



# Morongo Newsletter

Sint lucernae Ardentes

March 2016



Dear Friends of Morongo,

Happy and Healthy New Year To You All.

As we all know, our beautiful old school *Morongo*, is still the name we love and will keep forever. However, the name *Association* is no longer a term we are allowed to use. We have decided this should not be the final outcome for us all, as there is still much living and sharing and *burning of our lamp of wisdom* to be done!!

So, **Welcome to the Morongo Newsletter.**

We hope to send out one newsletter per year. We will send it out to all members who have registered their email address with Marieta Jones (Moir) email: [bellposthill@hotmail.com](mailto:bellposthill@hotmail.com)

This Newsletter will be sent early March each year.

It will be an **all-inclusive MORONGO Newsletter**, no branches, not just from Melbourne nor Geelong nor financial old collegians, open to all Friends of Morongo!

*Faye Lee (Pope)*

## Please Help Us

Any interesting news from any girl who went to Morongo, is more than welcome. Send us articles and dates for reunions etc. Send your news to Marieta Jones (Moir) email: [bellposthill@hotmail.com](mailto:bellposthill@hotmail.com)

We also need to be informed of recently deceased old girls, please help us keep our records up to date.

## Please Help Us Learn The History Of Our Banner



Looking at the heading of this newsletter, we have adopted the beautiful banner of our Lamp of Wisdom (as we always called it pre-Google) as our mast. We are seeking information about its history. Clearly, a lot of time and effort was obviously spent in presenting this glorious piece of work and we would like to learn more about its origin, so that we may acknowledge its creator/s and date of creation for posterity, on the reverse of the banner. The banner was donated, someone must have seen it and have some idea which Branch it has come from.

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT OUR BANNER.

## Rowing News



The Morongo Regatta, organised by Rowing Victoria, was held on the Barwon River on January 30th 2016. The MOCA donated the money for the beautiful Morongo medals (see photo at left). The medals were presented to all Year 12 girls who had rowed for 3 consecutive years at the Morongo Regatta.

There are current plans to continue this custom until 2020.  
Please refer to Page 13 in our final Sint Lucernae Ardentes

Morongo medal

**While *lamps* are being mentioned, we thought you might like to read the piece Robin Purdey (Urquhart) wrote for our 50 year class reunion booklet held at the home of Judy Williams (Lindsay) in 2005.**

**Morongo**

Fifty years since we first said goodbye,  
How mature we were then,  
How young!

So well brought up,  
So well educated,  
So hatted and gloved,  
So naïve,  
So Presbyterian.

The future all ahead,  
Careers, marriage, travel,  
Children, illness, divorce,  
Loves, lives, grandchildren, death,  
So many stories; who could have guessed?

Together again, a couple of dozen, at Judy's house,  
Name tags – to compensate.  
For wrinkles, grey hair, memory loss, weight gain.

Do you remember  
Fish in the cupboard?  
17, 18, 19 – counting out loud  
The times Reverend Blackwood  
Strode backwards and forwards across the stage.

Miss Pillow, Miss Botterill, Miss Sutherland, Miss Evans,  
War widows with never a marriage;  
Miss Phillips – quite old we thought,  
Had a baby in Baxter House,  
At the same time as Judy's third;  
Miss Hope struggled upstairs with Literature books  
'But (in chorus), it's expression this lesson!  
And Miss NAP – incorrect!  
'Spelled K-N-A-P-P, 100 times please!'

We talked and we ate  
We talked and we drank  
We talked and we laughed  
We talked and we cried  
We talked, and we looked at old photos.

At last we sang 'with zeal and courage burning,'  
The School Song, the School Hymn, the School Vesper  
And remembered the eight of us who died too young.  
'Cease we fearing, cease we grieving.'

Next morning a visit to Kardinia International College  
Mr Goodfellow, Principal,  
(not our beautiful Miss Shaw),  
And Founder Benefactor, Mr Katsumata,  
Forward thinking educators,  
A school, a business,  
Built on the foundation stone:  
'Wisdom leads to respect and friendship.'

We saw the old – Heritage listed  
Main House, Boarding House, the Loft.  
'That's where I slept'  
'Couldn't see the bay then'  
'Amazing everything's the same – colours, cement floor, one globe still'  
'We were never allowed to use that one!'  
'The names of the boarding houses?'  
'Dudley, Neilsen...'  
'Manners, manners – one BREAKS one's toast, never cuts it!'  
'The trees – so big' 'Well ... fifty years!'  
'And that one?' 'Paulownia – the foxglove tree.'

We saw the new – planning, growing,  
Gymnasium, performing arts, library, science,  
Pinnacle of modern education,  
Technology beyond imagination,  
Wireless environment,  
Einstein inspiration:  
'The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious'

Kardinia students aim to be  
'enquirers, thinkers, risk-takers, caring, open-minded',  
New generations to kindle new lamps,  
Bequeathed our 'sweet oil of wisdom'.

Sunday morning dance class introduction,  
'These ladies, girls, were students here fifty years ago.'  
Did they think, from another world?  
We were – it was,  
Sint lucernae ardentis.

**Reunion Luncheon in Geelong – Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> – All Welcome**

Join us at *Lyndon Grove* in Grovedale, 131 Torquay Road (corner Surf Coast Highway & Grove Rd) on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 12 noon.**

Lyndon Grove is quite close to Marshall Railway Station and anyone coming by train can be met.

There is a train departing Southern Cross at 10.50am arriving at Marshall at 11.56am.

Further enquiries contact;  
Helen Robertson (Hirst) email: hgrob1@bigpond.net.au  
Jill Thom(Hooking) email: jillthm@gmail.com ph: (03)5221 6035

### **Goulburn Valley Luncheon - Sunday May 1st**

The Goulburn Valley Members luncheon will go ahead on our long-standing date of the first Sunday in May. This year the luncheon will be held at the Third Age Club, Euroa.

Goulburn Valley members will receive more details early in April via email.

Any enquiries, please contact:  
Sandra MacIntyre (Bufton) email: nutcundera@bigpond.com

### **All Years Luncheon Reunion - Wednesday 18th May @ 11-30am**

All welcome at *Angliss Restaurant*, 550 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Contacts; Mary Moors (McGregor) ph: 9853 7379

Barb Wilson (Wood) email: barbrawilson@bigpond.com

Notices sent mid-March to all who responded in 2015. Contact Mary ph: 9853 7379 if you have not received a notice

### **Bistro Night - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 6.30pm**

All welcome at *Malvern Vale Club Hotel Bistro*, 1321 Malvern Road, Malvern. (Parking at the rear)

Note the later date, now to be held in October, instead of September.

Contact Marieta Jones (Moir) email: bellposthill@hotmail.com ph: 9802 7006

### **Golf Day and Lunch – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

All welcome at *Barwon Heads Golf Club*

Contact Lyn Fraser (Crellin) email: lynmfraser@bigpond.com 0402 067 758 or just book for lunch if you prefer.

A **60th Reunion** was celebrated by all former students who matriculated prior to 1956. Seventeen girls attended with 8 apologies. Sadly 14 girls from our year 7 class have died. Our Luncheon Reunion was held at The Empire Grill Restaurant, Mckillop Street, Geelong on 22nd October 2015. We had a fun afternoon catching up on our lives since we last met. Many thanks to Marl Ryan (Metherall) for organising absolutely everything! We extended our time together with 7 of us staying the night at the adjacent motel, enjoying an evening meal together at a nearby Italian Café. Our next reunion will be held in 2 years! We decided 5 years is too long to wait!!! Our group will gather at the home of Judy Dowling (Eagles) in Queenscliff on Tuesday 24th October 2017. Keep well until we meet again!

Photo of the girls who attended our 60th



**Back Row L-R** Jill Morgan (Hazeldine) Diane Morrison (Hill) Jan Forster (Hanna) Marl Ryan (Metherall) Kay Middleton (Stallard) Bette English (Arnoldt) Pam Kemp (Lilburne) Dawn Weston (Loughridge) Rhonda Daish (Goodwin)

**Front Row L-R** Judy Dowling (Eagles) Pam Hopper (Hawker) Merran Hall (Urquhart) Lyn Hope (Townsend) Robin Purdey (Urquhart) Faye Lee(Pope) Nola Davies (Longwell) Marieta Jones(Moir)

## **VALE NOTICE**

We are saddened to hear of the following deaths.

*Meredith Middleton (Macmillan)* Meredith was affectionately called *Podge*. She joined Morongo in 1948 in sub-intermediate and left after Matriculating in 1952

*Marjorie Menzies (Cook)* began her education in the Morongo kindergarten in 1927 and matriculated in 1941. She was a prefect.

Marjorie went on to complete her Primary Teacher Training at ATTI. She commenced her professional life back at Roslyn, the Morongo nursery school in Elizabeth Street, Newtown in 1944. It was in that same year, in that same kindergarten, that five little 4/5/6 year olds began their Morongo education! Denise Hargreaves, Pamela Lilburne (Kemp), Judy Lindsay (Williams), Marlene Metherall (Ryan) and Faye Pope (Lee)!! We spent 4 years in Miss Cook's loving care and what wonderful, happy, busy years they were. We were often allowed to drag our big double desks outside where we would spend the entire day!! The five of us bonded into a close friendship group which still remains to this day, although sadly we are now only three. We firmly believe that it was the love and guidance shown us by Marjorie Cook that inspired four of that original five to enter the teaching profession and love it for many years. After Marjorie's 6 children were well settled into school life, she joined the staff at St. Leonards School in Brighton where she became Head of the Junior School, teaching for 8 years. The Marjorie Menzies Hall was built in her honour. We remained friends until Marjorie died last year in her ninety-second year.

## **Morongo Memorabilia**

All of our precious memorabilia is stored in the Morongo Room at Mossgiel House.

Mossgiel House is the girl's boarding house at Geelong College in Noble Street.

Any former Morongo girls wishing to borrow banners and/or flags etc for special reunions and functions may do so by making contact with Con Lannan, the archivist, at Geelong College.

**Donations of school memorabilia are always gratefully accepted.**

Memorabilia archivist contact: Con Lannan ph. 5226 3148

email: con.lannan@geelongcollege.vic.edu.au (allow a week for organisation)

## **Volunteers Needed**

We are currently seeking volunteers to help sort old photographs into year groups. If you can spare some time contact Jeanette Joseph (Dehert) 5255 5623

## **Morongo Rose**

We have been asked for information regarding the Morongo Rose. It is a thorny red rose, struck by a gentleman in Moriac. Its creation was organised by the Parents and Friends in memory of Morongo and all who had any connection with our wonderful school.

Information about the rose has not arrive in time for this Newsletter, but we do know there are many gardens around Victoria that are home to a flowering Morongo Rose. If anyone is able to supply us with further information regarding the Morongo Rose and its availability we would be grateful. Watch this space next year!!

**and finally .....** Apologies for this Newsletter arriving later than we planned, but now that you all know our Morongo Newsletter is to continue next year, hopefully more girls will send news to Marieta Jones (Moir) email: [bellposthill@hotmail.com](mailto:bellposthill@hotmail.com)

## **PLEASE SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER .....**

Please share our Newsletter with all your friends who are connected with Morongo. The more Morongo family and friends our Newsletter reaches, the wider our network becomes and the more effectively we can share news about our lives since school days. **Our Newsletter can only be emailed. For those without access to a computer or email account we suggest you enlist a partner, child or grandchild or even a neighbour to receive the Newsletter on your behalf.**

A big thank you to Faye Lee (Pope) for being the driving force behind this first Newsletter.

## Contact Us ...

<b>Faye Lee (Pope) 1953</b>	5956 8411 PO Box 2241 Ventnor 3922
<b>Marieta Jones (Moir) 1953</b>	bellposthill@hotmail.com
<b>Lyn Hope (Townsend) 1953</b>	9571 5949
<b>Elaine Howden (Barber) 1952</b>	0413 800 841
<b>Evie McEwan (Jones) 1956</b>	0412 855 713
<b>Mary Moors (McGregor) 1950</b>	9853 7379
<b>Barbara Wilson (Wood) 1949</b>	barbrawilson@bigpond.com
<b>Heather Lloyd (Laird) 1954</b>	5826 9598 bandhlloyd@bigpond.com
<b>Sandra MacIntyre (Bufton) 1960</b>	0428 976 242 nutcundera@bigpond.com
<b>Lyn Fraser (Crellin) 1967</b>	lynmfraser@bigpond.com
<b>Jill Thom (Hooking) 1951</b>	jillthom@gmail.com
<b>Helen Robertson (Hirst) 1951</b>	hgrob1@bigpond.net.au