

# NORBERTUS



MAY 2016 • ISSUE 27

# FROM THE EDITOR



MR FRANK MULLIGAN

**Welcome** to the first edition of *Norbertus* for 2016, with a special welcome to our new students and parents.

While the St Norbert College website, the College Newsletter, Koinonia and facebook will keep you up to date with all the news about St Norbert College, this publication is primarily focused on the College's past students' news, events and activities, their achievements and milestones.

In this edition of *Norbertus* Mr Clem Mulcahy, Acting Principal Term 2, introduces himself and gives us his

impressions of St Norbert College, we report on the community spirit and achievements of the SNESA Football Club, take a look at what the College was like ten years ago, catch up with some members of the Class of 2006, mark the tenth anniversary of the passing of Br Patrick Doolan and hear about Mozzi Day, a legacy of Stephen Rigg. While *Norbertus* is primarily concerned with former students, we couldn't help but speak to some of our new Year 7s, because - after all - they are eventually going to become the Class of 2021! Also, some of us are a little too young to know this, but 2016 represents 30 years of teaching at St

Norbert College for our one and only Miss Kerri Hilton, so a former colleague and good friend, Mrs Trish Van Nus, takes a brief look at Kerri's contribution to the College since 1986.

A new feature of *Norbertus*, St Norbert College History and Heritage, asks you a few quiz questions about our College and - apart from the satisfaction of getting the questions all right - participants will have a chance to win a Café135@Treasure gift voucher for their favourite student (or staff member!)

Thank you to all the former students who have contacted *Norbertus*. It has

been such a big response that a lot of stories are being held over for future editions, including a feature on several Perth and interstate media identities who attended St Norbert College. That story will cover an interesting mix of people you may be familiar with, but be unaware they once wore the blue and gold of our College.

Our motto here at *Norbertus* is "Ad Omnia Paratus" so if you have any news or information about a former student of St Norbert College, please contact *Norbertus* by email: [fmulligan@norbert.wa.edu.au](mailto:fmulligan@norbert.wa.edu.au) and we will bring the news to the St Norbert College community!

# CLEM'S CORNER



I was very happy to receive the invitation from Frank Mulligan to provide an article for this issue of *Norbertus*. I have really enjoyed and appreciated the welcome extended to me by the Norbertine Canons, staff and students of St Norbert College, over the last four weeks. It has been especially good being able to renew past friendships and acquaintances and I look forward to building on that collegiality throughout the Term.

It has been an action packed 'induction' as I admired the clockwork precision of the College Assemblies, the students' respectful participation at Benediction, the Xanten House liturgy and the happy sharing at the Merit Awards Winners' Lunch. I have enjoyed my mini learning journey across the campus. Whether it was the older music students experiencing the magic of Eskimo Joe's musician Cav supporting our senior students hone their skills, sharing the Staff PD reviewing student progress and classroom teaching strategies or meeting Ex-students; all made for a memorable experience. The students have an open, engaging attitude and a strong work ethic that is shown readily, whether as a commitment to the Specialised Basketball program, Physical Education, the Performing Arts, Technology and Enterprise or the traditional core subjects that may have been more familiar to past students.

The Community Mass and the impressive Harmony Day agenda in Term One which I enjoyed as a visitor, have been matched by the day to day activities too. The dynamic of the shared refreshments and the performances on Harmony Day gave another insight into the staff – people who pray together and play together make for an effective community ... and the children are the particular beneficiaries. I know that Annette has appreciated the sense of fellowship and goodwill extended by the past students. She has spoken too of the interest shown towards the students of the College. Annette and Glen have been enjoying their time in America, and have asked that I pass on their good wishes.

Not that this positive atmosphere came as surprise. Fr Peter Joseph has invited me to write about the first fifty years of the College, so I have had a great introduction to the spirit of the College. Fr O'Reilly and Fr O'Farrell were family

friends and naturally that meant a few stories along the line about the early days at the College. Although the writing has been completed, the all-important task of selecting photographs is now coming to a close too. Desiree Grzenda Day and Maureen Tavani have provided much background material, as have previous issues of *Koinonia* and *Norbertus*.

When the first Canons came from Kilnacrott they were ready to learn about Australia's first people, the Aboriginals and the influx of migrants who joined them in a new life in Australia. In this new season of Pentecost and as we prepare to honour Sorry Day and the Bringing Them Home Report, I hope the time ahead is a good one for you as you prepare for all good works.

Ad Omnia Paratus,

*Clem*  
Clement Mulcahy



Mark Lupica.



The SNESA boys unwind after a hard day's yakka.

# RESPECT, TEAMWORK AND ACCOUNTABILITY *at Yarloop*

**On** the weekend commencing February 19th this year approximately 20 players and officials from the SNESA Football Club held an unconventional pre-season football camp helping the people of Yarloop to recover from the catastrophic fires that virtually destroyed the town in January. SNESA club president Rafic Aoun explains how the idea to pitch in became a reality, and not only helped a family to pick up the pieces, but also helped prepare the boys for a tough season of footy...

"The idea simply came about from us as a club wanting to do something for Yarloop. We saw the devastation the bushfire caused, and we felt compelled to help from a humane point of view, rather than anything else. Once we found out that we had a link to Yarloop, through the Catalano family, we were excited to help.

I made contact with Laurie Catalano, then our senior coach Christian Tufilli, along

with our committee members coordinated our pre-season camp around the recovery work on the Catalano family farm in Yarloop.

It was a great opportunity to help victims of the fire, a great opportunity for the boys to get together early on the year, and a great opportunity for them to achieve something together as a team.

The values that we stand for at the football club, including Respect, Teamwork and Accountability were all exemplified at our pre-season camp.

We made sure we adhered to the principle of being prepared for all good work, which I suppose is something we've drawn from the club's historical association with St Norbert College. Hopefully this will lead us to be prepared to work hard all season."

The Catalano family were very grateful for the SNESA contribution. Charlie Catalano

was generous in his praise of the boys' efforts: "The guys from SNESA came along and completed over five weeks' work in just six hours. They far exceeded any expectations of them and put our family well on track to rebuilding our farm. Without their generous offer of assistance, planting crops for the new season would not have been feasible. Thank you all."

Laurie, Charlie's nephew, was also very proud of his mates' achievements: "My family have had a long affiliation with St Norberts and to be offered the help from these guys was so touching and reminded me of the spirit of the whole St Norbert community."

The St Norbert College community has every reason to be proud of SNESA's great efforts and we wish them well for the remainder of the season.

# BR PATRICK

## DOOLAN O.PRAEM



**Br** Patrick was appointed to the St Norbert College staff, part-time, in 1983. He was a much loved member and Homeroom teacher of Kilnacrott House K/BrP. Depending on how closely a student was prepared to follow the grooming rules, Br Pat could be their friend – or their foe! He could spot girls' incorrect hair trims, makeup or nail polish a mile away. It was a matter of course to see boys automatically pulling up socks and tucking in shirts when they saw him coming. Br Pat could be seen in the playground every day, every recess and lunch, with his ever present icy pole! He kept up to date with the life stories of the students and often

mentored them if he thought they needed it. Br Pat was a brilliant history teacher. He was also a musician and has been known to appear in College drama productions and play the tuba. He enjoyed sport and established the "Canons" volleyball teams in the 1990s.

Br Patrick died suddenly in Queensland whilst on holidays, on 14 January 2006, his 46th birthday. He will live on in the hearts and conversations of many past staff and students of St Norbert College. Rest peacefully, Br Pat.

Mrs Maureen Tavani

*Br Pat was a brilliant history teacher.  
He was also a musician and has been known  
to appear in College drama productions and play the tuba.*



### Patrick William Doolan O. Praem

Norbertine Canon of Queens Park

Born in Mackay Queensland  
14th January 1960

Clothed in the white habit of  
St Norbert 10th February 1982

Solemnly Professed  
2nd February 1986

Entered into Eternal Life  
14th January 2006

*"Live together in harmony and  
charity. In each other honour God,  
whose temples you have become"*

St Augustine

# Stephen Rigg



# MEMORIAL DAY

– MOZZI DAY

The Annual Mozzi Day was held on a hot 40 degree day in February at the home of cricket, Fletcher Park. This is the home ground of the Perth Cricket Club and the same ground where Stephen collapsed five years ago.

Each year the Mozzi Day is geared around raising funds for HeartKids WA which is a support group for those families that are dealing with kids with congenital heart issues, and about remembering Stephen. During the past four years we have raised approximately \$15,000 which is a tremendous effort.

The Mozzi XI and the President's XI is made up of those who played with Stephen and his brother Benjamin, plus old boy Dean Nelson and a couple of others, and some former greats of the Perth Cricket Club.

The game was decided in dramatic fashion. Needing 12 runs off the last two balls, John Lindsay - the captain and current president of PCC - gave the order to the bowler (who for my safety

will rename nameless) to bowl full and at the stumps. Surely the President's XI would be victorious.

Stuart 'Stewy' Walters, batting like Kilnacrott being the superior house at St Norbert's, put the first one over the trees for six. Six to win off the last ball!

Tension mounted, fingernails were bitten and drinks consumed. Stewy then put the next one into the car park of the Sacred Heart Church, securing a win for the Mozzi XI and levelling the score at two wins a piece.

It was another successful day with no one really caring who won. (Yeah sure!)

There are so many people to thank and acknowledge in a day like this: the Perth Cricket Club, Thornlie Cricket Club, numerous volunteers on the day and Damien Martyn who donated and signed some cricket memorabilia. Also Stephen's teammate Alan Tyler for his never-ending work, Simon Smith and Michael Hayden.

Denise, Benny, Emily (Benny's partner and fellow St Norbert student) and I are most grateful for the continued support and love that is shown, but more importantly the respect that is paid to our beautiful Stephen makes us smile and we thank you.

Phil Rigg  
Proudest dad ever



Phil Rigg congratulates Fremantle Dockers player Max Duffy after his league debut against Geelong in Round 20, 2014. Max and Stephen were great mates and when he was drafted Max selected jumper number 24 in memory of the date Stephen passed away. He donated half his match fee to HeartKids WA, a support group that is dear to Phil's heart.

# CLASS OF 2015 ACADEMIC *Success*



Vivian Vu, Jessica Ingram, Heidi Spark, Marichris Dangazo and Julia Nabizadah.



2015 Dux of St Norbert College, Jessica Ingram.

At our first assembly for the year, we welcomed back students from the Class of 2015 to recognise their achievements at the conclusion of their secondary schooling. The College is proud to welcome one student into the 95 Club and to congratulate six students for receiving a Certificate of Commendation.

Jessica Ingram, the Dux of our College achieved the top ATAR for St Norbert College of 97.85. Jessica was also awarded a Certificate of Commendation from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority for achieving more than 20 A grades. Her achievements also included a Certificate of Distinction for

Literature for being in the top 0.5% in the State. Jessica has been accepted into the assured pathway for Medicine at UWA where she was also nominated by the College for the UWA Excellence Award which includes a \$500 prize.

Jessica addressed the assembly and said keeping a balance between study, home life, friends and outside interests helped her overcome the stresses associated with Year 12, and offered this advice to the Class of 2016: "It is important to get in to good study habits, and remember that all your hard work does pay off when you reach the end of the year and have the freedom to choose the path that you want. One of

the things I was most thankful for were my teachers. They are there to help and support you in any way that they can, so be sure to talk to them if you're ever feeling overwhelmed, because believe it or not, most of them do actually understand what you're feeling!"

Several students also achieved Certificates of Commendation for achieving A grades over Years 11 and 12: Marichris Dangazo, Tayla Hussey-Allen, Julia Nabizadah, Heidi Spark and Vivian Vu.

Congratulations to all these students and good luck in your chosen fields of study and work.

## CORRECTION

In *Norbertus* Issue 26, December 2015, an error was made in the SNC Milestones article on page 11. The 95 Club entry for 2015, our 50th Anniversary, should read Bryce Hellmrich and Monica Bordoni. *Norbertus* apologises to Bryce and Monica.

# 2006 Snapshot

**PRINCIPAL:** Mr Peter Hayes.

**PRIOR:** Fr Peter Stiglich.

**DEPUTY PRINCIPALS:** Ms Jenneth Stibi (Pastoral Care),  
Mr Bruno Celedin (Learning).

**ST NORBERT COLLEGE PARENTS AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION  
PRESIDENT:** Mrs Coral Dyson.

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRPERSON:**

Mr Des Dwyer who oversees:

- The installation of CCTV security cameras.
- Swimming pool cover installed.
- Covered seating areas in the Years 10 and 12 eating areas.
- New seating in the Xanten Centre.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

Paula Hughes who oversees:

- Introduction of an SRC logo.
- Introduction of an SRC newsletter.

**STUDENT ENROLLMENTS:** 637

**ST NORBERT COLLEGE DUX:** Rhys Feeney.

**NORBERTINE CANONS' AWARD:** Megan White.

**CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:** Science laboratories to be consolidated into Magdeburg block; refurbished administration and student services centre, and; the Prémontré Library receives a \$75,000 refurbishment courtesy of a Federal Government grant.

**ST NORBERT COLLEGE DEVELOPMENTS AND INNOVATIONS:**

- Academic extension classes introduced into Year 8, 9 and 10 English, Science, Mathematics and Society and Environment subjects.
- TAFE-accredited units introduced.
- Specialised Basketball Programme introduced.
- Saint Swim Squad formed in conjunction with St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.
- Inaugural Kairos retreat is conducted.
- Three Norbertine confreres from Mananthavady, India arrive late in 2005 and join the St Norbert College Priory.

**WINNERS OF SPORTING EVENTS:**

- Swimming: Kilnacrott.
- Athletics: Magdeburg.
- Cross country: Prémontré.

**OVERALL CHAMPION HOUSE:** Prémontré.

## RHYS FEENEY



2006 YEAR 12 DUX

**Rhys** Feeney (Class of 2006) is a former Tongerlo House member and recipient of the Year 12 Dux Award. Now based in London, Rhys has gained a lot of experience in the business and corporate world and is currently working as a business analyst. Rhys has an interest in working in developing nations and in 2015 worked in Uganda in a medical organisation then a solar energy venture. In addition to his busy work schedule Rhys immerses himself in a range of activities including triathlons, hiking and exploring new cultures and cuisines through adventure travel. Rhys also finds time to volunteer as a surf life-saver and gains satisfaction from helping to give back something

to society. "Knowing that you are contributing to the community by keeping the beaches safe and looking out for others tends to reflect our College motto," Rhys said.

Even though Rhys won the Dux award he still had plenty of time for extra-curricular activities at St Norbert College and encourages current students to do likewise.

"Be part of the St Norberts community and get involved in as many things as possible – sports, music, arts and other activities. School isn't just about the books, so embrace the other aspects of it and have fun."

Rhys has fond memories of his experience at St Norbert College but recalls that Jen Jansen, as Head of Tongerlo House and his English Literature teacher, really had an impact on him.

"Miss Jansen was a constant source of guidance and advice," he said, "and she was always encouraging me to get the best out of my abilities."

One other strong recollection Rhys has from his time at St Norberts is the dead-heat finish he shared with his good mate Jacob Salter in the 2006 Open Cross Country race. "I'll never forget that," Rhys laughed, "to this day I still believe I won!"



NOT ONLY  
**FRIENDS,**  
 BUT *Family*



**Taryn** Luttrell (Class of 2006) is currently enjoying a working holiday in Whistler, Canada and writes about the strong bonds of friendship between some of her fellow 2006 graduates Melinda Hush, Rachel Higgins, Kasia Borkowski and Melanie Dawkins.

"After leaving St Norbert College we all took the university road. I completed a teaching degree, Rachel a masters degree in physiotherapy, Kasia a double degree in tourism and teaching, Melinda a double degree in geology and environmental biology and Melanie completed a degree in commerce with honours in tourism management. We

are all individuals apart, off in different parts of the globe, pursuing our own hopes and dreams, however when joined together in Year 8 in 2002 we formed a friendship at St Norbert College that has grown as we have, and will last a lifetime. Even after ten years out in the real world we still reminisce about our time at the College and can't think of how we ever got so old.

We all have so many fond memories, from the study (or lack thereof for some of us), the carnivals (Prémontreé winning most of them) the tears, laughter and fun. Never will we forget the teachers telling us off for being too

loud or the no boys allowed picnic on the school oval. For us our time at St Norbert College is cherished and will never be forgotten as it is the place that brought us all together, the stepping stone into our future and the reason we have become not only friends but family."

Melanie is the assistant conference and events sales manager at Accors Hotels Sydney Olympic Park, Melinda is a project geologist at Doray Minerals, Rachael is a senior physiotherapist at Fiona Stanley Hospital and Kasia is a year 4-6 primary school teacher at Warakurna remote community.

*Melinda, Rachel, Taryn, Kasia and Melanie from the Class of 2006.*

**WORKING**  
 HOLIDAY

**Nathan** Bianchini (Class of 2006) was in Mr Adams' homeroom in Xanten and is now living and working in the United Kingdom as a plumber. Nathan says he was grateful for his time at St Norbert College and for the guidance he received in mapping out his career path with help in securing a plumbing pre-apprenticeship.

Nathan hopes to be back in Australia in the not too distant future after a leisurely trip around the world. We look forward to your return, Nathan.





## WORKING TO LIVE

**Craig** Looby (Class of 2006) is currently a FIFO hydrogeologist with Fortescue Metals Group who lives by the maxim "work to live, don't live to work", and has combined his career with numerous overseas trips through several continents around the world. Among his happy times in Xanten surrounded by good mates, Craig reminisced about the time his older brother Brad ordered him to compete in a 100 butterfly race that almost had disastrous consequences for the novice butterflyer. Craig would encourage students at St Norberts to enjoy school, have good friends, learn a second language and travel the world. He laments how quickly ten years have passed and one day plans to move to Sweden to enjoy "the beautiful scenery". Please remember to send some photographs to *Norbertus*, Craig!

## THE BOWLING BAKER

**If** you have recently tucked into some tasty treats from the bakery at Coles Cannington, you probably have Class of 2006 graduate – and head baker - Cameron Lasic to thank for tingling your tastebuds.

Cameron was a Magdeburg House Captain – a role he relished – and says it had an impact on his life and career. "It gave me an insight into what it would be like to lead a large group of people", Cameron said, and he has applied the

skills he gleaned to coordinate the bakers he leads today. Cameron rates the Year 11 and 12 retreats, as well as the Cadré Retreat as significant events during his time at St Norberts which helped his growth and development as a person.

Cameron has also achieved great success in the sport of tenpin bowling where he has represented Western Australia, the Northern Territory and ultimately Australia in 2012 when he competed in the Indonesian Open in Jakarta. Cameron still holds the College motto "Ad Omnia Paratus" dear to his heart and says he always carries a small notebook on him to record ideas, recipes and other pearls of wisdom. Cameron is very content with his life at the moment and hopes all St Norbert students are as well. "I suppose that's what I'd like students of St Norbert College to know", Cameron said, "find things you enjoy and do them". Some tasty advice indeed.



## RECALLING THE SIMPLE LIFE

**Jacob** Salter (Class of 2006) was part of Kilnacrott House and remembers with fondness how simple and enjoyable life was when he was a student at St Norbert College: "School was a glorious and innocent time, where we were too preoccupied with kicking the footy on the oval or getting in trouble to worry about the problem of the world or even girls," he reminisced.

A talented student, Jacob was also a fierce competitor in the sporting arena. "My fondest memory was beating Rhys Feeney in the Year 12 cross country, when he pulled up short of the finish line, proving the race was a battle not just of the body, but of the mind as well!" Jacob recalled with a big smile.

After graduating from St Norbert College Jacob studied engineering at the University of Western Australia. He is currently working as a reliability engineer for a mining company in the Pilbara and hopes to work in South America in the next few years.



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**2006** was St Norbert College Principal Mr Peter Hayes' tenth year as principal and his enduring memory of that time in the College's history was the consolidation and expansion of the College's Student Ministry programs.

"I fondly recall the Student Ministry programs being the exciting growth story of 2006", Peter said. "The Quest Retreat, the first Kairos Retreat and the Year 11 community service experience generated great enthusiasm and offered students great scope for personal growth and community connection."

Peter was passionate about student community service and used knowledge gained overseas while studying on a Churchill Scholarship to lay the foundation for the Student Ministry Centre that does

such amazing work under the guidance of Ms Margaret Kyd today.

Peter left St Norbert College in 2007 for a stint at the Catholic Education Office before joining St John Of God Health Care as Director of Mission. Now retired, Peter spends his time doing occasional consultancy work at St John of God Health Care, volunteering as a guide on Rottnest Island, learning Spanish, travelling and playing golf.

Despite having quite a busy retirement schedule, Peter still keeps an eye on developments at St Norbert College. "I always look forward to reading *Norbertus* over a cup of coffee!" he quipped.

*Norbertus* and the St Norbert College community wish Peter well in retirement.

# Family TIES

Vaughn Roberts and Jacob and Jordon-Blaze Roberts



Gigi Armenti

**Justine** Miller (Class of 1987) is a former St Norbert College student whose daughter Gigi Armenti is continuing the family tradition by becoming a Year 7 Tongerlo student some 29 years after her mother graduated. Gigi's sister Tallulah is also at St Norbert College in Year 9.

Despite not having the opportunity to enjoy some of the modern facilities Gigi takes for granted, Justine enjoyed her time at St Norberts and is very happy Gigi is following in her footsteps. "We might not have had the quality of classrooms students enjoy today," Justine said, "but we had good teachers like Ms Grzenda in Applied Business Studies and great community spirit, which translated into a great work ethic." Among her happy memories Justine recalled being part of the Year 12 Theatre Arts Program, her Year 12 Presentation Night and attending a Student Representative Council camp.

Gigi has settled into her new school environment well and is grateful for the modern Br Pat Forum, a wide variety of subjects from which to choose, and student facilities like Café 135@Treasure. She is glad her parents arranged for her to come to St Norbert College and looks forward a successful and rewarding time as she moves through the years. "I have made some great friends already," Gigi said, "and the classes are great, too."

**Vaughn** Roberts (Class of 1996) has two sons following in his footsteps at St Norbert College - Jacob in X2 and Jordon-Blaze in X2. Thinking back 20 years ago, one of Vaughn's most memorable moments at St Norbert College was performing during Year 12 in a play entitled "Bone Chiller." Although he is the first to admit his brief role as a murdered butler was not worthy of an Academy Award, Vaughn did however "enjoy the experience of all the cast working hard together and learning in a fun and creative environment," which was largely thanks to the expertise of Miss Kerri Hilton.

Vaughn credits Miss Hilton and his Homeroom teacher Mrs Trish Van Nus as having an influence on developing skills which he has found useful in his personal and business life.

"Even though these two teachers did not directly give me the skills to work within the design and construction industry, they did teach me how to conduct myself confidently and deal with all types of people and situations with a strength of character and respect," Vaughn said.



Mr Vaughn Roberts, Jordon-Blaze and Jacob.

Vaughn is the founder and owner of GVM Solutions, a design and space planning consultancy and construction, refurbishment and fit-out company, which prides itself on operating to high ethical standards. One clear example of the company's environmentally and socially responsible policies is rather than dispose of redundant desks and storage units to landfill, every effort is made to donate such furniture to charities or not-for-profit organisations. "In the past few years we have helped many organisations by providing them with basic office fit-outs for free," Vaughn said.

Twenty years after leaving St Norbert College Vaughn now finds himself driving down Treasure Road each morning to drop off his two boys and says the fact that they all have St Norberts in common has helped the boys feel comfortable in their new environment. "I can relate to them closely when they tell me about their day and what classes they had," he said. "It has been fun walking around the school with the boys sharing my past experiences, as well as flicking through old school annuals and describing the teachers and my mates, most of whom I still catch up with at BBQs."

Jacob and Jordon-Blaze have settled into St Norberts well and are looking forward to making their own stamp on the College over the next few years. They love the variety of things to choose from and appreciate having several different teachers instead of mainly one in primary school. "The students and teachers are great, but are we still not used to having such a large amount of stuff on such small desks!" they laughed.

Here's hoping the Roberts name lives on for many more generations at St Norbert College.

# PAST *Students*

## DEMI GOUGH

**Congratulations** to Demi Gough (nee Walter, Class of 2010) who married husband Ryan in September 2014. Demi says at St Norbert College she was strongly motivated by her Year 12 English and Art teachers, Mr McKenzie and Ms Marsh respectively, who inspired a life-long love of writing and art. Demi was also deeply affected by the Year 8 and Kairos retreats she attended, describing them as life-

changing events which helped her discover her deep sense of Christianity. Her Student Ministry participation was also inspirational and she encourages present St Norbert students to get involved. "If you don't want to be a part of the Student Ministry, embrace the retreats and all the experiences like the camps – they were incredible", Demi said. "Dream big, believe in God and yourself, and inspire and encourage others."



## SARAH WAMBECK



**In** the 1989 film *Dead Poets Society* Robin Williams plays the role of an inspirational teacher who encourages his students to achieve great things, a notion he promotes with the Latin expression *carpe diem*, meaning "seize the day". Sarah Wambeck (Class of 1995) recalls the large *carpe diem* banner in Mr Pollaers' Kilnacrott homeroom and says the notion of seizing unexpected opportunities was behind her decision to embrace career opportunities in Sydney and the United States. Sarah, who is currently the manager of Chevron Australasia Business Unit's IT budget said "We went for it and the memories and friendships will last a lifetime."

Prior to Chevron Sarah worked as an IT systems consultant at Deloitte and feels the seeds of her IT career may have been sown when she changed subjects and joined Mr Bottega's computing class at St Norbert College. Sarah is a firm believer in building productive study habits which - combined with hard work and persistence - will stand you in good stead in school, work and life in general. What she is not a firm believer in, is camping and the outdoors. One of

her enduring memories of her time at St Norbert College is the Year 10 outdoor adventure camp which provided enough excitement to last Sarah a lifetime. "I never again felt the urge to go camping!" Sarah laughed.

Sarah says she has had times when the Norbertine ethos has touched her during her life including one occasion when she allowed a family of strangers to join her on a three-hour drive to Dallas. Sarah's plane to Dallas had been diverted due to bad weather and passengers had to suffer a six hour wait on board before disembarking and luckily securing the last rental vehicle available, a mini-van. While others may have hesitated Sarah welcomed the South American family to join her and her husband and learnt of the hardships the family had endured to make a new life in America. "We learned that the 12 year old boy had travelled by foot from El Salvador to join his aunty", Sarah said, "and sharing our stories made for a very memorable ride and helped to remind us of the good fortune we often take for granted."

# MICHELLE LUCAS

**Michelle** Lucas (Class of 1988, nee Devereux) is an experienced teacher who is currently Head of Vocational Programmes at Mandurah Catholic College. She recently caught up with Miss Hilton and had this to say about her time at St Norbert College in the 1980s...

St Norbert provided me with a sense of service, confidence, acceptance and opportunity. I was lucky to be taught by the Norbertine brothers and priests who were great role models and made us aware of



St Norbert and the good work he did. I also was taught by the nuns who were caring and special women. I learnt to touch type and have a passion for business, social sciences and theatre. I was taught by amazing teachers and I have used their qualities in my own teaching career.

My fondest memories of my time at St Norbert College include the Year 10 survival camp, the Year 8 and 12 retreats, our Year 12 production of Fools, swimming training, and Mrs Tavani making us have wooden boxes over our hands so we couldn't see the keyboard!

To the students of today I would say you are so lucky to get such a great education. My sisters, brother and cousin have all graduated from St Norberts. We are all successful and have great jobs. We were given many opportunities and tools to get a well rounded education and were provided with life skills from St Norbert College to succeed. I now send my students from Mandurah Catholic College to attend the Plumbing and Gas Trade Centre. St Norbert still has a very good reputation and fantastic facilities. I would encourage students to appreciate the education you receive and make sure you take every opportunity you have to learn.



*Rick and Wendy Staker (centre) with daughter-in-law Fiona and son Matt.*

# WENDY STAKER

**Wendy** Staker (nee Bradley, Class of 1980) was one of the brave girls who were part of the first female intake at St Norbert College in 1976. Despite being heavily outnumbered by the boys Wendy says the girls coped well and that she has "mostly fond" memories of the early pioneering years! Wendy became a forensic technician and credits Mr Peter Murray and his upper-school law class with having a very positive impact on her life. Married to Rick for 33 years and living in Roleystone, Wendy used to enjoy

snow skiing and travelling often to visit family in the UK before illness started to restrict her travels.

Wendy and Rick have a son, Matt, who is married with a three year old daughter and daughter Rhianna who, along with her husband Nathan, is a professional ballroom dancer.

Wendy's story is just part of the rich tapestry that makes up the St Norbert College history and we wish her and her family well.



## SABRINA ROBERTS

**Sabrina** Roberts (nee Arumugam) of the Class of 1999 graduated from Murdoch University with a teaching degree in 2003 and has taught early childhood and Year 4 in several schools including Mel Maria Catholic Primary School where she is currently on maternity leave. Sabrina married Andrew Roberts in January 2009 and together have Thomas (three years of age) and Hudson (20 months). A few months ago this brave

couple took the boys on a family adventure to Europe for eight weeks, the highlight being present when Sabrina's brother Adrian (Class of 2002) married his Irish fiancée in Dublin. While Sabrina is busy looking after her 'three boys' she also has time to recall fond memories of her time at the College in the nineties and continues to keep in touch with many good friends such as Marceline Brantner (nee Tan).

## REBECCA REY

**Dr** Rebecca Rey (Class of 2002) has blended travelling the world and academic success and recently was awarded a doctorate in English and Cultural Studies. Rebecca writes.....

"I completed a UWA Bachelor of Arts with First-Class Honours in English and Cultural Studies and Philosophy in 2006 and, knowing I wanted to continue with postgrad study, I took a gap year in 2007. I travelled Asia and Europe, couchsurfing from Budapest to Florence and learning about my roots in Romania and Spain.

Returning to Perth, I embarked on a PhD in English and Cultural Studies, gaining funding to dig through archives in Austin and present my research at several conferences in the US and Canada. Meanwhile, back home, I moved from being in the class to being head of the class: I taught undergrad classes, lectured behind lecturns with shaky knees, and worked as editorial assistant of a world-class philosophy journal for six years.

Now I work in Student Communications at UWA and my book 'Staging Don DeLillo' is being



published by Routledge, soon appearing in university libraries. It's absolutely bizarre that an Aussie from Perth is the expert on New York writer Don DeLillo's plays... I probably wouldn't believe it if it wasn't me!

Time has flown amazingly fast and I've enjoyed every single minute of the journey, beginning with the wonderful influences of my high school teachers who knew that hard work always pays off. And they were right."



# WHAT CAN ONE *Say?*

KERRI P. HILTON

**2016** is Miss Kerri Hilton's 30th year at St Norbert College. Her long-time friend and "partner in drama", Mrs Trish Van Nus takes a look at look at their teamwork, and some of Kerri's contributions over the years....

"As her "partner in drama" and all things Xanten Centre for over 20 years, we have shared some special moments. Some of them funny, some dramatic, some downright grim, but most of all we did it together.

Kerri has always lived for her students, and the imparting of dramatic skills. When she arrived at St Norbert College in 1986, I met this vibrant woman who fitted in very well with the zany Xanten House staff, whose fortnightly morning tea celebrations were legendary. She is an extremely caring person, being famous for welcoming all the new staff with a card and a smile on their first day at the College.

Back to the Xanten Centre – oh how I remember school holiday, lunch time and after school rehearsals/auditions – getting that show and/or performance just right. Over the years we've created beanstalks that grew, carpets that "flew", wall safes, spaceships,

ghostly beings and furniture that fell apart (intentionally). Just a small sample – I'd be writing volumes to note everything, even if I did remember it all. As a director, Kerri is always hands-on and would be as much seen in the dressing room working on makeup and touching up a last minute look for a costume and she is working through the vocal warm-ups as director.

There are too many shows, and Diet Cokes to count, although the talent quests were always a favourite. Kerri would help contestants with their "showmanship" and "how to sell" their act. She has also been on stage as the "fill in" act while the Judges made their decision... Cheese anyone? Kerri will understand!

Nothing is ever left to chance with a Kerri Hilton Production, and the students understand what is expected of them as they grace the boards. There were often moments of sheer triumph on the stage, and the actors returned to the dressing room to rejoice – awaiting my "score"

That became something important to each show. In the quieter moments, I can say that I have seen Kerri tap-dance on the Xanten Centre stage, make funny shadow animals with the

spotlight, and play the keyboard – yes it happened and no, there are few photos!

Over her time at St Norbert College, Kerri has diversified and worked with the Student Council, helping students in their role as Councillors, prepared readers for masses and coached students that would lead the College assembly. Kerri continues to be an inspiration to her students, and may she continue to do so. I am privileged to have worked with her. Congratulations Kerri."



Miss Hitton relaxes with some students in Xanten Theatre in 2007.



# YES, IT MIGHT BE A **SCHOOL** BUT DON'T BE *scared...*



Cooper, Mariam, Alex, Lauren and Curtis.



Tomos, Caitlyn, Chloe and Abbey.



Raina, Chloe, Niamh, Max and Callum.



Chloe, Ciara and Leilani.

**After** a week or so of settling in to their new school *Norbertus* asked some of our new Year 7s what they liked about being a student at St Norbert College and this is what they had to say.

The best thing about being a student at St Norbert College is...

*I would have to say the teachers. They are caring, and if you are scared about this school, don't be. Yes it might have "school" in it, but it's a paradise.* Daniella Makay M5

*We get a bit more freedom and the classes are better.* Max Patriarca T7

*The Dance Club and all of the varieties of food and drinks at the canteen.* Niamh Cooksley P2

*My locker because I have never used one before.* Callum Broughton T4

*Knowing that you are well looked after by the staff and students. They are all so friendly and you know if you have any problems you can count on them as they are not scary but are friendly and caring.* Chloe Hewitt M1

*Making many new friends.* Raina Thomas K7

*The caring and welcoming environment of St Norbert College. Also the compassionate teachers, and how they really explain everything and help you if you need it.* Chloe Watson X6

*I have made many friends and have enjoyed my classes. All my teachers are very nice and I hope I get some of the same teachers next year.* Abbey Howley P1

*Having all the really good facilities at our disposal.* Tomos Williams X7

*The nice, caring, positive attitudes that everyone has here at St Norberts and the way teachers treat naughty children is very good. They don't yell or hurt.* Mariam Hayek M6

*The way the older kids are so nice to you and are always willing to help. Also the canteen ladies are really nice and funny and make some of the best cooked food I have tasted.* Curtis Eyre M4

*Meeting new friends. I have met so many people and the experience has been amazing.* Alex DeSilva T5

*The teachers and staff are very supportive and kind.* Lauren Mann P4

*All the teachers are nice and there are many sporting events like soccer, football, basketball, touch rugby, netball and cricket. There is also a St Norbert College website.* Cooper Edwards X7

*There are a lot of helpful resources if we have trouble. There are wonderful teachers and students.* Caitlyn Popelier T1

*You get to meet new people. You can get a good education and the work isn't that frustrating.* Chloe Ugle K4

*That you get to make really good friends and you have different types of subjects compared to primary school.* Leilani Miragliotta P5

*The school is friendly and you can ask anyone for help. The teachers are nice.* SEQTA Learn helps a lot. Ciara Mahon P1

# ST NORBERT COLLEGE HISTORY & HERITAGE

## Occasionally

*Norbertus* will be examining some aspects of our Norbertine history and heritage, our heraldry and our College here in Queens Park.

In this edition we look at a relative newcomer to our College – the statue of St Norbert, and we also enquire whether you know your way around Europe and can match our College house names with their place of origin in Europe.

So, if you would like to win a Café135@Treasure voucher for your favourite St Norbert College student, simply email the 12 answers to the following questions to the address opposite



## Statue of St Norbert

All St Norbert College students and staff members, and nearly all College parents are familiar with the statue of St Norbert which is pictured above. The statue stands proudly as yet another reminder of our Norbertine heritage and history and reminds us that St Norbert is always watching over us – keeping an eye on students as they go about their daily business and discreetly noting who is running late for class. Can you answer the following questions about the statue?

- 1 Which current staff member was responsible for the design and sculpting of the statue?
- 2 Which College club generously assisted in the creation of the statue?
- 3 In which year was the statue officially unveiled and blessed?
- 4 Which visiting Norbertine abbot blessed the statue?
- 5 What is St Norbert holding in his right hand?
- 6 In which court is the statue located?
- 7 All easy questions so far? This one will take some digging! Which current, long-serving male staff member posed as a model for the statue in the early design, sketching and planning stages? (Hint: He barracks for England in the Ashes)

## Our European – Queens Park Links

The map shows part of western Europe which contains some locations, towns and cities that were significant in the life of St Norbert and the spread of the Norbertine order of priests and brothers. To get five points in this question, simply link each of the College house crests with its appropriate number on the map.



To be in the running for a Café135@Treasure voucher for your favourite St Norbert College student, email your 12 answers to [fmulligan@norbert.wa.edu.au](mailto:fmulligan@norbert.wa.edu.au) with the subject heading *Norbertus Quiz*. The winner will be notified by return email and answers published on the College facebook page.

Competition conditions: One entry per person. Current St Norbert College staff members are ineligible. The first, neatest, correct entry will be determined the winner. The judge's decision is final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into.



St Norbert  
College

# STUDENT *Reunions* IN 2016

*Please save the following dates:*

**CLASS OF 1996**

Saturday October 15, 2016

**CLASS OF 2006**

Saturday October 22, 2016



Past students Andrew Mortimer (Class of 1995), Michael Pizzali (2007), Rafic Aoun (2004), Ben Rigg (2007) and Callum Butler (2007) celebrate the Reserves' victory over Nollamara.

# SNESA THE 2016 SEASON SO FAR...

## League

Our League team has fought hard this year so far with some tough losses. Whilst we are not a team that makes excuses we have been in many winnable positions, but were not able to seal the deal. We have a great young team with quality coaches and individuals. Playing finals is still the objective and with some former St Norbert students in our leadership group, we will be ensuring we do everything in our power to get there.

## Reserves

Our Reserves team recently enjoyed their second win of the season. The boys kicked away against Dianella-Morley last week to move up the ladder. We're hoping our

reserves team can provide the right support to the league team, so that both can enjoy success in 2016!

## Colts

Our Colts team is yet to taste success in 2016, although coming close on many occasions. Many of the young men coming through our colts program show great potential and we look forward to having them at the club in the future. With some extra work together on the training track and continuous support, we think victory is just around the corner.

## Br Patrick Memorial Game

We at the SNESA Football Club have been conducting our Brother Patrick Memorial

Game at our first home game, every year for the past ten years. We now have nine Brother Pat Medallists at the club, most of which are ex-students, which reflects the significant impact Brother Pat had on the school and our footy club. This year, we have decided to tie in our annual Brother Pat Memorial Game to St Norbert's Day. It will be held on Saturday, June 11th at Soklich & Co Oval (Queens Park Oval), when we take on the Manning Rippers. We look forward to seeing families and friends of the College come down to support our boys.

Go SNESA!

Rafic Aoun  
Club President



**ST NORBERT COLLEGE**

135 Treasure Road Queens Park WA 6107

Tel: (08) 9350 5433 • Fax: (08) 9356 1602 • Email: [snc@norbert.wa.edu.au](mailto:snc@norbert.wa.edu.au)

[www.norbert.wa.edu.au](http://www.norbert.wa.edu.au)