Dear Alumnae,

Welcome to the latest edition of Entre Nous. This electronic newsletter is always a great way to connect with our PCW Alumnae. I hope you enjoy catching up on news from both past pupils of PCW and also some news about our current students and school.

It has been a busy year again with reunions. This year we had the 1 Year, 10 Year, 20 Year, 30 Year, 40 Year and 50 Year Reunion. Most of these reunions were well attended and were wonderful afternoons for people to catch up with each other and swap stories of what they have been up to since leaving PCW. For many students this was their first time back at the College and so would have seen many changes. The dates for the Reunions in 2015 are included in this Newsletter. Next year’s Reunions will all include a visit to the new Aquinas Library which was opened in September this year.

As mentioned in our earlier edition of Entre Nous in April this year the major project for this year at the College was the development of the Aquinas Library. This project has now been completed and there are photos included in this Newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter. All Alumnae are welcome to contribute articles and photos to this Newsletter which is sent out twice a year. Please contact Trish Chester, Principal’s PA on 8517.2704 or office@pcw.vic.edu.au if you would like to include anything.
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Principal’s Message

2014 has been a busy year with many events both for our current students and our Alumnae. This year saw 5 Reunions. Many of these students have not returned to PCW since they left and would have noticed many changes.

Many Alumnae will remember the rooms on the first floor of the 1901 Kavanagh building. For some, you will have had many lessons in one of the computer labs or in the tutorial rooms. For others, you may go back to the original purpose of the rooms - boarders’ dormitories. You will pleased to know then this area has now become the Aquinas Library (photos included in this Newsletter).

We have just had Graduation and the Year 12s are expressing the usual mix of excitement and nervousness. The rituals which go with graduation now are joyful occasions which we hope will stay with the students as they move into adulthood. We celebrate with the girls for the whole day on October 21 - breakfast, lunch and dinner! We begin with breakfast on the front lawn. This is followed by a year level assembly and then whole school assembly where the student body thanks and farewells the graduating class. Lunch is put on by the Year 11s and then, following practices for Mass and the graduation ceremony, the students go home to change before Mass at 6.00pm followed by drinks and finger food and then the graduation ceremony itself. A highlight of the ceremony is always the presentation by three Alumnae who present the Community Service Award (photo included in this edition).

I hope to see many of you at the Mass and Reunion on Sunday November 23.

Leonie Keaney
PCW Principal
Past Pupils Committee

The Past Pupils Committee meet regularly and work behind the scenes to support the work of the new PCW Alumnae Office. As a voluntary group they look to:

- Maintain Connections—with Alumnae and the College.
- Support mentoring at PCW
- Develop the Archives
- Support Reunions & Events.
- Support Social Justice at PCW

All alumnae are welcome to join the committee. They meet every second month. Please contact Maureen Pontin, President, for details. E: allmaur12@gmail.com

Archives

Work in the archives continues and the Past Pupils who look after this are always appreciative of donations of old photos, memorabilia and information. Please send your donations of archival photos etc to the PCW Alumnae Office, 187 Dandenong Road, Windsor (and mark for the attention of the Past Pupils or Trish Chester, Principal’s PA and Alumnae contact).

Do you know a Past Pupil who would like to receive Entre Nous?

Please send me their contact details (including their email and leaving class details if you know them) and I will add them to the distribution list.

Trish Chester: Principal’s PA and PCW Alumnae Office
Telephone: 8517.2704
Email: alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au or office@pcw.vic.edu.au
100th Anniversary of ANZAC Landings at Gallipoli

On 25 April 2015 the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli will be celebrated. This will be a major event for celebrations in 2015 particularly at ANZAC Cove.

The Past Pupils Association are interested in doing up some articles for Entre Nous next year on this and are looking for any Alumnae who may have had parents, relatives who were involved in the War as Nurses, Medicos or any other associated field.

If you would be interested in sending in some articles, photos etc could you please contact Trish Chester on 8517.2704 or office@pcw.vic.edu.au and she will pass this information on.

Year 12 Graduation: 2014

Our Year 12 Graduation for our Class of 2014 took place on Tuesday 21st October. We have several special prizes which are awarded each year—one of these is from the Alumnae. The Alumnae make a presentation to a student who is a member of the College Social Justice Committee and who has made a huge contribution to the Community in general. This year’s winner of this special award is Amie Li.

Maureen Pontin, Andree Moloney and Marie Curlis were on hand to present this award to Amie.
Annual Reunion

Sunday 23rd November, 2014
Mass at 2.00 pm in the Chapel followed by
Afternoon Tea at 3.00 pm in the Staff Lunchroom
Please let all your friends know
Enquiries: Trish Chester @
alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au

Boarders Reunion

In 2015 we would like to hold a special Reunion for students who boarded at the College. This Reunion will be held on Saturday 15th March and will be a lunchtime function and will be hosted by some of our Alumnae Committee. The Boarders rooms are now our new College Library so we look forward to showing you how the space has changed over the years.

If you Boarded at the College at would be interested in attending please contact Trish who will provide you with further details.

If you know of any Boarders who might like to attend and who we don’t have details of, if you could pass this onto them. Further details and an invitation will be sent the beginning of 2015.
Reunions
The Alumnae Office organise decade reunions and look for support for Past Pupils from these year levels in gaining additional contact details of past pupils who are currently not on our records. The Alumnae Office will send out the invitations and manage the booking process. Reunions will start with drinks and finger food and then a tour of the College which will include a look at the new Aquinas Library. Year level groups may decide to also extend their reunions and head off for dinner after the Reunion.

We would ask you to help spread the word and encourage those of you who are in contact with other PCW girls to make sure that they are aware of upcoming reunions.

If you are interested in helping to organise your year level reunion please contact Trish Chester on 8517.2704 or alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au

Other year levels that wish to organise reunions are encouraged to do so and Trish will be able to assist you with databases.

Reunions: 2015

Saturday 14th March: Boarders Reunion

Saturday 21st March: Class of 2000 Reunion (5 Year)
Saturday 18th April: Class of 2005 Reunion (10 Year)
Saturday 2nd May: Class of 1995 Reunion (20 Year)
Saturday 9th May: Class of 1985 Reunion (30 Year)
Tuesday 19th May: Class of 2014 (1 Year)
Saturday 13th June: Class of 1975 Reunion (40 Year)
Saturday 20th June: Class of 1965 Reunion (50 Year)
Aquinas Library
Alumnae News: Passing of Mary McMahon

Mary MacMahon (Fitzgerald) was an ex-student of PCW. I am uncertain how long it is since she has attended a Sydney reunion; my mother was 95. Yesterday she died in Ryde Hospital; her death was the result of a fall she had a few days earlier. Until her death, Mary lived independently at Dalton Gardens Retirement Village, Ryde.

PCW was a significant part of my mother's life. Her aunt, Mother Peter Fitzgerald, was a previous Provincial of the Presentation order. Mary and her sisters Eileen, Dorothy, Noreen and Joan all attended PCW for their secondary education.

My mother, in her younger days, with Marie McCann and others, was very involved in the establishment of the Sydney PCW ex-students community. The community allowed my mother to maintain a strong bond with her Melbourne formative years, and her home town.

Marita MacMahon Ball
(Daughter)

Sydney Reunion: November 2014

The Sydney ex-Student Community of which Mary MacMahon (above) was a member are having their annual get together in November to be held at the Queen Victoria Tea Rooms.

Anyone interested in attending can contact Anne Scollan on scolananne@yahoo.com or Maree Jones on maree-jones@msn.com.au
Alumnae News: Queen’s Birthday Honours

In today’s Queen’s Birthday honours list Maryanne Diamond was made an officer in the order of Australia.

Maryanne (as Maryanne Laidlaw) attended Presentation College Windsor in 1973. She went on to Monash University from 1974-1976 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Mathematical Statistics. She undertook a graduate diploma in data processing at Caulfield Institute of Technology in 1977 and worked as a systems analyst in various Commonwealth and State Departments over the next 20 years. She made a career change to advocacy in the late 1990s and worked for Blind Citizens Australia, initially as an Advocacy Officer and eventually as their Executive Officer. She was the inaugural CEO of the Australian Federation of Disability Organisations before joining Vision Australia where she is now General Manager Advocacy and Engagement. From 2008-2012 Maryanne was the President of the World Blind Union and is the Chair-Elect of the International Disability Alliance.

Neil Diamond

Alumnae News: 98th Birthday Celebrations

Alice Naughtin (nee Coyne) celebrating her 98th Birthday on April 5, 2014.

Alice was a past student of PCW in 1931.

Peter Naughtin
Alumnae News: Paula van Baer (Sr Agnes OSC)

Paula van Baer, the second child of Lou and Essie van Baer, was born on 26 January 1926 and died suddenly on 2 July 1913. She attended St Anthony’s Primary School in Glenhuntly from 1931 to 1935, spent the next four years as a boarder at Notre Dame de Sion in Box Hill, and from 1939 to 1944 was a pupil at Presentation Convent Windsor with her sister Marie, who died in 2005. Paula studied Arts at the University of Melbourne, majoring in French and German, with Dutch as a sub-major. After graduating in 1947 she worked in the Modern Languages Department of the University of Melbourne.

In 1952 Paula entered the Poor Clares, and was given the name of Agnes. She was joined two years later by her sister Diana, who died in 2010. Paula was one of the first two Australians to join the five Irish sisters who had come from Galway to establish a contemplative community in Sydney. This community moved in 1968 from Bronte Road in Waverley to Campbelltown NSW.

From 1968 to 1971 Agnes lived in Rome in a strictly enclosed convent where sisters from various Poor Clare convents had gathered to work on the revision of the Poor Clare constitution. In Rome she became fluent in Italian. Those who had come from overseas were allowed to take holidays away from the convent and in 1968 she was able to spend time with her sisters Marie and Wendy in London and to travel to Ireland with them, visiting the Poor Clares in Galway and relatives of some of the nuns who had come to Sydney. The following year she and Wendy spent time on the Continent and visited the Poor Clares in Louvain.

Agnes was elected Abbess in 1971 for a term of three years and spent most of her religious life in teaching and formation work. She also looked after the library, ensuring that the best books and reading material in scripture, liturgy, theology, the arts and Franciscan studies were available to the community.

In 1981 she enrolled in a Master of Arts at St Bonaventure University in New York State, on her way there visiting Louise and her husband in Vancouver and then taking the train across Canada through the Rockies. During her stay in the US she visited relatives of one of the Irish nuns in Chicago, and had a week in New York with a friend from University days.

On his tour of inspection of Poor Clare monasteries in the United States and Canada in 1987, Fr Dario Pili OFM enlisted Agnes as interpreter.

In 1997 Agnes attended a conference in Canterbury, Kent, met Wendy in London, and together they visited friends in Paris, relatives in Holland and Germany, and spent time in Florence, Assisi and Rome.

In England Agnes worked with Franciscan scholars on an edition of Clare of Assisi’s early documents. She was often called upon to translate articles written by Poor Clares, Franciscan Friars and others into English, or from English into other languages.

In 2004 Agnes celebrated her golden jubilee of profession. She had the most amazing memory, took a keen interest in the arts, literature, family and relatives, current affairs and Test cricket. She excelled at sewing and produced some beautiful embroidery. She was a prolific letter-writer, keeping in regular contact with the many friends made in Australia and overseas, people who remained friends for life.

In November 2012 Agnes, on holidays in Melbourne, was able to attend the centenary celebrations at Presentation College with Louise and Wendy.

Wendy Perkins
Assistance at PCW Event

The College has many events during the year at which we often have guest speakers, such as people in the community, parents and past students.

We would be interested to know if you would like to present and speak at any of the following events:

- Retreats
- Graduation
- Whole School Assemblies
- International Women’s Day
- Leadership Training
- Year Level Events
- Parent Forums

If you would be interested could you please nominate your interested areas above and provide a few details about your experience in that area.

These details could be sent to Trish Chester, c/- PCW Alumnae, 187 Dandenong Road, Windsor or alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au
Become a PCW Alumnae Life Member

As past pupils we would encourage you to support this new initiative by becoming Life Members. It is a once only fee of $100. An Alumnae Life Member is a financial member. We value this financial support and your commitment to the Alumnae and this new initiative.

Please complete the form below and post to: PCW Alumnae Office Presentation College Windsor 187 Dandenong Road Windsor, VIC 3181

Name: ________________________________
Maiden name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
Suburb: ________________________________
State: ________________________________ Postcode: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________ Mobile: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________

Year left PCW + final year level (eg 2006/Year 12): ________________________________

Class of (reunion year can differ if you left prior to the end of year 12): ________________________________

Brief list of school achievements: I.e.: Completed Matriculation, Completed VCE, School Music Captain

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Qualifications: ________________________________

Current Profession: ________________________________

Previous Profession: ________________________________
Brief statement about your career and life projects (with the view to possible mentoring or being involved with school/alumnae promotion)

__________________________________________________________________________

☐ I am interested in attending PCW Alumnae Reunions
☐ I am interested in helping organise year level reunions
☐ I am interested in mentoring
☐ I am interested in becoming involved with the voluntary Past Pupils Committee
☐ I am interested in helping with the PCW Archives
☐ I am interested in helping out in some other way...maybe you have some other experience, or maybe you could run the new face book page or you have some fresh ideas...we would love to hear from. Please list below:

__________________________________________________________________________

☐ I am interested in being contacted to discuss bequests to the College

Please become a PCW Alumnae Life Member today!

Complete the following information and return to us.

Please find enclosed my payment of $100 to become a PCW Alumnae Life Member

☐ Cheque: payable to Presentation College Windsor

Presentation College Windsor – Credit Card Payment Authority

Name on Card: __________________________

Card Type: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Credit Card Number: __________________________

Expiration: ☐ ☐

☐ Please charge $___________ to my credit card to become a PCW Alumnae Life Member

Signature: __________________________
If you would like to purchase any of the above items please don’t hesitate to contact Trish on 8517.27054 or office@pcw.vic.edu.au and she will organise to send you your items.