – we were rarely found out but I bet Miss Shaw knew something about it.

We loved her and I think she loved us. 9

Thank you Miss Shaw.

Postscript: My grandchildren think that Binga Banga Bonga song is awesome – Morongo's name WILL live on.

School Days Past

How I shall regret to leave
This School where I have passed
So many of my school days;
But I must leave at last.

I shall leave my friends behind me,
Happy childhood gone,
But I shall find work elsewhere
To help our country on.

Barbara Fargie (11 years) Remove

Lucernian Vol. 2 No. 19 Dec 1948 p36

50 YEAR REUNION – INTERMEDIATE 1962, MATRIC 1964 – Pat Mitchell (Illingworth)

On Sunday 12th October 2015 at the Geelong College Dining Hall, the day commenced with some members attending the Church Service at the Geelong College Chapel. It was followed by the AGM of the Morongo Old Collegians. It was an interesting meeting with the closing of the Old Collegians as we know it.

We then all met at the Geelong College Dining Hall where a long table had been set aside for our year group. Those that attended had a great time chatting to everyone and renewing friendships. Great to hear what everyone had been doing over the past 50 years.

The Guest Speaker for the day was Barbara Hermon (May) who has had an amazing career in retail with her husband. Barbara was a trail blazer buying on her own overseas. An innovator and creator of homewares and interior designs.

After a delicious lunch we had photos and then all went our various ways.



Geelong Luncheon at Lyndon Grove – Helen Robertson (Hirst)

Our annual luncheon on Monday 23rd March held at Lyndon Grove in Grovedale was a very happy and successful day

37 people attended including 3 old collegians in their ninety's Nancy Dohnt, Beth Foley and Eathorne Pavia, and others travelled from Hobart, Sydney, Melbourne, the country and from interstate. We received 20 apologies

It was interesting to catchup with so many people of all ages and hear their news and remember old times.

Jeanette Joseph told us about the \$10,000 we are donating to the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition. Everyone thought this was a very good idea and would be another thing for the community

to remember Morongo by as well as the Morongo Cups, Year 9 and Year 10, at the Morongo Regatta on the Barwon in February.

We finished the day with Miss Shaw's Latin grace and a rousing rendition of the School Song.

We look forward to seeing every one next year, Helen Robertson (Hirst) & Jill Thom (Hookings). E hgrob1@bigpond.net.au

Morongo, from 1948 to 1953 – Wyn Moriarty (Munro)

I had a happy time at Morongo. I had lots of friends, and I enjoyed study and the cultural life of the school, especially the music. I was not good at sport, but I did well at study. I even studied Physics and Chemistry at Geelong College, with Clare Norwood, Rosemary Aitkin and Anna McBain. I had a reputation for being funny, and naughty. I was never given a position of responsibility because I was considered ill-disciplined and

unreliable. "No self-control", Miss Shaw used to say. It was not until I was in my 30s, and suffering severe depression that I was diagnosed with the hereditary condition of Bi-polar Disorder. This condition was not known when I was at school.

I spent many years teaching Religious Education as a volunteer in state schools, which I really enjoyed. This led me to study

for a PhD in children's spirituality.

I graduated in 2010. Now I have just had a book published on my findings. If any Old Collegians, are interested in obtaining my book, "Spirituality for the classroom: from research to faith development", please contact me at mwmoriarty7@aapt.net.au

Miss Dulcie Brookshaw Headmistress 1971-1986 10

Su Tayler (1975-1980)

"Girls have a greater opportunity to develop their full potential in an all girls environment"

Never in a million years would I have thought I'd be writing an article on Miss Brookshaw. It is a bit weird; I'm now around the age Miss Brookshaw was when she was the headmistress at Morongo and truly I can't imagine ever being called Miss Tayler by a group of young ladies today! In fact, I'd be horrified.

My lasting memory of Miss Brookshaw will always be my first day at school; I can still picture exactly where I was. Outside the school library and the Headmistress was approaching, to my first day from one eye, a lady to be avoided at all costs. She stopped, probably my heart stopped too! She said, "How are you going, Susan?" To this day, the fact Miss Brookshaw had remembered my name from only one meeting months prior was such an important moment for me. I tell the story often when reminiscing about my days at Morongo, I was amazed. I believe it was something she prided herself on, knowing who all the girls under her care were.

On her retirement in 1986, it was written that thousands of students had passed through her care, there would have been few who did not hold her with respect.

"Her blue eyes softened and she cast her head down a moment. She looked vulnerable – a small woman in a stylish neat dress of pale pastels with strings of tiny pearls wound around her neck – her fair hair softly framing her face – gone for an instant was the strong 'woman in charge' aura – the disciplinarian!" this was how Sue Trethowan of the Geelong Advertiser described Miss Brookshaw at the time of her retirement.

Miss Brookshaw outlined her 15 years at Morongo as taking five years to settle in, the next five to cope with the recession, and the last five as seeing to new projects and plans into fruition. These were the times of the new gymnasium. I remember the day the time capsule was placed in the wall. The new gym was a huge improvement on the old gym. (The Gym was named the McCann Sports Centre).

'Live life and you will love life'

The philosophy of life stated on a television programme earlier this year by a person with multiple sclerosis. I believe we can all learn from this. Dulcie Brookshaw
Lucernian Vol. 5 No. 1 1981 p6

Photographs from
Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 2 1976 p56 & p9

Never too old to learn !?!
It's hard work building a gym...!



So THAT'S where they hide them!

Essentially, Miss Brookshaw was also a boarder at Morongo during her time there, living on the Morongo grounds, sharing her life with the students. She spent seven days a week at the school. It was her way of life, although she did have interests away from the school, such as theatre, golf and holidays.

Reflections of the Principal

"I arrived at the bluestone building with my possessions to settle into an environment which was to be my home. Jean Rentoul was there to greet me and I shall always remember her kindness in guiding me through those first few weeks. She was a tower of strength especially in the boarding house where I had to adjust to boarding house routine (just like any new boarder) and at the same time learn the ropes of running a school. Each school has a character of its own and I did not want to alter that by introducing change too quickly. I wanted to observe and get to know the feel of the place before implementing any major changes.

However, I did make myself unpopular with some senior students, when after the first Monday morning's assembly at which the two verses of the National Anthem were sung, I decided that only one verse would be sung in the future. (I hasten to add that now the singing of God Save the Queen is alternated with the singing of Advance Australia Fair). "

Miss Brookshaw was proud of Morongo and especially the fact that it was a girls' school. She believed girls at Morongo had the opportunity to develop, lead and organise without being inhibited or dominated by the presence of boys. It was something she worked fiercely to protect, especially in difficult financial times. Morongo held out, when other schools succumbed and enrolments dropped.

"My years as a principal have given me greater understanding and knowledge in many areas. I have gained knowledge in running a million dollar business, in financial budgeting, in designing buildings, in landscaping, in public relations, in legal and industrial matters. I have heard the school chairman call me 'The Big Spender' and this may be true but I have enjoyed seeing the fruits of my spending sprees..."



Head-itorial & Ed-lines

Miss Brookshaw & Heather Neilson

Heather: What would you consider to be Morongo's greatest asset?

*Miss Brookshaw: **People!** Council, Staff, Girls. This dates back to the time when the school was established by a group of men interested in providing education for girls. Also the foresight of the Council just fifty years ago in purchasing this Bell Post Hill site reflects their wisdom in planning for the future growth of the school. Many schools envy the position and site that Morongo stands on. ...*

This is shown in the readiness of Old Collegians to give their support to the school. They treasure their school days and they remain interested in all new developments taking place.

Miss Brookshaw: What do you consider to be Morongo's greatest asset?

Heather: I consider our greatest asset to be a solid foundation of tradition blended with a forward looking approach.

Lucernian Vol. 4, No.2, 1976 pp8-9

Miss Brookshaw's love of Morongo is still evident; she has a picture of the old boarding house and the huge oak tree in pride of place and still loves to catch up with old collegians.

Miss Brookshaw was 57 when she retired. She has been a great supporter of the Old Collegians Association – attending many events over the years before and after her retirement.

I was fortunate to catch up with Miss Brookshaw at the Morongo High Tea at the old Boarding house a few years ago – where I was able to tell her what I'd achieved in life, she was happy for me and pleased to hear and I felt 12 years old again!

Music at Morongo

Wendy Galloway (former Violin & Viola Teacher)

Over the decades, many girls who went to school at Morongo had opportunities to learn music and to learn about music and this knowledge was often a part of their education that they remember with happiness and pleasure.

Whether it was singing in one of the choirs, playing in one of the orchestras, taking part in one of the marvelous Musicals that were a feature of school life for many years or learning to play an instrument and have the irreplaceable "hands on" experience that playing music gives, being a "Morongo Girl" meant that music was likely to be part of your life.

There were rehearsals, concerts, competitions, performances at school and away from school and these were an important part of the school calendar.

During the 1950s girls remember attending ABC orchestral and recital concerts in what was then the Plaza Theatre and is now part of the Geelong Performing Arts Centre. The choir participated in the Geelong District Schools Music Festival. Boarding House competitions for choirs and pianists continued into the 1960s. Boarders will remember having to attend choir practice before breakfast inuring the second Term.

House Music Competition programs were carefully prepared to showcase the musical talents of the members of each individual House. The selection of the winning House was a cause for great celebration had as much power to provoke discussion and debate as success in any of the sporting competitions.

I was a member of staff during the golden years of Eileen Martin's tenure as Director of Music and the opportunities for students to experience the joy of music making were indeed very rich and plentiful.

It is extremely fitting that some of the money from the "Old Collegians" should be used in assisting young musicians to achieve their best. A number of past Old Collegians have gone on to professional careers in music and many more have continued to enjoy the pleasure and enrichment that their years of involvement in music have given them.

The Australian Youth Classical Music Competition was established by the Geelong Advertiser Newspaper to celebrate 150 years of publishing. Prizes have been awarded every year to brilliant and dedicated young classical musicians and the grant from the "Old Collegians" will be used to assist in this annual event. The competition is nationally regarded very highly and the prizes are substantial with the National winner receiving a traveling scholarship to the value of \$10,000.

The Trust of the Australian Youth Music Competition is grateful for the financial assistance from the Morongo Old Collegians Association and we feel that it is a fitting testimonial to the ongoing contribution that Morongo made to the musical life of many of its students over the years.



1. Rosy and Stuckey (with Fife) 1954 musical instrument similar to the piccolo
From the Album of Jan Vibert (Agnew)
2&3 Lucernian Vol. 5 No. 1 1981 p17



Concerts & Functions

The Trustees of the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition have offered MOCA four invitations to all concerts and functions. We will also receive 10 additional complimentary entry tickets for the Semi Final and Final Concerts. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jeanette Joseph - E jeanett_joseph@bigpond.com

LUCERNAE.
"SINT LUCERNAE ARDENTES"
(Let Your Lamps Be Burning)

"Sint lucernae ardentes?"
That's the aim of our School!
To keep ever ready and burning
the famous lanterns of learning, the famous lanterns
Make us our rule!
Filled with sweet oil of wisdom
Pure as the light of a star,
Beacons our beacon is burning
beaming

The Morongo Bell

Miss Lucy Shaw Founders Day Assembly Speech – June 19 1989

"One Saturday morning the Mistress on duty came to tell me our bell had been stolen. She held up a little brass bell - like those used by some on pet cats. This was hanging on a ribbon in the belfry. That should have given us a clue, but we were so worried, that we did not appreciate that fact. We lived by that old bell.

It rang constantly from 7 o'clock in the morning until 8 or 9 in the evening - throughout the school day, between classes, for we had not electric system, and on until lights out. So we fussed and fumed, appealing widely for the recovery of our piece of history.

You will know that that bell gave the name to Bell Post Hill. It is part of the history of Geelong, eyes, of Victoria - for it was rung when the supply ships came into Corio Bay and it is said, when the aborigines were rising and now it had gone!

Days and days passed, a week or more and then came a letter asking why we were making such a fuss. If we would dig up a spot in the diamond of the baseball field, (exact measurements given,) we might find something. So it was with tremendous relief that the Sports Mistress and a team of girls unearthed our Bell. You may be sure it was replaced so secretly that no pranksters could repeat the joke.

We did hear that the boys of a certain school had been having field exercises. It strikes me, one of the fathers or uncles, or even grandfathers of one of you may be guilty. If you find out, let me know, I would like a word with those gentlemen."

The Bell

Very early in the 19th century,
When white man came to stay,
He rang the Morongo bell,
To send the aborigines away.
To their ears it sounded strange
So away they fled in fear,
The settlers then to their flocks returned
Without strangers to interfere

Katy Taylor 10 years
Lucernian 1979 p54

"The girls were called to school by the ringing of the historic bell presented by Mr. G. F. Strachan. The bell was the original bell erected on Bell Post Hill in the early days of Geelong as a means of issuing a warning on the approach of war-like tribes of aborigines from the Batesford and Barrabool districts." 1



Photograph from the Album presented to Lucy Shaw on her retirement

"School loses its bell

Geelong, Monday

A bell used last century to warn settlers against aborigine attacks was stolen at the weekend from Morongo Girls' Presbyterian College, at Bell Post Hill.

The bell, which has signalled daily assemblies at the school since 1927, was in a small belfry near the main school building. Stout, bolts securing the bell shaft had been torn out.

Miss L. Shaw, college principal, today appealed for the bell to be returned.

"At first I thought the bell's disappearance was a college prank, and expected to see it on the school flagpole," she said.

"However, no trace of it has been found about the school. The bell is dear to us because of its great historical value," she added.

In 1836 the bell was brought to Melbourne from Tasmania, where it had served as a ship's bell. Later two settlers, Anthony Cowie and David Stead, took the bell with them when they formed Victoria's second settlement, at Geelong.

Legend has it that the bell was lost, and not found until years later, when a fisherman dragged it out of the Moorabool River, near Geelong.

The bell was exhibited for many years at the National Museum, Melbourne, before being presented to Morongo College.

Meanwhile, girl students are being called to assembly by a hand bell." 2

Rhyme rings the bell

Geelong, Tuesday

An anonymous verse today helped teachers to recover a bell that was stolen two days ago from the Morongo Presbyterian Girls' College at Bell Post Hill.

The verse read:
"Have no fear, your bell is near,
It can be found, hidden in your ground."

"Rhyme rings the bell

Geelong, Tuesday

An anonymous verse today helped teachers to recover a bell that was stolen two days ago from the Morongo Presbyterian Girls' College at Bell Post Hill.

The verse read:

"Have no fear, your bell is near,
It can be found, hidden in your ground."

In the mail

It was received this morning in the school's mail with an unsigned letter apologising for causing the school anxiety.

The bell was found buried in the centre of a baseball diamond, on the school's sports oval.

Miss Lucy Shaw, college principal, said today: "We are now all very relieved and happy."

"I have no idea who would play such a joke, but I'm sure it was not one of the girl students."

Bell's history

A special school assembly was called to watch the bell placed back in its belfry. The bell, which was used last century to warn settlers against hostile blacks, was exhibited for many years at the National Museum, Melbourne, before being presented to the college.

It has signaled daily assemblies at the school since 1927." 3

1: GIRLS' COLLEGE AT GEELONG. (1927, February 17). The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), p. 13. Retrieved March 8, 2015, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3838587>

2: [No heading]. (1953, October 6). The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), p. 7. Retrieved March 11, 2015, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page1763504>

3: Rhyme rings the bell. (1953, October 7). The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), p. 6. Retrieved March 11, 2015, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article23313520>

Morongo Rowing

Jeanette Joseph (Dehnert) & others

In the 1970's Morongo girls were seeking new challenges, new experiences and so the story of rowing began at the school. Morongo Rowing was based out of the Corio Bay Rowing Club from the 1970's, until the school closed in 1994.

Rowing was introduced in 1974 by Camping and Extra-curricular coordinator, Robert Hosie and keenly supported by Headmistress Dulcie Brookshaw. The school began with pairs and fours on Wednesday afternoons in terms 1 and 4 with volunteer coaching provided by Bob Morell from the Corio Bay Rowing Club.

In 1976, five Morongo girls made their rowing debut and in 1977, Morongo was represented by two crews in the first Junior Head of the River. The years following became a period of consolidation, perseverance and commitment.

Morongo rowed in many Regattas around Victoria and interstate. In 1977, at the Ladies Four Youth Championship in Adelaide, Morongo girls made the final and finished third. The girls competed in 1st and 2nd Fours over a distance of 800 metres.

By 1981 Morongo had three crews and made history with a crew in the Senior Head of the River – the first time girls had ever rowed in the 113 year old event and the Australian Public Schools Association (APS) invited three girls' schools, Morongo, Methodist Ladies College and Clarendon College to compete in their regattas. Virginia Vickery (Kratochvil) was the teacher in charge of girls' rowing at the time, assisted by Paul Marks as second coach.

The first Year 12 crew participated in the Junior Head of the River on the Yarra in 1982 and in 1983, the Program for the Head of the River stated: "Three races for girls' crews will be held. The Geelong College and Geelong Grammar girls have rowed for a few years and Carey began last year. Crews from Lauriston, Morongo and Methodist Ladies' College have accepted the invitation to participate in

these races." Morongo entered 3 girls' fours (800 metres).

In 1984, Headmistresses Dulcie Brookshaw (Morongo) and Mary Waters (Clarendon) approached Rowing Victoria, the meeting resulted in the Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta (HOSG). The inaugural regatta was held in 1985 on Lake Wendouree, Ballarat. Morongo participated. They also gained valuable experience at the National Rowing Championships held at Lake Wendouree, Ballarat in the same year.

At this stage the number of crews had grown to six and the school became the proud owners of four carbon fibre oars and a rowing shell aptly called the 'Dulcie Brookshaw'.

The Morongo Boat Club became affiliated in 1986 with the Victorian Rowing Association and in 1988 they purchased a new shell, the 'Edna McCann'. Anne Young (Chirnside), an old collegian was appointed coordinator of Rowing. Anne had been a member of the Australian Rowing Squad which competed in Amsterdam in 1977. Morongo crews continued to be competitive and upheld their high standard of spirit. 1989 - Morongo first fours won the HOSG regatta.

In the 1990's Bob Morell coached the Morongo eight crews, they competed at many regattas including Mildura-Wentworth, Horsham-Dimboola and Hamilton, proudly winning trophies, medals and a perpetual trophy. An 'eight' for the HOSG regatta was purchased, with the first and second crews combining.

1992 - Hosted the HOSG regatta and purchased four shells. Students Nikola McGrath and Claire Wookey secured rowing scholarships at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

Rowing Victoria today continue to present "Morongo Medals" to Year 12 students who have completed 3 years of rowing. The medal has the Morongo crest, and "HOSG Morongo Medal for Commitment and Endeavour" on the other side; each medal includes a lanyard in the school colours and a card with details of the former Morongo Girls' College.

'Sint Lucernae Ardentes'
(Let your lamps be burning)



Morongo Regatta on the Barwon 2015 - Ann Waayers (Jarman)

It was another sunny day on the banks of the Barwon for the Morongo Regatta, Saturday 31 January 2015.

The Judges Box was decorated with flags and banners making it a very festive occasion and it was great to have the poster giving details of the history of rowing at

Morongo for all to see. This had been prepared for us by Jan and David Vibert.

The Year 10 Cup was hotly competed for and won by Geelong College Year 10 girls' crews.

The Year 9 Cup was won by Loretto Ballarat, Year 9 girls who were delighted with their win.

260 Morongo Medals were distributed this year, to girls who have completed three years rowing.

Editor's Note: 'Jeanette Joseph wishes to acknowledge Tony Waayers input. Tony spends the whole day in the Judges box, ensuring we get the aggregates correct for the Year 9 and Year 10 Cups – MOCA does appreciate your willing assistance Tony.' Thank you.

Trip down memory lane! – Nicki Edwards (Marshman) 1982-1986

14

I've had a lovely trip down memory lane this afternoon! I found the old copies of my "Lucernian" magazines and I've been reminiscing and having a lovely time trying to remember names and faces. What a wonderful school Morongo was and I'm so blessed to have been able to attend.

I started at Morongo in Year 7 in 1982 and was in Venters house with Mandy Schooneman (now Jackman) as my house captain. I was involved in various choirs (middle, senior school and madrigal) under the eagle eye and baton of Eileen Martin. I also played flute in the school orchestra. I was a member of various rowing crews. I attempted netball and hockey and tennis but ball sports weren't my thing! Just thinking about this reminds me of those green sports dresses we wore!

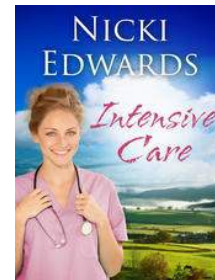
In 1986 at the end of Year 11 I was selected to be a Rotary Exchange Student to Canada and I spent the whole of 1987 in

Canada while my classmates finished VCE. Instead of returning to Morongo for year 12 (1988), I went to Geelong College where I met my now husband, Tim.

When our youngest son started school I returned to fulltime study, a Diploma of Nursing course at The Gordon, then Bachelor of Nursing Degree at Deakin. Two years later I undertook a Post Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Intensive Care) and since then I've been working as a nurse in the intensive care unit at St John of God and in the emergency department at Geelong Hospital.

After finishing my post grad qualifications I was looking for something to do (!) and one day woke up at the start of 2014 and decided I needed to write a book. It was something I'd talked about doing for years. Like lots of people, I said: "one day I'm going to write a book", and then I did!

"Intensive Care", "Emergency Response" and "Life Support" followed as e-books with an option for a print version. I have also written another book called "The Peppercorn Lease" but this has yet to be picked up by a publisher. All my books are described as sweet, contemporary romances. They are medical romances set in regional/rural Australia. My main characters are nurses who work in either the Intensive Care Unit or the Emergency Department. I'm sure there are no prizes for guessing where I get my writing inspiration!



<http://momentumbooks.com.au/books/intensive-care/>
<http://nickiedwards.net/>
<https://www.facebook.com/authornickiedwards>

Intermediate Class 1956 (Year 10) / Matriculation Class 1958 (year 12) - 60 Years

Please can anyone help with contact details for Elizabeth (Whiffen) Hieke, Adrienne (Eaton) Gilham, Patricia Fell-Smith, and Patricia Pedder?

Morongo class of 1955 - 60 Years Later we are holding a special reunion lunch to celebrate our pact made on 5th 5th 1955 whilst in year 9 at Morongo. The reunion lunch will be held at The Wool Exchange

Restaurant 44 Corio Street Geelong at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 5th 5th 2015.
Cost: \$ 35.00 - pay on the day

Please keep us informed of any changes to your contact details: email address, landline and mobile phone numbers and postal address. Both NOW and in the FUTURE. A few of us will stay in Geelong on Monday 4th May are planning a Get Together for

dinner that night. Please let us know if you would like to join us.

RSVP: Monday 27 April 2015: Diana Trewenack (Hirst) diana@billsojacks.com 0418390384 725 Great Ocean Road Eastern View 3231 or Jeanette Middleton (Potter): jeanettemid@bigpond.com 03 52419020 or 0411039913 13 Keram Crescent, Highton, Geelong. Vic 3216

Words of Appreciation – Jeanette Joseph President of MOCA on behalf of the Committee

We acknowledge the professional advice we have received from Dan Simmonds, Harwood Andrews Lawyers and Michael Betts, LBW Chartered Accountants. Their support has been essential in a changing world and for our Association in guiding us with advice so that we have come up with a plan for the future.

We acknowledge Jill Thom (Hookings) who has provided accommodation on a Monday evening making life easier for the Committee member who lives in Shepparton.

We think of all the hours taken up for our benefit by Anne Stock who has proof read and made adjustments as necessary, to every article that has been submitted for this final newsletter. She will also double check, in casting her eye over the completed newsletter before it goes to print.

We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Su Taylor who has really taken on the role of Editor of the Final Newsletter; we think she is still coming to terms with the task that has evolved during the past few

weeks. Again we see the strong bonds that hold we Morongo girls/old collegians together. Su graduated with a Master of Applied Science (Information Studies), an achievement that made Dulcie Brookshaw very proud. Her professionalism, her expertise and her innovative ideas have given us a newsletter worthy as a final reminder of the guiding principles of three Principals of Morongo that has inspired us all. Well done, many thanks Su.

Resources used for Miss Pratt article

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Please note: "Newspaper articles found in Trove reproduced courtesy of the National Library of Australia."

Vale

Date: Sat, 25 Oct 2014

Vale Doreen Webb (Chadwick)

In memory of my dearest friend Doreen. I was deeply saddened to learn of Doreen's passing. I enjoyed a wonderful friendship throughout our Schooling years at Morongo and the rest of our journey through studies at The Gordon Inst. of Technology. Oh what fun we had - we could read each other's minds and would conjure up our secret little sayings - kind of a code - we were like glued together.

I have been left with very special memories I will cherish forever I feel blessed and give thanks to Doreen as my closest friend. A lot of people might walk in and out of your life but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart

Rhonda Daish (Goodwin)
rhondagoodwing@gmail.com

Reunion Lists

Planning a reunion? Lists of names from your year are available.

Also keep us informed any of change of details. **Please contact:** Jeanette Joseph

Framed Morongo Logo



The Old Collegians have been fortunate to receive a piece of carpet from the old Boarding House. The carpet was laid in the 1970's so many who attended before that time will not recognise it. We have had the Morongo Logos from the carpet framed; there are three framed logos available for sale at the cost price of \$95 each. Dimensions are: 36 cm x 37 cm.

If you are interested please contact:

Jeanette Joseph: H 52555623

M 0419803250

E jeanett_joseph@bigpond.com

We are saddened by the passing of former classmates and staff:

Dora Hallam (Riddle) ('26) August 2014

Honorary Life Member

Jeanette Ball (Fewtrell)

17 September 2014

Betty Taylor (McConaghy)

15 October 2014

Doreen Webb (Cronk) ('53)

24 September 2014

June Spencer (Elvins) ('36)

23 December 2014

Norma Paterson ('33)

31 December 2014,

We remember her nieces, Vicki and Noni

Eileen Martin (Morongo Staff)

18 January 2015

We remember daughter Genevieve ('78)

Kirsty Tuck (McKenzie) 10 February 2015

Carlene Smith (Lorimer)

24 February 2015

Alisoun Mc Bean (Elder) ('46)

6 March 2015

We remember daughters Margaret ('75),

Heather ('82), and sister Rosemary ('51)

Editor's Note: See Bell Post Story 1948 p17

Alisoun McBean (Elder) & Kirsty Tuck

(McKenzie) – 2 of the 'Fifteen Friends'.



From the Morongo collection

Old Collegian Badge

The Old Collegians' badge is composed of the school badge, superimposed on the Maltese Cross. The central figure is the Lamp of Knowledge, which has the flame ever burning - for we are always searching for knowledge, from childhood to old age. The lamp is cast over the Cross of St. Andrew, which is the symbol of our Christian heritage, and of the Cross of Sacrifice. Sacrifice is the counter to selfishness and a true builder of character.

This central theme is enclosed with a circle, telling us that these things which may have a beginning are endless. The whole has been superimposed on the Maltese Cross of Service to humanity; and surely if we carry out the central theme we are then fitted to go into a wider field and share our privileges with those less fortunate.

Let us then live up to our badge, that those who come after us may be proud of the example of the Morongo Old Collegians' Association.

Badges are still available for anyone who has not received one and would like one – **Contact:** Jeanette Joseph

SCHOOL BADGES

No. 41.—MORONGO, GEELONG

Morongo, the Presbyterian Girls' College, was founded in 1920 by the Presbytery of Geelong, and has for some time occupied the present site on Bell Post Hill. The motto was suggested to the council by the late Dr. Leeper, and means, according to the translation taken from the Vulgate,

"Let your lamps burn brightly." It is particularly appropriate for a school "set on a hill." The badge was designed by Miss I. Woodward,

of Bendigo. The lamp is the symbol of learning adopted by the Romans. The white cross of St. Andrew, an emblem of service and sacrifice, is suggestive of the school's connection with Scotland through the Presbyterian Church. The encircling motto denotes unity and harmony.



Down Morongo Lane

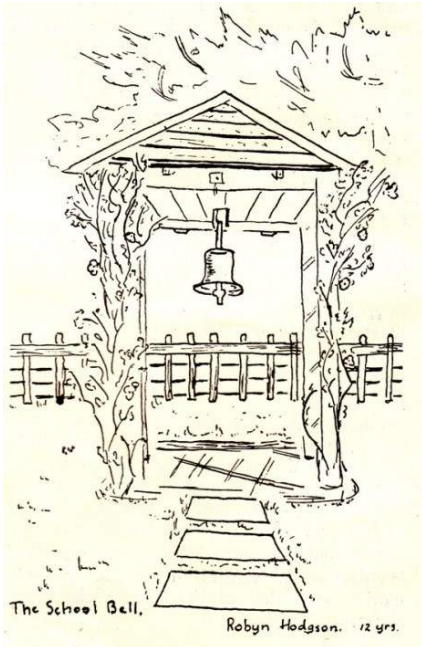


Miss Dulcie Brookshaw, Mrs Judith Watt, Miss Margaret Henderson & Miss Lucy Shaw
Miss Henderson – 'enjoys the company of three principals of Morongo with whom she worked.'
Morongo News – Semester 1, 1990



Junior School – From the Morongo Collection

More Bell News!



Drawing by Robyn Hodgson 12 years

"During the war years of 1942 and 1943 it was used as a warning in case of air raids. When it was rung, the girls had a practice evacuation of the School buildings."



.....
"Later on in the same year (1953) it was painted with yellow stripes. These, however, were soon washed off. Since then the happenings of the bell have proved to be uneventful, and so it now only calls us to our chores each day. H. Burns (15 years)" Lucernian Vol. 2 No.26 December 1955 p8 & p37

1950 Breakfast at "Morongo"

'Breakfast in the early morn
Takes place with many an ugly yawn,
We stand around and talk of sin,
Till rings the gong, which ends the din.
We stand up straight with gentle poise,
Committee calls, "Who made that noise;
Stand out here, face to the wall,
Or you won't get any food at all!"

Everyone is in her place,
Miss Shaw comes in and says the grace,
We sit down to begin our food,
Eating does improve the mood.

Crunchy weeties, eggs on toast,
A meal of which the School can boast;
Nice fresh bread, with luscious honey,
Cream which must cost lots of money.

Breakfast over, we race away,
Over to school to begin a day,
Of work so cheerfully and well done,
Till out of doors to recess we run.
N.R.'

Lucernian Vol. 2 No. 21 December, 1950 p27

1976 "Boarders' Spread"

'The boarders' year began, as usual, with tomato soup and cheese for tea. Screams of jubilation met friends not seen for the entire duration of the Christmas holidays, and a few silent tears said goodbye to the saddened parents of newcomers. As happens with monotonous regularity, we all adapted to this peculiar environment and within a week things were again appearing typical of the Morongo Boarding House. And then, the inevitable boarders' picnic, an irreplaceable tradition keenly upheld — Fisherman's Beach was in fine form providing surf extraordinaire — "a good time was had by all". After this initial period of getting to know, the year was in full swing....'

Ruth Dahlenburg
Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 2 1976 p17



From the Morongo Collection
Far L: Photo caption: "Who said Morongo food was fattening" Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 2 1976 p56

Girls

Exciting conversations
Warm and soft,
Sweet perfume,
Elegant and pretty faces

Li-June Satto Year 9P
Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 6 1980 p51

Final Page! 17

I don't know why

I don't know why
You are different from me
Or I'm different from you
It just doesn't fit
You've got blue eyes
I've got brown
You've got red hair
I've got brown
I don't know why

Vicky Lawson 8 years Grade 3
Junior School
Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 4 1978 p55

The Bell Post – A Story 1948

A group of senior boarders devised the idea of a newspaper for "Morongo." Their representatives spoke to Miss Shaw and Miss Hope, and having received official encouragement, promptly put their plans on paper.

Great was the enthusiasm but little the skill. Any shortage of ink can be traced to the keen if unsuccessful efforts of the first editors. The press section of our Matriculation school textbook, "Education, Press and Radio," was really thoroughly studied by this section of the community. Daily newspapers were read avidly, and with a more critical eye. These budding, journalists soon imagined that they had learned how to put things over.

The newspaper, however, had to be named, and great was the consternation of those concerned. Then, one day, one of the number lifted her voice and said, "Bell Post." Thus it is that these words will now live for posterity.

Soon, articles were completed, and the material was in the hands of the printer.

Final Words

Jeanette Joseph

The MOCA, Geelong committee members would like to express their sincere appreciation to President Jeanette Joseph, who has worked tirelessly for the Association. We thank her for her leadership and thoroughness, especially in regards to the closure of the Association.

'Sint Lucernae Ardentes'
(Let your lamps be burning)



Staff versus Girls "Staff Basketball Team" 1955
B: M Wightman, H. Sifri, M. Thomson, R. Steere
F: ? & M. Henderson
Note: a young Miss Thomson, now Mary Reilly, 'always part of the action'



The girls found it hard to keep their great venture secret, but their determination for it to be a surprise made them successful.

Colourful posters announced the arrival of the first edition. The girls had evidently learned something of advertising and sales talk, for the copies sold readily.

The proud editresses were revealed. They had been known as the Fifteen Friends, whose names are: Jean Archer, Margaret Browne, Jill Cannon, Alisoun Elder, Margaret Ellis, Beverley Elshaug, Hilary Howey, Elizabeth Knox, Margot Lancaster, Marion Messenger, Kirsty McKenzie, Irene Weaver, Margaret Weaver, Alison Williams and Margaret Yates.

The second issue appeared in third term, and this was the final one for the year.

The Fifteen Friends have started this newspaper, and it is their wish that a new group of friends will continue their work next year.

All except three of the Fifteen Friends are leaving, and it is to these three to carry on. Best of luck to you!

Lucernian, Vol. 2 No. 19 December 1948 p36

Photos from the Album of
Jeanette Joseph (Dehnert)

Epitaph

Engraved on the walls and desks
The loves and hopes of pupils
Of both present and past
They have left behind them souvenirs
Which will be intermingled
With the epitaphs of the future

Anon. (Form 5)
Lucernian Vol. 4 No. 1 1975 p41



Photographs from the Album presented to Lucy Shaw on her retirement

Postal: Morongo Old Collegians' Association Inc. C/o Sandra Oriander Unit 23/59 Barwarre Road, Marshall, Victoria, 3216

THE LUCERNIAN

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Beds on the BALCONY 1954



The Cart way between Dudley and the servery 1953



Muriel McKay (Butch), Dorothy Waugh (Cricket) & Margaret Cameron October 1953

From the Album of Jan Vibert (Agnew)
Background: Lucernian Vol.2 No. 27 December 1956 p44

ddenly throug
h on a brooms
cloak and car
l. "I am going
ake you with me and make you my ser-

was so frightened, I dropped the money
I had in my hand.

en the wind, who was frolicking near, was
nary when he saw us that he blew all the

THE BALCONY

On the balcony when night is dim,
Lie fourteen girls all neat and trim,
H.S., a doctor's daughter,
To follow in his steps she orte.
J.D. gets sometimes lonely,
To Miss P. she talks quite homely.
J.C., the dark-haired one,
Gives us all a bit of fun.
W.H. has her sister's brain,
But in the morning she's such a pain.
E.R., she pays no heed
When told to do a simple deed.
J.C., up the other end,
Her voice is heard round every bend.
J.D. has a curly top,
It could be mistaken for Cookie's mop.
H.L. is so chubby,
She calls her little Teddy, Tubby.
M.Mcl., it's horses she likes,
But she does not know how to ride on bikes
A.G., when the day was done,
To find Miss S.—she used to run.
J.H., Oh! she likes cats,
She takes them to bed, and gives them pat
M.McA., her hair's quite nice,
She combs it up in just a trice.
A.J. is very cunning,
To her, "strike," she's always running.
J.G. plays "Jacks" all night,
Till F. comes round, and gives her a fright.
And now we come to the end of the verse
You may think us wicked, or, maybe, worse
But, really and truly, you can believe me,