



Morongo Newsletter

Sint lucernae Ardentes

March 2019



Dear Friends of Morongo,

Happy and Healthy New Year to you all.

Welcome to our fourth annual Morongo Newsletter as we continue living and sharing the burning of our lamp of wisdom!

All members who have registered their email address with Marieta Jones (Moir) will receive this Newsletter early March each year. Send your email address to register at bellposthill@hotmail.com

Thank you to all those who emailed their News from 2018. Our Morongo Newsletter Community has grown to email addresses for 668 former students and friends of Morongo. If we have accidentally omitted your email, we apologise, please email us again. If you have registered with your work email account, please be aware that many emails were either returned or sent to the recipient's junk folders.

Our Newsletter is an all-inclusive **MORONGO Newsletter** for all former Collegians and Friends of Morongo!

Please Help Us

Any interesting news from any former collegian or friend of Morongo is more than welcome. Send us any news about your lives since leaving school, dates for reunions, photos and reports from any reunion or gathering and obituaries for those that are no longer with us to Marieta Jones (Moir) at bellposthill@hotmail.com OR post on Facebook: [Morongo Bellposthill](https://www.facebook.com/MorongoBellposthill) before December 31st 2019.

We would also appreciate being informed of recently deceased old girls, to keep our records up to date.

DATES FOR YOUR 2019 DIARY

All Morongo Old Collegians Lunch - Monday April 1st 2019 @ 12.00pm

Special Guest, Naomi Miller, the Geelong College

RSVP: Friday 22 March

**Venue: Barwon Edge Boat House
40-70 Windsor Street, Newtown**

Cost: \$40.00 includes 2 course meal, pay for own drinks

For more detail contact:

Di Sprague, 0458194416; disprague7@gmail.com

Alison Lawson, 0439925525

Prue Mason, 0409510646

Jeanette Joseph, 0419803250

Payment can be made by:

Direct transfer to: E & MJ Joseph

BSB: 083-515 Acc. No: 40-818-1255 (please quote your name)

for cheques/cash, please contact one of the organisers.

Dietary requirements? Please let us know, we will do our best to cater for you.

Goulburn Valley Luncheon - Sunday May 5th 2019

The Goulburn Valley Members luncheon will go ahead on our long-standing date of the first Sunday in May. Thank you to Jan Vibert who has sourced the venue. We would be delighted to have any Morongo Old Collegians who live in the vast area of the Goulburn Valley join us this year.

Our lunch will be held at **Kirwans Bridge, 4 km north of Nagambie**. We would also love suggestions for 2020 which would cater for our northern members.

Goulburn Valley members are reminded of this event by email. If you have any questions or wish to be included on our list, please contact Sandra Macintyre; 0428 976 242 or email nutcundera@bigpond.com.

All Years Luncheon Reunion - Wednesday 15th May 2019 @ 11-30am

Angliss Restaurant
550 Little Lonsdale St. Melbourne
\$40.00 per head

For more detail contact:

Evie McEwan (Jones) neilevie@netspace.net.au (mob: 0412 855 713)

Di Trewenack (Hirst) diana@trewenack.com

Details will be sent out mid-March to all who responded in 2018. Please email Evie or Di if you have not been notified by end March.

Payment can be made by:

Direct transfer: Melbourne Bellpost Hill
BSB 704 191 ACC: 255905 (please quote your name)

Please make cheques payable to Melbourne Bell Post Hill and send them to Evie McEwan, PO Box 8, Toorak 3142.

2019 Golf Day at Barwon Heads Golf Club – date to be determined late in October

New players welcome, as are girls who would like to attend for lunch only (some years organise their reunions on this day).

Anyone interested in attending on the day for the first time (players or lunch only) please send an email to Lyn Fraser (Crellin) lynmfraser@bigpond.com for return invitation and information.

2019 REUNIONS

30 Year Reunion for 1989 Graduating Year

Our 30 year reunion for class of 1989 will be held **Saturday 7 September 2019**.

Venue TBC but location likely to be Melbourne.

Any enquiries can be emailed to Georgie Fidge; georgie_fidge@hotmail.com

Annual Reunion for 1953

Our annual reunion will be held in October 2019. Faye Lee will notify the date via email.

Venue will be at the Empire Grill in Geelong.

Any enquiries can be emailed to Faye Lee. fayelee42@gmail.com

NEWS FROM 2018

Confusion with nominated Collegian Year Levels

Traditionally, Morongo students completed their secondary education in Intermediate (Year 10). Thus, initial records of former collegians were recorded with the year they completed Intermediate.

As time has progressed, most Morongo students now complete their secondary education at Year 12. To maintain consistency with the existing records, **ALL FORMER MORONGO COLLEGIANS** are recorded against their Year 10 or Intermediate year. Where we use the term **Graduating Year**, we are referring to former collegians final Year 12 year.

Morongold Collegians Geelong Luncheon – March 19th 2018

On Monday the 19th March a very successful luncheon was held at Barwon Edge restaurant in Geelong. Fifty Collegians attended and enjoyed companionship, reminiscing and singing our school songs, as well as a lovely meal.

We thank Helen Robertson and Jill Thom for their organization of this gathering over the past four years. On behalf of Jeanette Joseph, Di Sprague thanked Helen and Jill and presented flowers in appreciation. Jeanette Joseph and her committee will organize the 2019 luncheon.

The Geelong College Luncheon - July 21st 2018

We were thrilled to host so many Morongold Collegians for a lunch at The Geelong College on Saturday 21 July. Over 150 guests enjoyed an afternoon of catching up with old friends, seeing some of the Morongold memorabilia and hearing from the Morongold Scholarship recipient, Ella Pullin. Ella is certainly a worthy recipient of the Scholarship and will be a wonderful ambassador for both Morongold and Geelong College as she embarks on her career aspiration of being a humanitarian lawyer.

You can see photos of the day posted on the Old Geelong Collegians' Association Facebook page by [clicking on this link](#).

The Geelong College is committed to continuing our close association with Morongold Old Collegians and as such we would appreciate you completing a short survey to help us with our future plans of events and other activities. You can access the survey [HERE](#).

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me directly.

Peter Moran

Associate Director for Advancement

Thank you to Felicity Koch and Wendy McCormack Norris who posted a video clip and picture from the luncheon on our Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/morongold.bellposthill.3>

All Years Luncheon Reunion - Wednesday 16th May 2018

Forty girls attended the Luncheon at The William Angliss Restaurant. We all enjoyed the wonderful food and the service was excellent. Thank you to Sally Clark (Harris) for the fabulous photos below.

A huge thank you to Mary Moors (McGregor) who, along with her helpers, has organized this very successful luncheon for many years. Mary has decided to retire as an organiser. We all thank you Mary for your tireless effort over countless years.

Thank you to Evie McEwan (Jones 1956) and Di Trewenack (Hirst) who have graciously offered to organize the 2019 Luncheon (see details in Dates for your 2019 Diary)

The William Angliss Restaurant is a short walk from the Southern Cross Station and thus is conveniently located for Old Girls coming from the country, Geelong, Melbourne suburbs and even the airport by Sky Bus. It has the capacity to cater for a large number of patrons. We encourage year levels to make up numbers for a table and use this event to reunite with former school friends. There are some year groups that use this occasion for an annual catch up.



L-R Anna Miller (McBain) Sally Baird (Fletcher) Judy Clark (Money) Sally Clark (Harris)



Joy Rau (Strong) and Helen Lloyd (Thompson)



Noel Rumbold (Townsend) Dina Monks (Cannon) Pru Torok (Israel)



Janet Walker (Ross) Val Loughnan (Carson)



Janette Middleton (Potter) Pauline Maunsell (Chamberlain)



Barbara Wilson (Wood) Enid Oscar (Baxter)



Sally Baird (Fletcher) Mary Moors (McGregor)
Adrienne Soloman (Clarke)



Judy Clark (Money) Anna Miller (McBain) Mary
Moors (McGregor) Jennifer Heath (McCann)



Elaine Howden (Barber) Marieta Jones (Moir) Elaine Wood



Evie McEwan (Jones) Margaret McKay (Ganley)



Helen Lennard (Jones) Mary Richardson (Salmon)
Jill Thom (Hookings)



Jeanette Joseph (Dehnert) Dia Trewenack (Hirst)
Wendy Oakley (Hudson)



Faye Lee (Pope) and Elaine Howden (Barber)

Morongo's 7th Golf/Lunch Day

The 2018 Morongo Golf Day was held at The Barwon Heads Golf Club on Friday 2nd November. Despite less than ideal weather, 27 golfers braved the rain, cold and gale force winds with almost everyone finishing 18 holes. It was the second year a four-person Ambrose Team event was played and feedback suggests it is the preferred format allowing all levels of ability to participate. New golfers need not be intimidated!

Ros Betts (Bennett), Donna Utt (Lee), Jan Irvine (Gawith) and Jo Burton (Tansley), finished one shot ahead of second place getters to claim victory.

Twenty-eight non-golfers joined the golfing group for a delightful lunch making a total of 55 Morongo Old Collegians filling the room with laughter, sharing stories and experiences from their years at school. It was a happy day with 8 tables making up year groups from 1952 - 1979.

If you would like to be involved in 2019 and have not previously received notice of this event please contact Lyn Fraser (Crellin) lynm.fraser@bigpond.com



Ros Betts (Bennett), Donna Utt (Lee), Jan Irvine (Gawith) and Jo Burton (Tansley)

2018 Women's Inter-School Golf Challenge Cup

Kew Golf Club hosted the 2018 Inter-school Golf Challenge Cup on April 16th and Morongo's representatives were Claire Heinz (Bourke), Gail Rooney, Anne Hunt (Tonkin) and Susan Hocking. Our sincere thanks to these ladies for doing us proud by finishing twelfth, the most successful Morongo team for many years!



Claire Heinz (Bourke), Gail Rooney, Anne Hunt (Tonkin) and Susan Hocking

There are a total of 30 schools participating with proceeds (\$4500 in 2018) donated to *Cottage By The Sea*, a children's charity located in Queenscliff Victoria supporting disadvantaged young people in a positive, healthy, seaside environment.

The Challenge Cup will commemorate its' 90th year in 2019 and Sorrento Golf Club will host the event on Monday April 1st. This would indeed be a wonderful year to win!

The Inter-School Golf Challenge Cup now has a website should you be interested in reading more. www.womensinterschoolgolf.com

2019 Morongo Regatta

The day of the Morongo Regatta began with ideal rowing conditions. No wind and low twenty-degree temperatures greeted the Year 10 girls who were scheduled for the morning race times. A row of colourful tents lined the banks with parents looking forward to watching the racing from the bank.

Twenty different schools in total entered the regatta. The Geelong based schools included Kardinia International College, Clonard, Geelong College and Sacred Heart. They were joined by Loreto Toorak, Loreto Ballarat, St Catherine's, Toorak College, Lauriston, Fintona, Hailebury, MLC, Firbank, Korowa, Melbourne Girls Grammar School, Genazzano, Melbourne Girls College, Ruyton, Strathcona, Shelford, Wesley and Carey. The scene was set for an exciting day of racing.

As the morning progressed the temperatures began to slowly climb. Some impressive displays of technique and endurance were demonstrated in the single sculls, quad sculls and fours.

The smaller rowing schools such as Kardinia and Shelford showed that they were still able to compete and challenge the bigger schools of MLC and Firbank. A welcome lunch break gave the officials a well-deserved rest out of the heat.

After the break the year 9 girls began to race. The temperatures continued to climb hitting the mid-thirties by mid-afternoon. As the girls pulled their boats into the staging area after their races, the boat race officials reminded them to rehydrate due to the extreme heat.

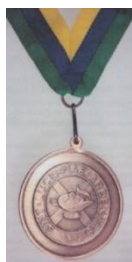
With a starting time of 8.00am and a finishing time of 5.15pm, the regatta was a huge success and a fantastic display of junior schoolgirl rowing at its best.

Lucy Pring (Howden) (daughter of Elaine Howden)

Middle School Teacher

Year 9 Rowing Coordinator

The Geelong College



The culmination of the rowing season is the **Head of the School Girls Regatta**. It will take place on the Barwon River from 16th to 18th March. It is at this event that Morongo Medals are awarded to any Year 12 girl who has rowed in this regatta for three or more years. The medals are inscribed with the school's motto **Sint Lucernae Ardentes** and signify Morongo & Dulcie Brookshaw's contribution in instigating this important sporting event.

The Morongo Medal

2018 Goulburn Valley Old Collegians get together

Each year we choose a venue to cater for the members who come from many districts in the Goulburn Valley and beyond. In the past five years we have visited Nagambie; Glenrowan; Bunbartha; Euroa; and Tatura. At lunch a couple of volunteers offer to search for a suitable venue and location in their area for the following year.

On Sunday 6th May, seventeen Goulburn Valley Old Collegians met for lunch at Violet Town. Did you know that most of the streets are names of flowers? Once again those present managed to talk an afternoon away!! Alison, Bev and Heather return annually from the Mornington Peninsula. Some members see each other regularly others only meet again at the lunch.

The flower arrangements in the photo were prepared by member, Barbara Ramage.



L-R back row: Sandra Macintyre (Bufton); Jan Vibert (Agnew); Jeanette Newson (Thom); Heather Lloyd (Laird); Glenys Thomas (Knight); Pat Mitchell (Illingworth); Barbara Ramage (Bradshaw); Mary Kenny (Agnew); Beverley Purcell (Hacquoil); Alison Griffiths (Grant); Jan Hooper (Pope)

L-R seated: Nan Sullivan (Fewtrell) Heather McMillan (MacDonald); Betty Thornton; Sue Pogue (Ballantyne); Gwen Jensen (Bradshaw); Jennie Currie (Bradshaw)



Glenys and Heather



Jen and Barbara



Sue & Betty



Gwen and Heather



Alison and Bev

Class of 1958 60 year Reunion

The 60th reunion of the Morongo class of 1958 was a blast!

Twelve former pupils met up at the Waterfront Kitchen, Deakin University, Western Beach Road, Geelong for lunch and after an excellent meal and cutting of a celebratory cake the reminiscences and storytelling continued into the late afternoon.

Betty Harper bettejh@bigpond.net.au



Clockwise from the left: Joan Whitten, Sandra Oriander, Barbara Folkard, Robyn McHenry, Jan Dennis, Rhonda Scott, Barbara Baak, Elaine Paton, Jennifer Oxe, Sue Mithen, Virginia Anthony, Betty Harper

Another reunion will be held in September 2019 and would love to see a few more faces. We are hoping to make up a table for the general reunion at William Angliss in la Trobe St, Melbourne in May. For details please contact Evie McEwan 0412 856 713.

Class of 1966 Reunion

Coinciding with the annual Morongo Golf Day at Barwon Heads, on November 5th 2018, a small representative group of the 1966 year gathered to mark the occasion of 50 years since we had completed year 12 in 1968.

Some of the girls were encountering very challenging weather conditions on the golf course, whilst the others watched on in admiration with our morning tea, from the comfort of the club rooms.

We happily recounted memories of school days together, and also shared stories of happenings in the years that have since followed.

We enjoyed the tasty lunch, whilst overlooking the picturesque golf course and surrounding coastal scene. The time passed by very quickly, as we reconnected and reminisced. Unfortunately, several girls from our year group were unable to attend on this particular day.



For anyone who would like further information about the 1966 year group, please contact Jean DiStefano via email; di.stefano@bigpond.com

Back (L-R) Anne Clutterbuck, Sally Cuttriss, Jan Pobjoy (Cuthbetson), Deirdre Beckworth (Cook), Anne Prosser (Whiteside), Jean Di Stefano (Embling)
Front (L-R) Helen Hill (Darby), Joan Donnan, Sue Kelley (Reynolds)

Graduating class of 1955 REUNION October 23rd 2018



Marl Ryan (Metheral)

Fifteen of us met on the 23rd October at the Empire Grill in Geelong, the Geelong area still the home base for some of us although faithfulness to the old school brought others from country Victoria and interstate.

In October 1955, we were a bunch of seventeen year old girls preparing for our final matric exams, preparing for our future, preparing for life. We would be leaving Morongo behind. Some had already met their future partners and fathers of their children, others would wait for their *happy ever after*, never guaranteed. It was a time when Prime Ministers stayed in the job for many years. We discussed the 1954 Royal Tour when the Queen and Prince Philip were happy young parents with no hint of the dramas ahead for their little boy. It was the boom time for post war immigration in Australia. The *White Australia* policy was being dismantled and European migration was taking over from the historical preference for the British.

We had yet to learn to cook lasagne and discover what to do with eggplant, fennel and capsicums. Bokchoy, kale, smokey paprika and quinoa were a lifetime away. The gentle, brown-eyed Jersey cows of my grandfather's dairy, known by name, now compete with nuts and beans in the milk aisle of the supermarket.

Television, the Beatles, decimal currency and Jamie Oliver were all ahead of us, not to mention laptops, Apple merchandise, smart phones and social media. And who knows where autonomous electric cars will take us?

We were leaving school to become teachers and nurses, secretaries, farmers' wives or a physiotherapist and dietitian well before exercise and dieting became the preoccupation of the Western World. At that time, Morongo girls studying science took their classes in chemistry and physics with gruff, old Tammy Henderson at Geelong College. There were not quite the equal opportunities currently available to female school leavers.



Jill Morgan (Hazeldene) and Fay Lee (Pope)

So many stories!! Now, as a bunch of eighty something year olds, we meet to refresh friendships, to reminisce and to share our amazement at the world we see now compared with the world we knew then.

Of course we did not leave Morongo behind – we have carried it with us for more than sixty years.

As usual, we thank Faye and Marl for arranging our reunion and keeping us up to the mark, keeping our lamps burning.

Robin Purdey (Urquhart)



Left (F-B) Marl Ryan (Metherall), Faye Lee (Pope), Jill Morgan (Hazeldene), Pat Norsworthy (Tymms)
 Right (F-B) Alison Lloyd (Laird), Bet English (Arnold), Pam Kemp (Lilburne), Kay Middleton (Stallard)



Left F-B Marieta Jones (Moir), Rhonda Daish (Goodwin), Judy Dowling (Eagles), Elaine Wood, Kay Middleton (Stallard)
 Right F-B Janet Forster (Hanna), Robin Purdey (Urquhart), Merran Hall (Urquhart), Pat Norsworthy (Tymms), Jill Morgan (Hazeldene)

Morongo 1953 annual get together

What a wonderful get together the 15 of us had at the Empire Grill. Thanks to Marl for choosing the great venue, they looked after us very well. The meal was excellent and very reasonable. We thought we all scrubbed up rather well and by the noise heard from outside the room, we were all of good strong voice.

Later in the afternoon, six of us moved on to the Art Gallery to see the winner of the Archibald Prize, a little disappointing in our eyes!! The same 6 stayed the night at the adjacent Motel, so we had more chatter time and opportunity to wander around the old town again admiring how well maintained the numerous 100 year old buildings were beautifully preserved for the future.

The trains on the Geelong line were excellent, a little different to those we travelled on, some sixty years ago!! All in all it was indeed a really GREAT couple of days thank you all for making the effort to come. See you next year, same time, same place.

Faye Lee (Pope)

NEWS ABOUT US

Wendy Bate

In late 2017, my husband, Kevin, and I took a trip to Vietnam. For Kevin, this was a 'healing' venture after 49 years of suffering after his tour of duty in the Vietnam War as a conscript. We loved the country and found the people helpful and charming. We visited old 'haunts' and Kevin came home with a feeling of peace and a change of attitude to the Vietnamese people. His feelings were that he should have made this trip years ago. I, too loved the time there and enjoyed sailing down the Mekong on a 24 passenger boat, getting off at small islands and meeting the people who lived there. Even though I am legally blind, I thoroughly enjoyed my surroundings.

Our daughter, Sally Robertson, a past Morongo student, along with her husband and three children visited the USA for three weeks and had many great experiences there. A month later, her eldest son, Benjamin, spent a month in southern China on a World Challenge tour with his school St Ignatious. The school, at Drysdale, has impressed us greatly and reminds me very much of the way Morongo was with its Christian caring, morals and music programme. It is a co-ed school and our two grandsons are doing extremely well there. Next year our granddaughter will hopefully join them. Even though we are not Roman Catholics we are very happy with the chosen school.

Vivien Pedemont (Webb) 1977 (Yr12 1979)

I attended Morongo for just 2 years (3rd & 4th form in 1976 and 1977).

I have recently moved to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia accompanying my husband here for a 3-year assignment. We are beginning to learn about the culture, are taking Mongolian language lessons and adjusting to the ferocious cold of the winter. This is our second overseas assignment, the previous being in the Rhone-Alpes region of France. Miss Alison Botterill would have been astonished at my ability to communicate in French language after her failed attempts to teach me at school!



My husband & I checking out the Deer Stones near Murun

Can you imagine my shock when I heard, "We will be living in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia for the next 3 years!" Those are not the words I expected to hear! What did I know of Mongolia? Not a lot! Like most people I had visions of Yurts (known in Mongolia as Gers) and horses and Ghengis Khan leading his armies back in the day. I had to look on the map to find out where it actually was. Since arriving here on a cold (-42C) January evening we have settled in to living in the coldest Capital City in the world! The weather and the smog were the first things we had to adjust to having just moved from steamy Brisbane.

I upgraded my ski parka for a long warm winter coat, cashmere cardigan, beanie and scarves, yak wool mittens and winter grade ankle boots. Before we came to Mongolia, we purchased good quality masks to filter out the harmful pollution that blankets the city during the long cold winter. Poor air quality comes from many sources including the coal fired power stations with poor filter systems, the diesel buses spewing out their exhaust fumes and the stoves of the people living in the ger district burning anything that they can find in order to keep warm (and that means rubbish and old car tyres).

Once the winter is over the smog clears and the weather warms up it is a great time to explore. Close to UB it is possible to visit Terelj National Park to stay in a ger camp and enjoy the local countryside. Here you can climb hundreds of steps up to a Buddhist Temple, you can visit the enormous Chinggis Khaan statue, and you might see the two humped Bactrian camels, Mongolian horses and Bankhar dogs.



The huge Chinggis Statue at Terej National Park



Tourist Ger Camp

Options to travel further afield are also available. We have enjoyed taking the overnight train to Sukhbaatar, a town close to the Russian border. On that trip we were able to walk right up to the border marker between the two countries and we visited the revolution museum which was excellent. From the train, we saw many small settlements and in the distance we could see the ger camps of the nomads who still live off the land as they have done for thousands of years.

We have also spent a few days in a holiday ger camp at Lake Khuvsgul about an hour drive from Murun which is in a region in the north-west. We were able to visit the reindeer herders while we were there and saw some ancient Deer Stones from the bronze age. It was incredible to think these monuments to the dead have been standing in the valley for more than 3000 years!

Tsagaan Sar is celebrated early in the year for the Lunar New Year. This is a really important time and families come together to share food and exchange gifts. There are many cultural rituals associated with gift giving and celebration in this country.



Horses and Soldiers accompanying the Standard from Parliament House, Ulaanbaatar to the sports complex for the opening of the Naadam games

The 5 day Naadam festival in July consists of wrestling, archery and horse racing. Mongolians have been competing in these three sports since at least the 13th Century and they remain very important activities today.

Naadam is celebrated across the country and is held on different dates in different provinces. The Opening Ceremony in UB is held at the National Sports Stadium which seats around 12500 people. It is well choreographed and is just like the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth or Olympic Games.

Nearly all the locals dress in national costume for this event which is really wonderful to see.

A visit to the archery stadium was also really entertaining although we took a while to begin to understand what exactly was going on.



Archers at the Archery Competition, Naadam Festival

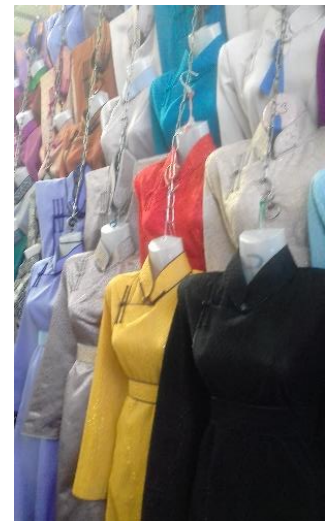
The different costumes can indicate to the knowledgeable the region/tribe that a competitor comes from. We just saw an amazing array of colourful outfits.

Everyone gets into the spirit from the elderly to the very young all proudly wearing Deels and Mongolian boots and very interesting hats!

*Traditional deel tops Black Market
Ulaanbaatar*

In Ulaanbaatar, there are several museums and temples to visit, many restaurants offering food from all over the world, opera, ballet and traditional cultural shows and markets to visit. It is cheap to get around using taxis and for a real local experience you can even take the bus! We are loving our experience!

Some of my closest lifelong friends are the girls I met that first day at Morongo, and with the social networking platforms it has been wonderful to re-connect with others in more recent years.



Sandy McGrath (Purnell)

On January 30th 2018, I was nominated by our daughter Louise to be in the Queens relay in Dubbo. What a wonderful and exiting time it was, and 3 of our 6 grandchildren shared the experience with me. Family and friends watched from the side lines.

Felicity Koch (Morrison)

My year 9 daughter Harriet, at Geelong College rowed for the first time in the 2018 Morongo Regatta. I was the proudest spectator on the banks that day, talking up Morongo to the curious and lovely to see the school logo on the trophy and name blasted out across the Barwon from the commentator. There were a couple of old oars crossed on the podium and wondered if they were originally from the School. Fingers crossed we can get my Harriet a Morongo Medal!!

VALE

We are saddened to hear of the following deaths;

Jenny Stringer (Biddulph) died in London in May 2018, following a long illness.

Jenny came to Morongo in the late 1940s from her home in Kuala Lumpur where her father was a Chinese language specialist at the British High Commission. When the Japanese invaded in 1941, he was captured and put to work on the notorious Burma Railway. Jenny, with her mother and brother and many other English families, were evacuated by ship from Singapore and sent to Australia.



After several years in Melbourne, the family rented a house in Barwon Heads where her father, who survived more than three years in Changi, was able to join them and Jenny was sent to Morongo as a boarder. Jenny was a talented pianist and a good tennis player but was known especially for her fun and wit.

She left school after matriculating in 1953 and lived in London. She had four children but when she and her husband, artist Martin Stringer, separated she worked as a research assistant for her friend, novelist Margaret Drabble. This led to helping edit *The Oxford Companion to English Literature* and other literary journals. She then began working on Hansard for the British Parliament and later became personal assistant to Labour leaders Neil Kinnock and John Smith.

She also helped pioneer Refuge, an organisation to provide shelter for victims of domestic violence. Over the years, Jenny visited Australia many times, staying with Sally Clark (Harris) in Port Fairy and Dina Monks (Cannon) in South Gippsland. Her last message to them in April was that she would be out soon to attend one of the Morongo Old Collegians' lunches. That message was sent just a fortnight before her 82nd birthday.

Jenny is survived by her children Tony, Ben, Polly and Nick. Her funeral service was held at St Mark's Church, Primrose Hill, where old friend Spanish guitarist Paco Pena played her favourite flamenco music.



Dina Cannon, Jenny Biddulp, Jill Cannon

Lynette Peel (1955)

Lynette died in England early 2018.

She was a Doctor of Agriculture and specialised in books on agricultural settlement, including the Henty family at Portland and the early Vignerons in the Yarra Valley.

She was at the University of Reading for many years.

She was a good friend of Heather Lloyd.



Mary Rayner (Gayer) 1963

Mary passed away in 2018 and was the sister of Sue Lamb (1967)

Jean Ince (McKenzie) 1937

Jean passed away on March 16th 2018. She was the mother of Judy Steer (1967)

Kerryn Cameron 1967 passed away in early 2018

Margaret Baker (Hookings) 1955



Margaret Baker (Hookings) died suddenly on 18th May. After her time at Morongo, Marg returned home and worked with her father breeding Corriedale sheep and beef cattle. After her father's death in 1961 she worked with her brother until her marriage to Dale Baker in 1971. She had 2 children, Marina and Tom and 4 grandchildren.



Marg and Dale were successful Simmental breeders, and this was carried on with Tom after Dale's death in 2012. She was an active member of the Millicent Golf Club.

Margaret was a sister to Jill Thom (1951) and Deidre Richardson (1967)

Pam Burch (Montgomery)

Mary Richardson (Salmon) sent word of Pam Burch's passing.

Pam, known commonly as Monty, came to Morongo from Mildura. She was a very popular girl, keen on sport and a very good swimmer. Academically bright, she went on to graduate as a teacher librarian. She married Don Burch and they had three delightful daughters; Debbie, Sue and Julia. She enjoyed a happy retirement at Anglesea and passed away after a long illness in September of 2018.



Geraldine Ambrose (1985 graduating class 1987)



On the 19 March 2018, Geraldine Ambrose (our Gez) passed away after battling cancer since her diagnosis in November 2017. When it was found, her cancer was in an advanced state. She was surrounded by her family and passed away peacefully on Monday 19th 2018.

We were so fortunate to have her at our 30th reunion celebrations in October 2017. We will miss her terribly and have many fond memories of her friendship.

Our thoughts are with her husband Mick, children Bec and Zac, family and friends. The funeral was open to all who wanted to attend and shared in her life, it was a heartbreaking yet beautiful service which I believe Geraldine played a large part in organising. It was held at Wattle Park Chalet on Riversdale Road, Surrey Hills on Tuesday 27th March 2018
Emma Ferris

Geraldine was the daughter of Shirley Ambrose (Bennett) 1955

June McColl (Orchard) 1937

June passed away on the 31st January 2019.
She was mother of Sue Stevens (1961) and Jenny Jeffries (1964)

Beth Foley (Winstanley) 1935

Beth passed away on the 29th January 2019. She was mother to Joan Adams (1962)

PLEASE SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

Please share our Newsletter with all your friends who are connected with Morongo. The more Morongo family and friends our Newsletter reaches, the wider our network becomes and the more effectively we can share news about our lives since school days.

If you know a former collegian without access to a computer or an email account please encourage them to enlist a partner, child or grandchild or even a neighbour to receive the Newsletter on their behalf.

Seeking to renew contact with lost friends

If you are hoping to reconnect with lost school friends, email Marieta Jones (Moir) at bellposthill@hotmail.com and she will happily supply you with an email address, if we have it in our records.

Morongo FACEBOOK page: Morongo Bellposthill

Thank you to the 208 former Morongo collegians who have befriended us on Facebook. Apologies for the slowness in any responses to friend requests.

We appreciate that we are catering to a wide group and encourage communications of any news or reunions via email (bellposthill@hotmail.com) and Social Media (Facebook page: Morongo Bellposthill).

Morongo Memorabilia

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

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

Any former Morongo girls wishing to borrow banners and/or flags for special reunions and functions may do so by making contact with Geelong College's archivist, Con Lannan. Allow a week to organise.

Con Lannan 5226 3148 con.lannan@geelongcollege.vic.edu.au

Contact Us ...

Elaine Howden (Barber) 1952	0413 800 841	Melbourne contact
Faye Lee (Pope) 1954	5956 8411 PO Box 2241 Ventnor 3922	Melbourne contact
Marieta Jones (Moir) 1953	bellposthill@hotmail.com	Send all your news
Evie McEwan (Jones) 1956	neilevie@netspace.net.au 0412 855 713	William Angliss Luncheon organisers
Diana Trewenack (Hirst) 1956	diana@trewenack.com 0418 390 384	
Sandra MacIntyre (Bufton) 1960	0428 976 242 nutcundera@bigpond.com	Goulburn Valley Old Collegians contact
Lyn Fraser (Crellin) 1967	52541239 lynmfraser@bigpond.com	Barwon Heads Golf contact
Alison Lawson (Laird) 1959	0439925525 ajlawson@bigpond.com	Barwon Edge Boat House Luncheon
Jeanette Joseph (Dehner) 1958	0419803250 jeanett_joseph@bigpond.com	
Di Sprague	0458194416 disprague7@gmail.com	
Prue Mason (Gilmore)	0409510646 ylime77@iinet.net.au	

I would like to thank my daughter, Marguerite Jones, who has spent many hours producing each of our four Newsletters. She wasn't a Morongo girl, so we do appreciate her time. Please continue sending us all your news, we love reading about what is happening in the lives of our Morongo family.

Marieta Jones (Moir)