



DAMASCUS COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 2012

# The Road

## Strengthening our ties with Timor-Leste

In recent years, Damascus College has been consolidating its relationship with Timor-Leste (East Timor) since it formally began in 2005 through the Ballarat Friends of Ainaro Sister Schools Program.

In 2011, Damascus ran its inaugural Immersion Program to Timor-Leste for a group of Year 11 students. In June 2012, seven students took part in the second annual Immersion Program along with three staff members.

Students wishing to take part in the program apply during Term 3 of the preceding year and once accepted, commence planning and fundraising for the following year. In 2011 and then again in 2012, the Timor-Leste immersion students raised approximately \$11,000 which was then donated to various organisations within Timor-Leste. On both occasions, our sister school in Ainaro, Santa Maria College, was the major beneficiary.

The goals of the Immersion experience include consideration of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. On the last night in Dili at the Carmelite Sisters, the 2012 Immersion Team shared the following profound reflections of their experiences in Timor-Leste.

### Human Dignity

*No matter what the situation, there was always an optimistic attitude to the human person. Whether they were living in a small house with a family of 11 or walking 1 ½ hours to school every day or burying a relative, the people of Ainaro showed us a hopeful image of human life.*

### Community and the Common Good

*The community in Ainaro feels like a huge family. From the second you arrive you are automatically a part of it. Wherever you go, every person you meet*

*says bon dia (good morning) or botarde (good afternoon) or bonoite (good evening). The students at Santa Maria understand what Damascus College's friendship means for their school. In a country rebuilding from war, instability and occupation, our friendship helps improve the facilities for the students who attend Santa Maria.*

### Options for the poor and vulnerable

*It seems that, in comparison to Australia, Timor-Leste has few government programs for the poorest members of society. We met many groups and individuals that each seem to be helping in some way. Sister Mary Anne Dwyer RSM stands out as she is clearly making an effort to find those people who are being 'missed'. For example, she visits people too sick to come to Mass and elderly people who have generally been forgotten. She tries her best to respond to their immediate needs.*

# Timor-Leste

## Rights and Responsibilities

*In Timor-Leste, we witnessed many people stepping up and taking on responsibilities; families selling livestock and produce at markets to provide a small income for what can be a large family; small children looking after younger siblings; and family members stepping up to take care of children that have lost parents. We also witnessed many people being deprived of basic human rights including a lack of clean water and sanitation.*

## Solidarity

*The locals in Ainaro rely on relationships to get them through the day. Whether at school, at Church, on the street or amongst their friendly welcoming homes, they seem to care more about other people than they do for themselves. They are always willing to share and to treat other people well, especially those from other countries. They were particularly welcoming to the strangers from Damascus College. Daily we enjoyed meals that would ordinarily be reserved for special occasions. We were made to feel important - a part of the town. It was a joy to be there.*

The trip to Timor-Leste is an eye-opening experience for those students who take part. Planning is now underway for the 2013 Immersion Program, which nine students have already been accepted to participate in. If you would like to make a donation to the people of Timor-Leste, please refer to the final page of this publication for details on how to do so.

## DAMASCUS STUDENT STARS IN TIMOR-LESTE'S FIRST FILM

Damascus College past student, Jose De Costa (1999) is featuring in East Timor's first feature film, *Beatrice's War (A Guerra da Beatriz)*. The film is written, performed and directed by East Timorese nationals and it is also the first written in their language - Tetum.

Jose escaped to Australia in 1995, was granted refugee status and settled in Melbourne. After completing his VCE at Damascus, Jose studied arts and education at ACU's Ballarat Campus. In 2004, the year he graduated and two years after East Timor was recognised as an independent nation, Jose returned to Dili.

While *Beatrice's War* is a first for the fledgling Dili Film Works, the cast and crew have been assisted by Australia's FairTrade Films. Jose and Timorese director, Bety Reis, are being mentored by Melbourne director Luigi Acquisto and his wife, film producer Stella Zammataro.

Jose also had a small part in the 2009 movie *Balibo*, about the execution of five Australian journalists in 1975, and a part in the ABC telemovie *Answered by Fire*.

## BROTHER FRANK HENNESSY IN TIMOR-LESTE

The Christian Brothers have been in Timor-Leste for thirteen years. Their pioneer Brother, Br Dan Courtney died in July this year after complications following a motor bike accident in Timor. Brothers Peter Coe and Frank Hennessy (Principal at St Paul's from 1983-1990) were asked to go to Timor in March to continue his valuable work. The Christian Brothers support three primary schools and eight pre-primary centres in the sub-District of Railaco, catering for nearly five hundred children across five villages.

Brother Frank met with the Damascus College Immersion Group at the end of their time in Timor and was very impressed with the students' outlook and experience.

Br Frank wrote: *"We are so appreciative of the donation that the school left with us through the group. Our initial assistance to the family [pictured] was to provide a bag of rice, five litres of oil and some clothing which are essential items."*

You are invited to attend an evening with Br Hennessy at Damascus College at 7pm on March 15, 2013.

Photo Above: Burnt out home of the family (mother, father and 11 children) that the Christian Brothers are supporting with the Damascus funds.  
Photo Front Cover: Year 11 student Patrick Ryan with East Timorese boy.





## A NEW LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE FOR THE COLLEGE

Following a comprehensive review undertaken in 2011/2012, Damascus is introducing a new staff leadership structure commencing in 2013. Of particular note, the College has created three Assistant Principal positions in each of the following areas: Catholic School Culture, Learning and Teaching, and Student Wellbeing. After a rigorous recruitment process, Damascus is pleased to announce the following appointments to these positions.



AP Catholic School Culture  
Mr Tony Haintz



AP Learning & Teaching  
Mr Nick Yandell



AP Student Wellbeing  
Mrs Jo-Anne Kennedy

These three staff members will be part of the College's Leadership Team, along with the Principal, Deputy Principal, Business Manager and Development Officer and will play a crucial role in the strategic leadership of the College.

Another major change to the leadership structure is the creation of a Professional Practice Team, comprising three staff members. These three Professional Practice Team Leaders will work with their fellow teachers to enhance contemporary learning and teaching practices throughout the College. The College congratulates Rod Mathews, Greg Dow and Donnie Davidson for their appointments to this team.

The leadership of the House system will also change as of 2013. Previously there were two House Leaders in each House, however this will now change to one House Leader and one Assistant House Leader per House. The four appointed House Leaders are Andrew Robertson, Sallie Burke-Muller, Ann Kane and Daniel Jans. The four Assistant House Leaders are Matthew Hallowell, Mark Holland, Nicole Burness and Hannah Keating. The House Leaders play a critical role in pastoral care at the College and report directly to the Assistant Principal of Student Wellbeing. The Assistant House Leaders will assume primary responsibility for the organisation of House events and activities.

The College has also appointed a number of other positions of leadership, and we congratulate all of the following staff members on their new appointments.

### Learning Area Leaders

Arts	Amie Bird
English	Patricia Rowe
H&PE	Glenn Jessup
Humanities	Gerard Macklin
LOTE	Maureen Myers
Maths	Andrea Carter
Science	Ivanka Saric
Technology	Matthew Allan
RE	Martin Ryan

### Sports Co-ordinator

Matthew Rea

### Liturgy & Retreat Co-ordinator

Rachel Wallbank

### Applied Learning Co-ordinator

Carmel Russell

### Special Needs Co-ordinator

Gail Petrie

### Leader of School Organisation

Melissa McLoughlin

### Performing Arts Co-ordinators

Andrew Seeary & Vicki Rowe

### VCE Co-ordinator

Peter Sartori

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

### 2013 College Captains

Jordan Holloway & Elle-Louise Smith



# 'Annie' the Musical



In July 2012, Damascus added yet another page to its significant history of school productions with its musical 'Annie'. The popular musical first opened on Broadway in 1977 and has been a timeless classic ever since. 'Annie' tells the story of the spirited and mischievous orphan Annie who sets about trying to locate her real parents and along the way, finds herself living with a millionaire who pledges to help her.

Over fifty students participated in this year's musical, with the cast being headed up by two sisters. Year 9 student Annie Nankivell played the aptly named 'Annie' and her older sister Zoe (Year 12) played her stage nemesis, the orphanage matron 'Miss Hannigan'. Annie and Zoe delighted audiences with their well-portrayed characters and strong vocals. The girls were incredibly well supported by a stunning cast, who kept the audience entertained and engaged throughout the performance.

Months of hard work and effort had gone into preparing the show, and this was evident in all facets of the production. The sets transformed the College auditorium, the orchestra performed the score beautifully, the students sang and danced and added their own flare to the characters and even Mollie the dog (playing Sandy) did as she was told on cue. 'Annie' was performed to five sold out shows as well as a primary school performance and the smiles and chatter of the audience members at interval demonstrated how thoroughly they were enjoying the show.

Now that the stage has been packed down after yet another fantastic Damascus production, the Performing Arts team are already dreaming of what lies around the corner in 2013.





# Major Works Continue

Many have walked the halls of the building now known as Building 4; the classroom block that stands tall above the undercroft. Until recently, the parquetty floors and the pale green lockers reminded us of the generations of students that had caught up with friends and scrambled to their classrooms through these hallways, and then endured countless long hot afternoons as the sun streamed in through the vast face of northern windows. The time has come though to farewell the aging interior of Building 4 and in September this year, major works began on the refurbishment of what is now the Year 7 and 8 wing of classrooms. By mid 2013, students will enjoy brand new, climate controlled, flexible learning spaces similar to those in Building 7, the newest building at Damascus which opened in May 2012. An entry point from the first floor of the building to the northern lawn will be opened up via a large exterior staircase and disability access will be provided by a lift accessible from the courtyard. The renovation of Building 4 marks the end of a major capital improvement program that has been running at the College for several years, a program which was required for the consolidation to one campus. It's an exciting new era for Damascus and we welcome past students and families to come and visit the College when next in the area.



Building 4 hallway, before refurbishment commenced.



Building 4 part way through refurbishment.

Building 7 Exterior, opened in May 2012.



Building 7 Interior.



## OUR ROAD TO DAMASCUS

By Marie Davey RSM

When I was asked to reflect on the transition from Sacred Heart College to Damascus College, I realised that our Year 12 students exiting this year would be the final group who have been in this world for the entire life of Damascus College. Most were born in 1994, so as their parents were preparing for their entry into this world, we as a school community were awaiting the 'birth' of the new College. And so we have travelled the last 18 years in parallel. What growth we've seen in both the students and the College during this time!

As the students have gone through stages of growth, as they have sought to form their unique identity, so too has the College. As the students have made changes to their physical appearance, so too has the College. I won't keep trying to make comparisons but suffice to say that both the young people and Damascus have come a long way to develop the identity that they have today.

Thinking back to 1994 I was part of the Sacred Heart College community as we prepared for the amalgamation of Sacred Heart, St Paul's and St Martin's in the Pines to form Damascus College in 1995. The photo overleaf shows part of our ritual of the girls bringing the library to the new site. I'm sure there were mixed feelings at that stage – some excitement at moving onto something new in the co-educational College but also some uncertainty in leaving behind the familiar and moving into the unknown – not being quite sure how we would be received.

There is a very strong connection with the scripture story of Paul on the road to Damascus – many of our memorable moments seem to be 'on the road'. Some of you would remember our final Mass at the end of 1994 when we stopped the traffic in Victoria St to process to St Alipius for the last time (and "Pie Jesu" which was so beautifully sung by Bree Horwood and Olivia Eckel on that occasion). We were again 'on the road' with our library books from SHC to St Paul's on the last day of 1994 – that was of course after our road trip to Luna Park to celebrate the end of the era in a different way. Then two years ago, another road journey as we moved to one campus at Mt Clear.

For many who had been part of Sacred Heart College in the preceding years there was a sense of grief that it was to be no more. The spirit that was part of Sacred Heart had to find its new shape in the new College. That first year had its difficulties. I'm sure the St Paul's community had some sense of being overtaken as the girls joined the community, and the work of integrating into one College took much give and take on the part of all. On the St Martin's site, the thought of 'young' Year 10's joining them was faced with some trepidation.

However we all survived – in fact thrived! In the subsequent years of Damascus College we have had much to be proud of. The community worked hard to build its own identity. As the only Catholic co-educational secondary college in Ballarat we offered a unique culture and the opportunity of choice for families in the area.

Our liturgical celebrations are an important focus – with the opening of the school year and the Damascus Day liturgies being the major ones involving the whole school community. From the early years when we moved to outside venues – first outdoors on the slopes at Mt Clear, then the Regent Theatre and the Minerdome – we progressed to converting our own John Shannon Centre into our Church for the occasions. An enormous amount of preparation goes into these celebrations and it is only with the involvement of all that we are able to experience memorable liturgy on these occasions.

Our involvement in Social Justice has always been a focal point of the College and in recent years this has reached a new level with the introduction of the East Timor Immersion Program. The values that the College espouses are the values that have been so strong in the foundation Colleges.

Our students are proud to be members of Damascus College and as such they move on from the College with the determination to make a difference in the future wherever they find themselves. Many of our students are the sons and daughters of past students of Sacred Heart, St Paul's and St Martin's. It is great to see these old collegians embracing Damascus College for their own children and so keeping our traditional spirit alive in the community.

And so, with eighteen years behind us, we are Damascus College. Past students of Sacred Heart College, St Paul's College, St Martin's in the Pines and of course Damascus College, are always welcome to visit us to see the many physical changes that have taken place on the old St Martin's site and to experience who we are today.





Photo: Sacred Heart students walk the road to Damascus, 1994.

## *A FOND FAREWELL*

By Anna Haintz, School Captain 2012

As my time at secondary school draws to a close, I recognise that Damascus College has forever instilled in me the value of Justice, especially as I tackle whatever lies ahead in my life after school.

Before starting at Damascus I had no aspirations to leave Australia. In fact, all the way up to year 10 I had planned to go straight to university, foregoing any travel plans or GAP year because I wanted to save money. But after hearing about the East Timor Immersion Program, and after heading to Timor with the school in 2011, my ideals on life and my goals changed direction. Before the Immersion I had no idea I would be planning my life after school based upon returning to Ainara to visit the Damascus sister school Santa Maria College. I now find myself with my bags already half packed, eagerly awaiting my return journey in June 2013.

Being involved in many aspects of the College has enabled me to interact with many different students in the various year levels. Bringing the campuses together as one has given all the students the chance to learn from others especially in the Teacher Advisor (TA) system. Each morning I go to TA and walk out after having a laugh with the year seven to nine boys up the back, listening to the stories of the drama kids near the front and hearing about the many talented achievements of the students in my TA group. I always depart my TA in high spirits and ready for the day.

Leaving this welcoming atmosphere and interacting with hundreds of different people every day is what I dread most about finishing school. The respect I receive from the staff and students just when passing them in the courtyard or walking to my next class puts the spring in my step and is something I will never take for granted.

As the end draws near I will always take the memories of Damascus with me. It is going to be hard to leave the school which has given me so much, but I feel I can leave knowing I gave it my all and I look forward to what lies ahead.

# Speed Date a Scientist

In May this year, some of our past students and parents volunteered their time to speak with our Year 9 students and hopefully inspired them to consider careers in science, medicine, allied health or engineering. The students greatly enjoyed 'speed dating' a wide range of scientists at the Science Careers Expo.

A special thank you is extended to the following speakers for their participation. Other speakers also came from our local community.

- Liz Delbridge nee Green (1991), Science Hons, MA, PhD in Dietetics, Medical Liaison
- Michelle Bourke nee Vanderkley (2003), Nursing Student
- Stephanie Davison, Science in schools co-ordinator, Ex-Science Teacher
- Leonard Izzard, Research assistant, CSIRO Animal Health Lab, Molecular Biology PhD (husband of Marissa McCaw, 2001)
- Rachael Heinrich, Nurse
- Colin Smith (1996) Senior Product Development Engineer at Ford
- Elise Torrington (2004) Psychologist
- Stephen Carey (parent) Geologist
- Marissa Izzard nee McCaw (2001) Hospital Pharmacist, Asthma Educator, Smoking Cessation Counsellor
- Barbara Kelderman (current staff member) Industrial Chemist, Laboratory Technician
- Rosie Grundel, Ecologist
- Claire Stewart, Speech pathologist
- Therese O'Loughlin (1969) Nurse, Midwife, Bachelor of Science



Photo: Therese O'Loughlin speaking to students at the Science Careers Expo.

**If you would like to participate in the Year 9 'Speed Date a Scientist' Careers Expo in 2013 please contact Ivanka Saric via email on [i.saric@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:i.saric@damascus.vic.edu.au)**



Photo features Therese O' Loughlin (at rear, right) with her science class in the original science rooms at St Martin's in the Pines. Other known students present are Georgia Dacakis, Ann Balson, Helen Cassidy, Helen Nolen, Moira Stewart and their teacher Sr Genevieve.



## PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS CATCH UP AT UNIVERSITY IN MELBOURNE

Taking up the wish of the St Martin's in the Pines Association to support the transition of Damascus College students to universities in Melbourne, Yvette Nesire-McNeil developed a University Visit excursion which took place in August.

The class of 2012 was first introduced to the excursion in late May when past students Elise Torrington (2004) and Marissa McCaw (2001) shared their university experience with the group. The students were then asked to express their interest in going on the excursion by outlining their career aspirations and study plans for 2013.

Wednesday 1st August finally arrived and Mr Adrian Newman VCE Coordinator and senior maths teacher Mrs Catriona Sexton, accompanied thirty three year 12 students on an excursion to visit three universities in Melbourne.

Damascus College past students currently studying at Latrobe University, Emma Hoban (2008) and Carla Auchetl (2008), together with Georgia Dacakis (1970) lecturer in Human Communication Sciences at La Trobe University met the group for a tour of the campus and accommodation facilities. *"It was great to talk to past students, as they gave a deeper insight into life as a uni student and explained social and living arrangements at universities, not just the educational side that we hear the most about"* reported Yr 12 student Morgan Peterken.

After lunch in the university cafeteria, the group travelled to RMIT in the city for a small group Campus Challenge. *"Allowing us to explore a campus such as at RMIT in small groups was really useful as it allowed me to really get a feel for what life would be like as a student there"* commented Year 12 student Stephanie Sanders.

At Melbourne University, Pauline Nunan (1969), International Student Admissions Manager and Alyce McPhail (2009), greeted the group and experienced a session with the recruitment officer Kylie Skinner.

Catriona Sexton proudly reported that *"the students made the most of this valuable opportunity. The final session at Melbourne University saw them, at the end of a long day, highly engaged and asking pertinent questions about future possibilities. They gained a great deal of insight into course structures and breadth as well as rural student access. The recruitment officer thanked the students for their sustained interest and engagement."*

The past student contribution to this excursion was invaluable and student Daniel Grimes summed up the overall success of the day. *"Each university had its own 'vibe'. Picking up on each uni's essence helped us be able to assess which ones we would consider going to. The day was really worth it. The past student anecdotes showed us that Damascus students have the potential to go anywhere."*

The excursion ended with an evening meal in Lygon Street, one of the enduring pleasures of university life in Melbourne!

Back: Hayley Johnstone, Anna Farrelly-Rosch, Anna Haintz, Carla Auchitel (2008), Emma Hoban (2008), Ashley Deppler, Zoe Nankivell. Front: Joshua Darby.



Hannah Irving, Pauline Nunan (1969), Madeleine Staub.



# Looking Back & Leaping Forward

## A LITTLE PIECE OF OUR HISTORY

This photo shows Mr Tim Fletcher, father of Jason Fletcher (1988) helping to construct the stairs leading down towards the original classroom building at St Martin's in the Pines in around 1966/67. These steps now lead down to the undercroft.

Tim has many family connections with Damascus College:

His son Jason (1988) was the first member of the family to attend St Martin's/Damascus, during the first year that boys attended the Mount Clear campus full time.

Tim's grandsons Dylan and Tyler also attended Damascus College.

Dylan Giles (2004) is marrying Celeste White later this year

Tyler Giles (2006) now owns his own successful tiling business.



## LEAP OF FAITH

By Kim Anderson (1997)

Charcoal on paper, 2009

Damascus College recently purchased 'Leap of Faith', created by Kim Anderson (1997). The artwork will hang in the newest Damascus College classroom wing, Building 7, opened in May 2012.

### ARTIST STATEMENT

By Kim Anderson

*You are on the brink, just one step further over the cliff and you are free-falling into the void. Competing emotions of exhilaration and terror battle it out inside you – you just have to trust that things will be okay. If you remain behind on that cliff top you will never grow and change, this new step into the unknown can only be for the better. No matter what hardships or challenges you may face, you will ultimately become so much wiser and more enriched for the experience, and also learn just how much you are capable of.*

*Leap of Faith was completed in 2009 during an Australia Council International Studio Residency in Rome, Italy, and is based upon a sculpture titled Lux Mundi by Alfiero Nena located in Basilica di Santa Maria del Popolo. (Lux Mundi means 'light of the world', which correlates directly with Damascus' motto 'To live by the light of Christ'.) I was fascinated by this tortured, emaciated body of Jesus, every muscle visible and taut with suffering, and returned repeatedly to draw the sculpture from differing angles. I decided I wanted to create a piece that finally freed him from his cross, showing him from a different, more positive perspective. I want this drawing to create a sense of hope – the empty space is just as significant as the figure itself, full of endless possibility. Take that leap of faith, go forward, and be your own light onto the world.*





Damascus College and Sacred Heart College past students, Rachael Peterken nee Britt (SHC), Karl Britt (DC 1995) and Gina Britt (DC 1998), along with Rachael's husband Troy, started bottling their own range of milk under the Inglenook Dairy label in December 2011, at their family farm in Dunnstown. Since then, Inglenook Dairy has received an overwhelming response from the media, featuring in The Age, Epicure, the Herald Sun, Stock and Land, Ten News, The Project, Landline, The Courier, Ballarat Lifestyle Magazine and Southern Rural News.

The Britt family has been farming in the Dunnstown area since 1830, but after 13 years of drought and poor milk prices, they could no longer make a living off the farm unless something changed.

Inglenook means 'cosy corner' and was named by grandmother Margaret Britt who started the dairy with only six cows and a bull given to her by her brother in Colac after the family home was burnt to the ground. The six cows and bull were driven by foot from Colac to Dunnstown. Margaret's son Basil took over the farm when he was 18 years old and at that time had only twenty cows that often grazed on the roadside. Basil Britt bought and sold many acres of land over the next 50 years and has now grown the herd to over 250 cows which are milked twice daily and run on 1000 acres.



Photo: Troy Peterken, wife Rachael and her siblings Gina and Karl Britt at Inglenook Dairy. Photo: Richard Cornish.

It was this kind of determination that led to the current generation of Britt's deciding to pull together to ensure their future. They did not want to be the last to farm the valley's green, rolling paddocks. Inglenook Dairy had to make the tough decision to either pull out of dairying or take a risky step and bottle its own product.

Rachael's husband Troy spent many hours researching the idea so as to make an informed decision on whether or not to take the plunge. But once the decision was made it was all systems go. Troy designed the factory, and managed the whole project from start to finish; designing, building and commissioning the factory. As funds were tight, they had to do most of the work themselves. Under the careful guidance of Troy they dug trenches, ran cables, laid pipes, constructed the shed and undertook numerous other tasks that they had never done before.

After two years the project was at last completed and the first bottle of Inglenook Dairy milk was available for sale on December 8, 2011.

The Britt family have certainly become a very effective team. Karl is a natural-born farmer, Troy is a trained chef, electrician, mechanic and manager of the project, Rachael is the company administrator and Gina's skills in sales and business have ensured successful marketing of the dairy. Basil still milks the 250-head Holstein herd. Sheila (mother of Rachael, Gina and Karl) was involved in the colour and design of the logo and their sister Nicole MacDonald and her husband Nathan MacDonald, a qualified electrician, also help manage the farm.

Rachael admits that the project has had its ups and downs but says that all in all it was a wonderful, challenging experience. Troy had always said the whole way through that 'anything is possible' and although they sometimes doubted him, they all had an amazing belief in his abilities and expertise.

Inglenook Dairy milk has been on the shelves of selected IGA's since last December. It is also used in Melbourne cafes and restaurants and sold at farmers markets in Melbourne and regional centres. The family produces additive free and permeate free full cream homogenised, full cream unhomogenised and low-fat unhomogenised milk and will soon be making cream.

As Rachael says: *"The moral of this story is that with a lot of hard work and even more self belief you can achieve anything, just dream big and always believe 'Anything is possible'."*

For a full list of retailers that stock Inglenook Dairy products go to: [www.inglenookdairy.com.au](http://www.inglenookdairy.com.au)

# All Roads Lead to Racetracks



All I ever wanted to do was either race cars or work on them for a living.

After choosing every single unit of woodwork, graphics and metalwork possible during my last couple of years at school, I began a 4 year fitting and turning apprenticeship at Bendix. These types of classes have certainly helped get me to where I am today.

After driving up and back to Melbourne and going to a few race meetings for a lower budget V8 supercar team during my apprenticeship, I was lucky to get early release halfway through the 4th year of my apprenticeship. So I moved straight down to Melbourne where I finally landed a full time job working on a V8 supercar with the same team that I had put all the hundreds of hours volunteering with over the previous year or so. I put my head down and learned everything I could from machining parts to changing tyres in high pressure and sometimes dangerous pit stops.

This led me to a job with the top of the line Garry Rogers motorsport operation in Glen Waverley working on their lead car which was driven by Garth Tander at the time, with current champ Jamie Whincup being our teammate that year. I then moved to the sub assembly area building rear ends, gearboxes and rebuilding most other moving parts on the cars. That year I also worked on the Holden Monaros and worked with my childhood hero Peter Brock. I was in awe of the man and what he achieved in his life.

After learning from some of the best guys in the business I then took another massive punt and went to work for a team in the USA for about 4 months in 2005 and I have been back there every year since then, racing between 80-100 nights per year and seeing 40 of the 50 states in the USA and a lot of Canada also.

Since 2010 I have been part of a championship winning team on the World of Outlaws working for Jason Meyers. It was pretty surreal knowing that I was part of a 3 man team that had just beaten the best in the world, like Steve Kinser, that I had watched on video as a kid.

After moving back home in August last year I had my first opportunity to become a crew chief. After doing all the hard yards over the last few years my dream had come true to run my own race team for a guy based out of Kalgoorlie. He employs me and a 22 year old driver named James McFadden. We were lucky enough last summer to have had a great year and won the biggest series in Australia (world series sprintcars) and many other races in our first year together, so it has been awesome.

Our boss has been so happy with our progress already that he sent us both to the USA this year to take on the best in the world, doing 30 nights of racing in 8 weeks from June to August. Yet another dream come true for me!

My motto in life has been "If you want to do it bad enough you will make it happen". I have been lucky enough to achieve everything I have set out to do so far in my life and see the other side of the world while getting paid to do what I love doing.

By Glen Beaton (1997)



**Therese Reddan Lew nee Reddan**, a student at Sacred Heart College and then St Martin's from 1965-1970, graduated in 1970 now lives in Kentucky, USA, and is married with three sons.

**Marie-José Arnts (1970)** is nowadays happy to be called Mary-Jo. She works for a Federal politician, Hon. Bruce Billson MP.

**Ron Geurts (SP 1970)** now works at IXL Metal Castings, a ferrous foundry in Geelong. The IXL foundry is part of the 154 year-old Backwell family company. Many families in the Western District would have had an IXL slow combustion wood burning stove in their kitchen.

**Kerryn Monger nee Poynton (1978)** works as a chaplain in an aged care facility in Yanchep, a northern suburb of Perth. She is enjoying this challenging, but rewarding work, providing spiritual and emotional support as people approach their final years. Kerryn has four adult children, three of whom are living at home while they study at university.

**William McMahon (1978/79)** now lives in Brisbane. He is grateful for the breadth of experience gained at St Paul's and considers it to be the genesis of his career as a multi media artist and furniture maker.

**Claire Leach nee Slocombe (1991)** has worked in the social work system for over 15 years, and is currently teaching at the University of Ballarat at a Cert IV and Diploma level (Disability). Claire is establishing her training and consulting business, A&C Leach Consulting, supporting and training those who provide support for people with a disability.

**Romarna Dichiera (1991)** is currently living in Perth and recently graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Western Australia. She will undertake her internship at Fremantle Hospital in 2013.

**Kelly Barber nee Wheaton (1992)** is married with two girls (4 and 2).

**Jason Blackburn (1998)** has moved to Sydney Olympic Park to look after an Ibis, Novotel and a Pullman Hotel.

**Susan Malthouse (1998)** is currently ministering to the Altona Meadows/Laverton Uniting Church congregation in Melbourne.

**Jane Fenelon (2000)** has a post-doctoral placement at the University of Montreal for two years.

**Emma Jeffreys (2001)** has completed a Masters in Communication at RMIT and is currently working for the MS Society and Deakin University as a tutor. Emma married Michael Bennett in September 2011 in Barwon Heads.

**Jane Louise Sawkins (2001)** has been serving in the RAAF over the last 10 years and is now located in Queensland.

**Lana Stapleton (2002)** loves teaching Grade 3/4 at Napoleons Primary School.

**Nicki Fenelon (2003)** has graduated from the University of Perth (Master of Psychology-Education and Developmental Psychology). Nicki is engaged to Joshua Wilson (2003).

**Coby Reynolds (2005)** is living overseas and has been teaching for two years at the Victorian International School of Sharjah (VISS), Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

**Anna Martin (2006)** graduated from the University of Ballarat with the Diploma of Nursing in May 2012

**Rachael Sedgwick (2006)** graduated from the University of Ballarat with a Bachelor of Nursing in May 2012.

**Tahlia Plucke (2010)** completed a Diploma in Makeup and Special Effects and is currently living in Sydney, working in a salon in Bondi Junction doing hairdressing and makeup.

**Jaspreet Uppal (2010)** is currently studying Architecture at Deakin in Geelong.

# Chance Sightings

**Sr Anne Gargan**, teacher at Damascus College, St Alipius, St James and Our Lady Help of Christians, caught up with former Geelong Football Club president Mr Frank Costa when he visited the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Ballarat East. Sr Anne has supported the Cats since she was born 97 years ago. *Ballarat Courier* March 20, 2012.



**Maurice O'Keefe (1968)** closed his car yard in Howitt St to begin work as a real estate agent with Lydiard St firm GSRE. [www.gsre.com.au](http://www.gsre.com.au)



**Judith Sullivan's (SHC)** exhibition of paintings and drawings "Between the Lines" was held at MADE Gallery in Daylesford during the month of September. The exhibition was opened by Mary Darcy and attended by family and friends including Geradine Cooney.

**Anne McGuane nee Taffe (1990)** represented Damascus College as a guest speaker at the Eureka Dinner at the Alexandria on Lydiard St on September 5. Anne shared her personal story and recognised the contribution that the supporting community provided in her formative years. Anne currently works as a General Practitioner Obstetrician in Colac.

**Beth McDonald (1991)** featured in the *Ballarat Extra's* report on Uniting Care's Youth Residential Withdrawal Unit called Tabor House. Beth is a drug and alcohol worker at Tabor House working with young people aged from 12 to 21 years. *Ballarat Courier* March 31, 2012.

**Megan Jenkins (1997)** Super Food Ideas magazine named Megan's lamb and potato dumpling pie "Australia's Best Pie" in a national competition. Megan was featured in the *Ballarat Courier* and interviewed on ABC local radio.

**Jose De Costa (1999)** is featuring in East Timor's first film, *Beatrice's War (A Guerra da Beatriz)*. This film is written, performed and directed by East Timorese nationals, and it is also the first written in their language - Tetum. Jose also had a part in the 2009 movie *Balibo*, about the execution of five Australian journalists in 1975, and a part in the ABC telemovie *Answered by Fire*.

**Kelly Louise Warner (1999)** is enjoying her work as an events and wedding planner and was featured in the *Ballarat Courier* on October 2. You can find her at "Exquisite Events by Kelly" on facebook.

**Matt Gallagher (Yr 8 in 2000)** was one of seven farmers shortlisted for Channel 9's *The Farmer Wants a Wife*.

**Matt Begbie (2000)** delivered premiership success to Melbourne cricket club in Victoria's highest level cricket competition when he notched up 151 runs and was named man of the match. *Ballarat Courier* April 2, 2012

Damascus College was proud to invite **Anna Martin (2001)** as guest speaker at the dinner to launch Catholic Education Week 2012. Anna now works for Minter Ellison as a criminal lawyer after studying Arts Law at Melbourne University. Anna has worked with prisoners on death row, awaiting execution in Texas and is the vice president of Australians Against Capital Punishment. Anna has also done voluntary legal work for the International War Tribunal on the massacres within Rwanda. At Minter Ellison she continues to support Melbourne's homeless through pro-bono work. There was a feeling of great pride amongst those who were associated with our College to be present to listen to Anna talk with such enthusiasm for her education, her teachers and the means by which she was engaged at school.

**Jared (2002) and Bryce Spratling (2005)** have launched their clothing label "Jungle Justice" which was featured in the "In the Closet" section of the *Ballarat Courier* on October 6. Search for them on facebook to have a look at their styles.

**Ryan Spiteri (2003)** won two gold medals at the Para-Cycling Road National Championships. After a car accident ten years ago Ryan's rehabilitation led him to join the Ballarat-Sebastopol Cycling Club about two years ago and he enjoys training in Buninyong and Warrenheip. He formed a partnership with Cycle City to help step up his cycling and join national ranks. As the only C2-classified rider in Australia, Ryan competed against faster C3 rivals in the road race and time trial on Queensland's Sunshine Coast. We wish Ryan well as he pursues para-cycling success in the future. *Ballarat Courier* April 24, 2012. Ryan also won a bronze medal in the Restaurant Service Division of World Skills in Sydney in August.





**Darran Delaney (2003)** was reported as the winner of a Riding Develops Ability Victoria dressage competition with his horse Troy. Darran completed against ten other riders statewide in this unique event. Ballarat News. September 12, 2012.

**Ashlea Milne (2004)** was featured in the Ballarat Courier July 21 as event coordinator for the Clunes netball and football club. The club is raising money to restore the buildings and grounds after extensive damage in the 2010 and 2011 floods.

**Shane Zammit (2004)** was featured on the front page of the Ballarat Courier's Agriculture supplement for 2012. Other past students featured included Martin Gleeson (1997), livestock sales and auctioneer at Elders Ballarat and Sarah Conroy (2011), student at Longrenong College.

**Trudi Armstrong (2007)** received the University of Ballarat's Tafe Durawear Award for Certificate 3 in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery). Trudi was also a competitor at the World Skills National Championships in Sydney in August.

**Kate Ferguson's (2007)** journey since school was featured in the Ballarat Courier "My Essentials" June 9, 2012. Kate studied Bowen Therapy, Reiki and Medicinal Terminology before opening her Blue Rose Bowen Therapy clinic in Ballarat.

Congratulations go to **Chris Cvirn (2008)**, now a Buninyong carpenter who won the Master Builders Association regional apprentice of the year award. Chris was inspired by his father to enter the trade and started off in a school based apprenticeship.

Ballarat Arts Foundation Made in Ballarat production entitled "Anything You Can Do", at Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat on June 24 featured Damascus College past students; **Bridget Davies (2007)** third year classical voice at the Melbourne Conservatorium, **Jessica de Vries (2011)** awarded Best Young Drummer of the Year and first year music student in Geelong, and **Dylan Licastro (2008)** third year musical theatre student, vocal artist and singing teacher in Ballarat.

**Jess de Vries (2011)** now a music student at Geelong's Oxygen College, appeared in the Geelong advertiser on April 30 2012 after making her way into a world-wide competition for female drummers. The female-only internet event attracted 350 drummers from around the globe. Competitors sent videos of themselves performing and music fans were invited to log on and vote for their favourite drummer. The website reached ten million page views and averaged 12,000 hits a day. Jess De Vries was among the fifteen finalists. Jess also appeared in an all girl band with singer Natasha Duarte on Channel 9's TODAY show on May 10, 2012.

**Alex Gay (2011)** was accepted into the VCE Top Arts exhibition for his dramatic solo presentation for the end of year performance exam. Top Arts is an exhibition that showcases excellence in both the performing and visual arts VCE subjects. Damascus College students have been well represented at Top Arts over the years. Damascus College congratulates Alex on being recognised for his exceptional talent and hard work and wishes him well with his future.

**Leon Beaton** current teacher at Damascus College launched his first book "Desire - Connecting with Your Divine Inspiration" at the Mechanics Institute on August 12. This book details how individuals can help refocus their energy and start achieving their goals.

## The following Damascus students featured at the 2012 Ballarat Youth Awards:

**Peter Camilleri (Yr 12 2012)**

**Stephanie Cummings (Yr 10 2012)**

**Jemma Mathers (Yr 12 2012)**

Visual and Design Award Winner

Young Carers Award Winner

Speaker: addressed the large crowd and spoke with passion and commitment in reference to her role as the 2012 City of Ballarat Youth Awards Ambassador.

**Mark Rosentreter (2010)**

**Jayne Crawley (2007)**

**Jessica Bennetts (2007)**

Young Volunteer Award Nominee

Performing Arts Award and Positive Youth Award Nominee

Inspirational Achiever Award nominee and winner of the major City of Ballarat Award 18-25 Years

**Aaron Rivett (2007)**

**Flo Ramanauskas (formally Lorene Whitecross) (1999)**

Eco Warrior Award Winner - Rode Rage (accepted by Aaron)

Youth Support Worker Award Nominee

# Reunions

## CLASS OF 1992 REUNION



Row 1 (L-R): 1. Amanda Steenhuis, Susan Young 2. Melissa Azzopardi, Leatrice Reynolds 3. Andrea Conran, Leanne Prendergast, Damian Faulkner 4. Tammy Moran, Leah Gavan, Karli Werner, Belinda Lance, Michelle Ryan 5. Katie Nestor, Katrina Reus, Maria Rix

Row 2 (L-R): 1. Sheree Van Hees, Lisa Norman 2. Belinda Macdonald, Kate Lavery, Jayne Howard, Amanda Steenhuis, Katrina Mullane, Lisa O'Loughlin 3. Mark Henderson, Susan Roberts 4. Justin Mahar, Melanie Shanahan, Ann Richards 5. Penelope Shields, Latrice Reynolds

Row 3: (L-R): 1. Marcus Walsh, Shay Ryan 2. Natalie Ryan, Nicole Fisher 3. Belinda Macdonald, Sheree Van Hees, Jayne Howard, Kate Lavery 4. Lynelle Jones, Maurice Hanrahan, Rachael Munday 5. Julie O'Brien, Jacinta Frith, Kathleen Rawlins

## ST MARTIN'S SPRING LUNCHEON

Sunday 14 October 2012, at Paris Go Bistro in Carlton

Spring did arrive in Carlton for the St Martin's Luncheon!!! A friendly group of women from across the decades of 'St Micks in the Sticks' enjoyed great French food, excellent company and an inspiring talk from Sr Therese Power who reflected on the personal significance of her time at the College. The raffle of Moët champagne by won by Sr Therese. \$230 was raised at the event.



1. Sr Therese Power 2. Liz Ryan (Ludbrook), Suzanne Considine (Forster) 3. Davis and Pranom Mackenzie, Jo Reidy 4. Lynne Kingston (Dixon) and Anne Murray (Woods) 5. Margaret Polowski, Jo Reidy, Therese O' Loughlin and Georgia Dacakis



# Reunions & Upcoming Events

## CLASS OF 2002 REUNION



Row 1 (L-R): 1. Rachel Kirsteuer, Eleanor Jones 2. Leanne Russell, Laura Bus, Stacey Butler 3. Chloe Pollard, Lauren Mildren, Renae van der Ploeg 4. Melissa Romeo, Tanya Zimmerman 5. Lauren Abson, Maree Landrigan

Row 2 (L-R): 1. Liana Murphy (Shaw), Lana Stapleton, Celeste Nunn (Burns), Kara Jones 2. Timothy Glasson, Josh Auchettl, Grant Shillito, Nick Toohey, Mark Shaw 3. Renee Moran, Rhiannon Frawley 4. Ryley Fry, Grant Shillito, Ash Hughes, Paul Dowler 5. James Torrington, Andrew McClure, Ash Simpson, Adam Talbot, Matt Loader, Anthony Cunningham

Row 3: (L-R): 1. Alana Begbie, Simone Ryan, Corinne Bott, Emily Clarke, Jesika Perovic 2. Dan Purcell, Jayde Fratin, Stacey Butler 3. Naomi Ciezki, Stephen Abbott-Proelss 4. Nicole Tudor, Jenna Gray 5. Alicia Gillett, Jared Spratling, Alana Begbie

## PROPOSED 2013 ALUMNI EVENTS

### PAST STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The planning group meets on the 4th Monday of every month, excluding January, December and school holidays. Please contact Yvette if you would like to be involved.

### BALLARAT ASSOCIATION EVENTS

"Drinks@Seymours" - March 22 and October 18  
 "Night at the Trots" - Date TBC  
 "East Timor Evening" with guest speaker Br Frank Hennessy - March 15 at 7pm

### ST MARTIN'S MELBOURNE ASSOCIATION EVENTS

"Diversity Dinner" - February 16 at the home of Jo Reidy  
 "October Spring Lunch" - October 13 at a Carlton Restaurant

### ST MARTIN'S BALLARAT

St Martin's past students who live in Ballarat will have the opportunity to meet at the home of Mollie Cleary for a "Chat and Cuppa" throughout the year.

### TIMELINES ART EXHIBITION

Damascus College invites our visual arts past students to send in expressions of interest to be involved in the 2013 timelines exhibition to be held Friday 10th May.

### RETIRED STAFF LUNCHEONS

April 24, October 16 and December 4.

### ST PAUL'S

Past Student Lunches are planned for May 6 and August 5.

### ST MARTIN'S 1972: 40 YEAR REUNION

Postponed to Saturday 27 April  
 Campus Tour at 10.45am followed by Lunch at Oscars Hotel and Cafe Bistro at 12.30pm  
 RSVP's and enquiries: [marg.delane@hotmail.com.au](mailto:marg.delane@hotmail.com.au) Marg Delane (Fitzgerald) or [joanne.rix@acu.edu.au](mailto:joanne.rix@acu.edu.au) Joanne Rix (Nunan).

Reunions can also be held for the 1963, 1973, 1983, 1993 and 2003 class groups. Please contact Yvette if you would like to be part of the planning teams. Up to date details of each event will be emailed and posted on the Damascus College Website [www.damascus.vic.edu.au](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au) and the Damascus College Ballarat Alumni Facebook Group Page.

For further enquiries please contact Yvette at [connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au) or ph: (03) 5337 2352.

# In Memory

## **JOHN COLLIER**

St Paul's 1948-50

31/7/1938 - 26/06/2012

John Collier enjoyed an illustrious career as a mining engineer and although his profession took him around the world, he never forgot his roots in Ballarat. He was a very proud student of St Paul's Technical College and was part of the first intake of students in 1948.

After his time at St Paul's, John graduated from the Ballarat School of Mines (SMB) and later studied accounting and business at Melbourne University. He enjoyed a long career in the mining industry and retired as the Chief Executive of Gold and Minerals Product Group Rio Tinto, London. John died on June 26 2012 due to complications from Parkinson's disease. John is survived by his wife Deirdre Collier, six children, eleven grandchildren and his sister Patricia, a past student of Sacred Heart College.

Everyone who met John would soon be drawn into his love of mining. John developed his interest in mining thanks to his grandfather who took him on gold panning explorations around his farm in Clunes.

As one of the many high points in John's career, he was credited with being instrumental in the discovery of the Argyle diamond mine in the Kimberley, and was made a Legend in Mining by the Australian Mining Industry in 2006.

Over the last few years John rekindled his connection with Damascus College, attending the St Paul's annual meal and exhibiting at the Damascus College 2011 Timelines Art Exhibition.

During his life, John had become a passionate painter, holding successful solo exhibitions in Melbourne. Several of his paintings currently hang in the Ballarat Gold Museum and at the University of Ballarat. John often said that St Paul's Technical College was the third leg of his roots in Ballarat and was an important part of his upbringing and history.

John was a great, yet humble and kind man with an explosive vision and love of life. His artwork was bold and rich in colour and symbol. His four hundred paintings have documented his unique experience of the Australian landscape and the history of the mining industry in Australia.

John was a man who loved his family and friends, a man at ease with the rich and poor, at home under the starry nights of the outback or surrounded by the lights of an international city. His creativity shone through his innovation and mining exploration as well as on canvas in his art studio in Melbourne. John Collier was buried at the Bunyip Cemetery following a service at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Hawthorn.

John will be greatly missed and Damascus College is proud to display 'Mixed Minerals' in the science block foyer. John gifted this work to the College shortly before his death.

May he rest in Peace.



**'Mixed Minerals'**

(Silicon Oxide, Aragonite, Copper Silicate, Chrysocolla, Rutile, Amethyst)

**Gift to Damascus College by Artist John Collier  
Past student of St Paul's Technical College (1948-1950)**

## **BR JASON DUCK (OMI)**

St Paul's/St Martin's (1984-89)

24/9/1971 - 14/7/2012

Br Jason Duck was a Seminarian in the Order of Mary Immaculate training to be a Priest, when he passed away peacefully and unexpectedly at St Kieran's Presbytery, Moe, whilst on placement in preparation for taking his final vows in 2013.

In his younger years, Jason played junior football in the Ballarat Football League and started umpiring as a 16-year-old. He went on to join the association's board of directors where he played an important role in recruiting young people to become umpires.

Jason developed a strong commitment to social justice whilst working for the Australian Labor Party as an electorate officer in Geoff Howard's office which shone through all of his future dealings with people.

Jason was a warm, loyal and caring man who showed great perseverance as he worked towards his goal of becoming a Catholic priest.

He went to America in 2011 and worked in New Orleans at the Oblates Parish helping victims after the flood.

The funeral Mass was offered at St John Vianney Catholic Church, Springvale North, on July 25, 2012. We offer our deepest sympathy to his family and the Oblate community.

May he rest in Peace.



## MARRIAGES

**Aleasha Eppingstall (1995)** married Andrew Bartlett on February 11, 2012 at Brim Brim gardens in Buninyong. Aleasha was attended by her brother Todd.

**Michelle Bourke nee Vanderkley (2003)** married Chris Bourke on January 21, 2012.

**Rebecca Meeuwsen (2003)** married Colin Bright in the Malmsbury Gardens on March 17 followed by a reception at Craig's Hotel in Lydiard Street. The bridesmaids, Ashlea Milne (2004) and Carla Dyer (Gittings) (2004) are all former students of Damascus College. Colin's father Graham is a current teacher at Damascus College. The couple had a 6-week honeymoon touring Europe.

**Anastasia Harmes (2004)** married Richard Rebis on March 10, 2012 at a ceremony at Lal Lal Estate. Anastasia was attended by her sisters, Brooke (1998) and Krystal (1999) and her cousin Sophie Caris (2008).

**Miriam Neate (2005)** married Michael Reger, formerly of Chennai, India, at the Pleasant Street Baptist Church, on Saturday 9 June. Miriam is the eldest daughter of Ngaire and David Neate (current staff member). Miriam was attended by school friend Rosemary Webb, Jonathan Neate, Mario Hart (Michael's best friend and best man), Frances Neate (chief bridesmaid) and Michael's sister Belinda. Miriam and Michael will settle in Morphett Vale, South Australia.

## BIRTHS

**Jason Fletcher (1988)** and his wife Terresa welcomed their second daughter into the world in April, Claire.

**Brigid Moloney nee O'Sullivan (1990)** and husband Pat welcomed their son in July, Sullivan.

**Julia Moloney nee Taffe (1995)** and husband Mick had their second daughter in July, Eleanor.

**Andrea Dillon (1995)** and Luke Bennett had their second child in July, Angus.

**Daniel West (1997)** and his wife Carmen welcomed their second child in September, Matilda.

**Trish Heafield nee Dooley (1998)** and husband Andrew had baby number four in September, Connor.

**Kath Boyd nee Darcy (1998)** and husband Luke welcomed their second son in March, Flynn.

**Shannon Doran nee Cuddy (1998)** and husband Aaron had their first child in January, Cooper.

**Mick Ashmore (1998)** and wife Tanya welcomed their second daughter in February, Malina.

**Stacey Anderson nee Reese (2003)** and husband Mark welcomed their first child in February, Taya.

# Fundraising

## RAISING FUNDS FOR EAST TIMOR



You can make a donation to the East Timor fundraising efforts for 2013 by visiting the College's website: [www.damascus.vic.edu.au](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au) or by emailing [info@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@damascus.vic.edu.au)

## STAY IN TOUCH

Damascus now has a facebook page. Keep up to date with news and events by "liking" the facebook page. Past students can also request to join the Damascus College Alumni Group. Simply go to the Damascus facebook page, click on the Alumni tab and request to join. <http://www.facebook.com/DamascusCollege>



## DROP US A LINE

If you have information you would like to share with the Damascus Community through The Road, or you wish to add your email address or update your contact details, please email our Past Student Co-ordinator Yvette Nesire-McNeil at:

[connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au)

## ST MARTIN'S STATUE

The statue of St Martin de Porres has stood proudly in the heart of the College grounds since 1967. It's location has remain unchanged, although the landscape around it has been transformed many times since it was first erected.

The statue is now a serene centrepiece within the atrium of the College library, the aptly named St Martin's Resource Centre. It remains an important cornerstone in the identity of Damascus and reminds us of the origins of our College.

The St Martin's statue has been admired by many for decades, however it now needs urgent care and attention. Due to a generous donation from one of the members of the inaugural St Martin's group, a Statue Restoration Fund has been established. The current balance of the fund is \$4,226.



## How to Donate:

In Person	At the College Office, 8am to 4pm weekdays
By Mail	Send a cheque to: Damascus College St Martins Statue Restoration Fund 1412 Geelong Road Mt Clear VIC 3350
BPAY	Bill Code: 37549 Reference Number: 112037
Credit Card	To pay by credit card ph: (03) 5337 2222

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If paying by BPAY, please email your banking receipt along with your mailing address to [info@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@damascus.vic.edu.au) so that we can post a receipt to you.