

Ventured



Newsletter of the Mordialloc College Alumni Association (MCAA)

Issue 14, July 2018

✉ PO Box 5121, Mordialloc 3195 📧 admin@mordialloccollegealumni.org 🌐 www.mordialloccollegealumni.org



SUE KELTNER should have known better than to chew gum in class.

She had to clean up the schoolyard as punishment.

Sue, 25, is a teacher at Mordialloc-Chelsea High School.

Yesterday pupils paid 10c each to wear casual clothes to school and the teachers had to wear school uniform or pay a fine.

According to the students many of the teachers, like Miss Keltner, did not dress or behave properly.

But it was all in a good cause — to raise money for school facilities.

Gum was trouble for Sue

REMEMBER ME?

Students of the early '70s may recall this wonderful photo which appeared in *The Sun* newspaper. Our hard-working historian, Paula McCarthy, has managed to contact our 'bubble blower'. To read more, go to page 7.

Work is continuing on collecting and archiving photos and memories, and our next challenge is to provide a purpose-built cabinet to be placed in the school for the storage of archival folders, photos and documents.

We are looking for a cabinet maker or carpenter – maybe there is a past student out there who would be willing to assist us at a very competitive price? If so, contact us at admin@mordialloccollegealumni.org.

About *Ventured*

Ventured is the newsletter of the Mordialloc College Alumni Association (MCAA). *Ventured* welcomes member contributions, including stories and articles about the school; people or events of the past related to the school; and insight into what has happened to people after leaving school. All information in *Ventured* is provided in good faith and is derived from sources believed to be accurate and current as at the date of publication. The Editor is not obliged to publish a submission and reserves the right to edit submissions.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily endorsed or approved by the MCAA or Mordialloc College.

All contributors are requested to read the submission guidelines on the website: mordialloccollegealumni.org.

Contributions should be sent by email to Editor Barbara Dowling, at admin@mordialloccollegealumni.org or via normal mail to PO Box 5121, Mordialloc 3195.

Thanks to the many people who have contributed to the production of *Ventured*, and to our wonderful sponsors.

We are grateful for their support of public education.

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Principal's Report



by Michelle Roberts

I invited the local member for Mordialloc, Tim Richardson MP, to our May School Council meeting to speak about the Government's plans in relation to a future financial commitment to

realise our full masterplan and cater for our ongoing student growth.

Tim spoke positively about the need to make a significant investment here, to ensure that the College can adequately accommodate future projected enrolments, as well as ensuring that our school community has access to a complete range of 21st century learning facilities across the College.

A few weeks ago, State Opposition leader and leader of the Liberal Party, Matthew Guy, visited the school with local Liberal candidate, Geoff Gledhill.

Geoff had previously toured the school back in Term 1 with Tim Smith, Shadow Education Minister, so it was very positive to have Matthew Guy here, keen to see the school in action and speak to me

about our needs in terms of facility development, given we are a rapidly-growing school.

They were impressed with how orderly and focused the learning environments were in every classroom, and enjoyed meeting some students and teachers as we walked through.

I took the opportunity to speak to Matthew about the need for further funding to complete our masterplan and cater for the increase in our student enrolments now and into the future; and highlighted our major areas of need, including the development of a new Visual Arts/Technology Centre, new Year 8 Learning Centre and a new Senior School Study Centre with classrooms attached.

Staff Service Awards

On the afternoon of Friday 25 May, we held the Mordialloc College School Service Awards.

This is an annual event to celebrate and recognise staff who have spent a considerable part of their career to date at Mordialloc College. It was a most worthwhile event sponsored by School Council.

In 2016, our first year of running the Awards, 21 staff received Awards for 10, 15 or 20 years of service to Mordialloc College. Last year, we had four staff, and this year six staff.

All received a framed certificate, with any staff serving 25 years or more eligible for a small gift.

Staff awarded include: Sharonne Crossley and Daniel Williams for 10 years; Lyndell Thompson, Cory Watters and Adwine Narayan for 15 years, and Robyn Wilson for 25 years!

Work Experience

During May, our entire Year 10 cohort of students went out on work experience for a week, as part of the compulsory VCE unit all Year 10 students undertake at Mordialloc College, called Industry and Enterprise.

Completing this unit not only gives all of our Year 10 students credit towards attaining their VCE, it is also a meaningful way to deliver the careers curriculum.

Students are given organised placements in a huge variety of workplaces and locations across Melbourne, for example, in real estate, hospitality, vet clinics, accountant and business firms, graphic design, education, information technology, automotive, law, health and fitness, building and construction.

A big thank you goes to our Pathways Coordinator Jane Jamieson, and Education Support staff assistant Kim Cowain-Menzies for all their hard work in supporting our students to find suitable work placements for this week; and to all of the local businesses – not only in our immediate community but extending well beyond – in being prepared to accept a student for the week into their place of work.

Top 10 Employability Skills

If you're interested in discovering the top ten skills that employers are looking for in their candidates for positions (from a recent UK study), go to www.kent.ac.uk/careers and type 'top ten' into the search field.

Vice President's Report



by Bella Barker

Keep up to date with the MCAA!

The MCAA is pleased to announce that we have a new community Facebook page – just search 'Mordialloc College Alumni Association – MCAA' in the search bar on Facebook or type in the URL

facebook.com/mordiallocalumni.

This page is for anyone with a connection to, or interest in, the school to be updated on our work – so feel free to invite your friends and family to 'Like' our page!

We also have an Instagram page (@mordialloc_college_alumni) and a Twitter page (@mordiallocoll).

If you are a past student, you can join our Facebook group at: www.facebook.com/groups/mordialloccollege.

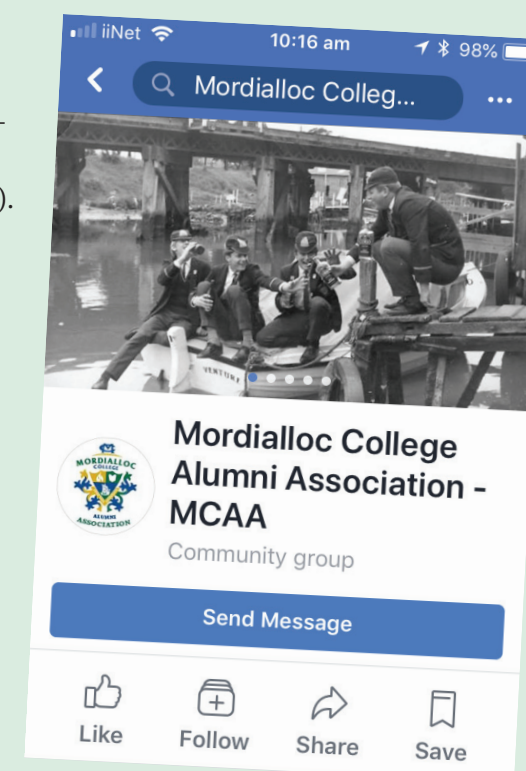
Thank you so much to all who support the Association on social media.

Why not join our sponsors?

We also very much appreciate our generous sponsors!

If you or your business would like to sponsor us, please email admin@mordialloccollegealumni.org.

You can also donate to us on our website – Just go to mordialloccollegealumni.org, scroll to the bottom of the home page and click the 'donate' button to assist us in our efforts to support public education... every little bit helps!



EX-STUDENTS WHO SERVED

We are gathering information to honour ex-students of our school who are war veterans or war service personnel.

Information may be sent to our Historian, Paula McCarthy,

at: Mordialloc College Alumni Association, PO Box 5121, Mordialloc 3195, or

via email to paulamc@optusnet.com.au, or

by calling Paula on 0409 300 720 or George Raphael on 9798 4883

Mordi Memories



David Tindal

MCHS 1950–1954

My first year at Mordy High (1950) was bookended by two events:

1. For all of term 1, I commuted from North Melbourne, and
2. My Christmas holiday job was spent working at the school.

My parents and I (an only child) were living in a rented house near North Melbourne station, while Dad and his two brothers-in-law built our house in Beaumaris. Rather than change schools during the year, it was decided that this was the best plan.

It was also thought that since I was ‘taking one for the team,’ and making this great sacrifice, it was only fair that I should travel in comfort, so Dad bought me a First Class Term Ticket. If you are of my vintage, you will recall that the ‘red rattlers’ offered such class-distinction. I loved the thinking behind this, but on the very first morning, when I was observed alighting from my plush carriage, I knew that this wasn’t going to work!

From that day forward, I hit upon a cunning plan: First Class to about Caulfield and Second Class for the remainder – reversed on the return trip.

Did my father have delusions of grandeur? Well no, he simply believed that all things British-made were better!

After all, we had only arrived from a place called Rutherglen – just south of Glasgow – two years previously, and I’ve been told that I still had the accent to prove it.

Dad was to do something similar when I got a bike: no Malvern Star for me, but a Humber Super Roadster, which featured “girls’ handlebars,” fashionable now – but not then! Talk about setting one apart!



As to the other ‘bookend,’ if you are an old fart like me, you may recall that way back then, the school had an onsite caretaker who lived in a house in that little corner bounded by the railway line and the creek.

I don’t recall how or why Mr Campbell – who just happened to be the brother of the principal, ‘Digger’ Campbell – offered me a job as his assistant to clean the school over the hols. I only know that I loved it! He and his wife were lovely – as was the principal for that matter.

Being the ‘only boy in the school’ was to me at that time a privilege – a sort of “king of the castle” moment; it sounds a bit silly now as I write it, but that’s what it felt like at the time.

Over the rest of my years at Mordy High, I had various other holiday jobs – telegram boy at Mordy Post Office, being cooked along with the canned peas at Gartside’s in Dingley – but the cleaning job at the school was always the standout! Maybe it was the fact that these others were actually totally exhausting?

Well, that’s what I was doing in 1950 and now I am 80 and have a grandson in Year 9 at Mordialloc College; I have enjoyed reminiscing and thinking about those years, and it’s still Mordy High to me!

It’s a privilege to have reached this age, been married (to the same partner) for 53 years and being able to spend time with children and grandchildren.

I have been very fortunate – and it all started at Mordy High.



1953 Senior Football Team

Back Row L-R: Ian Graham, Geoff Grimster, Greg Meuleman, Peter Johnson, Stewart Booth, Barry Dedrick, Jeff Northfield

Centre Row L-R: David Thomas, Robin Kirk, Don Poore, Neville Skewes, Russell Green, Peter Thomas, Ray Anderson, Laurie Rice

Front Row L-R: Mr. John McInerney (Coach), Gerald Rowe, John Ewers, Kerry Gay, David Tindal, Barrie Dunstan, Wilf Harding, Harry Box

Would you like your details to appear as an alumni profile? It’s easy!

Just send us a bio – something that you would like to share.

Follow the guidelines for publication in *Ventured* available on the website, and send your contribution to the Editor by email: admin@mordialloccollegealumni.org, or upload it via the website.

Make sure you include the years you attended the College, and a clear head and shoulders photo as a jpeg file. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you want the photo back.

The Editor reserves the right to edit your submission to size.

Webmaster Report



by Mitchell Sundstrom

Recently, the archives section of our website had a makeover, with the

goal of making our resources more accessible to our registered members, while also bringing new life to its appearance.

Navigation has been simplified, with the long and messy tab sub-menus being collated into category pages, with each of the sub-pages represented by a thumbnail and a helpful description of the page.

The largest change in this recent development is, of course, the gallery overhaul, which has given a new look to the gallery while making it much more functional.

The little tabs which filtered the images to only show specific date ranges have been replaced with individual collection pages, which can be used in the future to showcase a wider range of categories of archived photos.

Additionally, our FAQ page has been redesigned to become our new ‘Support Centre’ which will be the go-to spot when you have any questions about the Association, memberships, using the site, or account troubles. We hope that the change will help you with any issues you encounter.

These developments are just the beginning of our focus on providing a better experience for alumni members when accessing our resources.

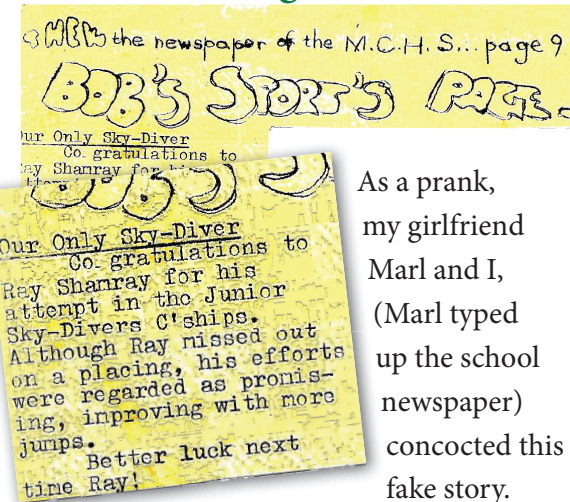
More Mordi Memories

Ray Shamray, MCHS 1963-1968

Ray's memories illustrate that as well as academic studies, there were many opportunities for fun as well.



Fake News – August 1968



As a prank, my girlfriend Marl and I, (Marl typed up the school newspaper) concocted this fake story.

We assumed it would go unnoticed.

Next thing we knew, the Headmaster, Mr. Butler, was on the school sound system promoting the newspaper, proclaiming "read all about our school's sky diver".

I received many congratulations! I think we got away with it.

Posh Nosh for School Lunch – April 1968

Why not? A five-star picnic on the oval, with silver service and entertainment to boot!

Gus Johnson remembers this occasion vividly. "Geography teacher, Mr. Jamieson, was concerned about the contents in the champagne bottle so he sniffed it. He placed it back on the ground after he confirmed it was not alcohol." The participants were charged 50c each – a lot in those days.

Photo shows: standing (L-R) Gus Johnson, Nick Horne, John Liddy; seated (L-R) Ian Bull, Andrew Butterworth, Phil Matthews, Ray Shamray.

The photo was taken by Marl (co-conspirator in the Fake News) who later married Ray.



Venture Revisited

In this section, we reprint extracts from previous school magazines.

The photo on the right is from page 2 of 1973 *Venture*.

Our historian, Paula McCarthy, has managed to track down the lovely teacher, Miss Keltner, who has kindly responded with memories of her time at MCHS.

A Teacher's Experience

I have so many fond memories of the three years (1972-1974) I spent teaching at Mordialloc-Chelsea High School.

I have special memories of the kindness and acceptance that was shown to me, not only by the school administration and staff, but also by the students and their parents.

Someone – staff, student or parent – was always eager to answer my many questions and point me in the right direction. I will always be grateful to everyone who helped me.

However, my favourite memory is of the time the school sponsored a 'Change of Dress Day' to raise money for school needs.

On that day, students paid 10 cents to wear casual clothes to school, rather than their school uniforms. Teachers, on the other hand, were told to wear school uniforms or face the consequences. I, like most of the teachers, borrowed a student's uniform for the day.

Trying to imitate some of my students' classroom behaviour, I decided to chew bubble gum.

Standing in the quadrangle and acting a bit cheeky, I started blowing bubbles.

Then a crowd started gathering around me and the crowd grew and grew. Even Mrs. Thomson, who stood at the back of the building in her usual stance with her



hand positioned up over her eye, was trying to see just what was going on.

Yes, it was me dressed as a student and, of course, blowing bubbles with my bubble gum.

Unbeknownst to me, someone took a photo and an article appeared in *The Sun* newspaper.

All of us had fun that day – students and teachers alike – and we raised some money to help the school.

When I left Melbourne, I did a year of graduate work at Seattle University, followed by two years of teaching at the American Community School in Athens, Greece. I now live in Boston, Massachusetts. After teaching for 33 years, I retired in June 2016.



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Thank you to all the organisations and individuals that have donated money, vouchers, or in-kind items. Your support is greatly appreciated.



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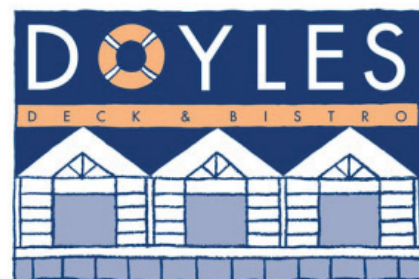
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