

MOUNT WAVERLEY SECONDARY COLLEGE

Alumni Monthly Newsletter

Issue 3

August 2022

Welcome

Welcome to August's issue of Mount Waverley Secondary College Alumni Monthly Newsletter.

In this issue, read about Alumni living overseas and Alumni who had the opportunity to give back to our school community.

High school reunions are exciting as you get a chance to catch up with your old classmates and reminisce about the good old days. Class of 82 is having a 40 year reunion, read the full details in this newsletter.

We welcome any updates of achievements and celebrations, we love to hear all about what our Alumni are up to, email me at alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au.

Community. Choice. Engagement.

Featured in this issue

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Alumni of the Month

This month's Alumni Spotlight is on our former student Jo Douglass, class of 1977.

A detailed description on this Spotlight can be seen on the next page of this newsletter or on our Alumni Facebook page. Click here to [view](#).

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone for a future Alumni Spotlight, I would love to hear from you.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JO DOUGLASS

CLASS OF 1977



When Jo was young she wanted to be an author, lawyer or a doctor.

WHAT HAS SHE BEEN UP TO?

On completing Year 12 at Mt Waverley High School (as it was known then), Jo went to Monash University and graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery. She initially worked at the Alfred Hospital before moving to the UK in 1990 to finish her specialty medical training (FRACP) in respiratory medicine and allergic disease, working in Southampton and London. She returned to the Alfred Hospital and Monash University in 1994, graduating in 2000 with a Doctor of Medicine. In 2012 she took up a position at the Royal Melbourne Hospital as Head of the Department of Immunology and Allergy and in 2020 she became the first woman to be appointed James Stewart Professor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne.

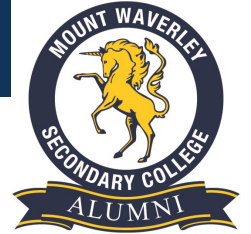
WHERE IS SHE NOW?

Jo is currently the James Stewart Professor and Head, Department of Medicine, The University of Melbourne and Director of Research at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

SOMETHING YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HER

Jo is married to Glenn and they have two, now adult, children. Jo's COVID "puppy" was a horse, Summer K and they are learning to get along.





Congratulations to our Alumni living overseas

Alumni in London

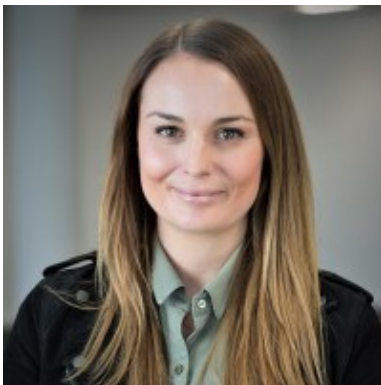


Patricia Kapnizos
Class of 1997

Patricia studied a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Communication at Monash University. Her career started as a junior retail marketer and progressed to various marketing and sales roles. Eventually she moved to a client service role with a market research agency, specialising in customer loyalty data and insights which was a perfect combination of marketing and sales for her. She has been in the same industry ever since and works with FMCG/CPG businesses and supermarkets and helps them make data driven retail decisions. She is currently living in London where she leads the company's European retail partnerships.



We wish Patricia all the best in her career.



Emma Newton
Class of 2004

Emma studied BA/BCom from Monash University, graduate job as an Accountant for Ernst & Young at their Exhibition Street, office. Emma moved with the company to London. In 2019 Emma joined Deloitte Accounting Firm and stayed with them for over 4 years before making the move to Tesco, the largest grocery retailer in the UK. She has met an English guy and is having a baby. *We wish Emma all the best.*

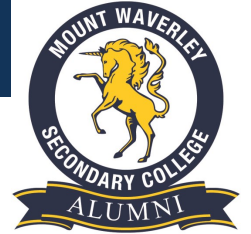


Alumni in Denmark

Nick completed a double degree Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Commerce from Monash University. He worked in government for ten years before packing up his life and moving to Denmark, where he returned to University to study a Master's in Economics. Nick now lives in Copenhagen and is a PhD student at Lund University in Sweden. He works on Scandinavian economic history - examining the role of education in the economic development of Denmark, Norway and Sweden since 1800. *We wish Nick all the best in his endeavours.*



Nick Ford
Class of 2002



Congratulations to our Alumni living overseas

Alumni in Singapore



Ashley Toth
Class of 2005

Ashley graduated in 2005 and became an award winning baker and has recently graduated as a teacher completing a Bachelor of Education from Swinburne University and now lives in Singapore. *We wish Ashley all the best in his career.*



Alumni in USA

Sree graduated with a double degree in Science and Arts at Monash University. She then did her Masters in Science (Biology) at Rutgers University (USA). She is currently in the US undertaking a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from Rutgers. Her end goal is to become a lecturer in the field of Biology at a university and ultimately improve Science education. *We wish Sree all the best in her career.*



Sree Kumar
Class of 2015



Alumni in Ireland



Julia Paterson
Class of 2016

Julia completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours) and Bachelor of Computer Science at Monash University where she majored in Psychology and Data Science. She is now completing a Ph.D. in Computational Psychiatry at Trinity College Dublin in Ireland. Her current research is about understanding how people with ADHD think differently to people without ADHD by using new computer software to analyse brain scans. It is led by her own experience living with ADHD and she is particularly passionate about neurodiversity-affirmative research and building community engagement in neuroscience and psychiatry. Julia is thankful to her VCE Maths Methods and Psychology teachers at MWSC for helping her get to where she is today. *We wish Julia all the best in her research.*





What are your best memories of Mount Waverley Secondary College?

"It was fun - even liberating - being at school when girls were first allowed to wear trousers. And I remember wild times in the year 12 girls' locker room - loud music, wagged classes, trying to hide cigarette smoke. I am also grateful to our year 11 English teacher, who really taught us to think"

Anne Cladingboel
Class of 1973

"The people I went to school with. The sense of community and belonging"

Dorian Detragiache
Class of 2002

"Being involved in the annual school productions. Being involved in various leadership opportunities. The lifelong friendships made"

Abbie Rose
Class of 2017

"Mr Pittard standing on his corner like a traffic cop"

Colin Elliott
Class of 1982

"Playing hackysack at lunchtime with my friends for the whole of year 12"

Catherine Rains
Class of 1999

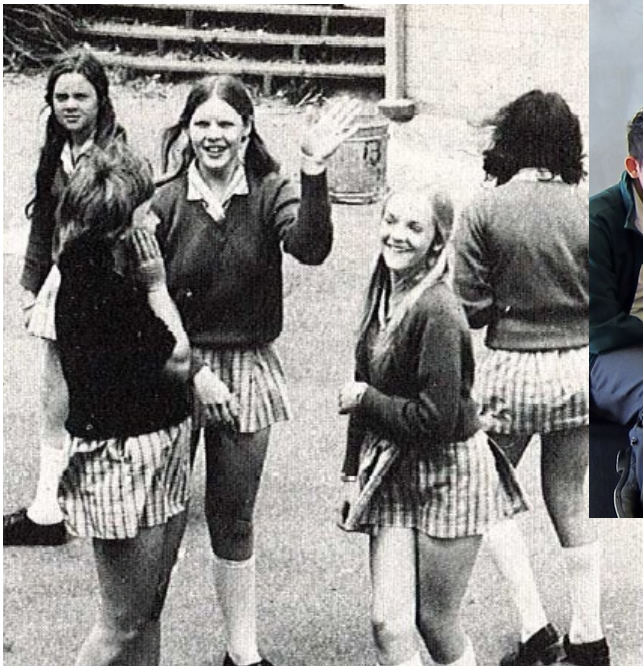
Photos fresh from the Archives



Year 12 **2000**



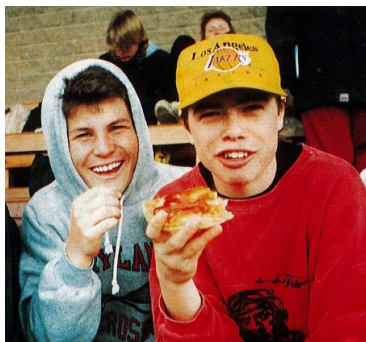
Year 7 Da Vinci Decathlon **2009**



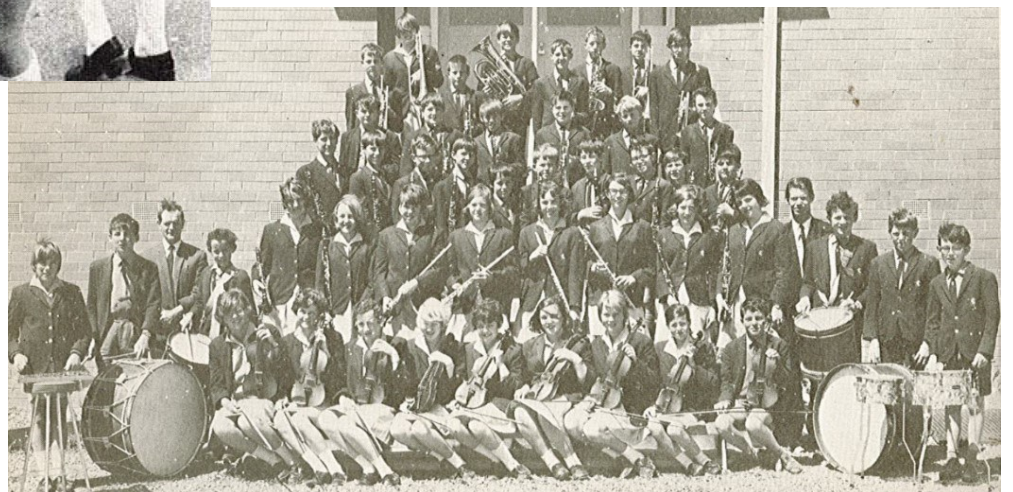
School Life **1973**



Year 9 City Explore **2017**



School Life **1991**



School Orchestra **1967**

Photos fresh from the Archives



School Career Expo 2018



School Life 1978



School Life 1991



Year 12 1994



Year 12 2006



VCE Fancy Dress 2001



House Captains 1965 / 1966



Giving Back

We have such a diverse range of talents and experiences amongst our alumni, and the students really benefit from your support, and they listen because you share a common starting point at Mount Waverley Secondary College. If you can help in any of the following ways, please contact our Alumni Coordinator at alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au

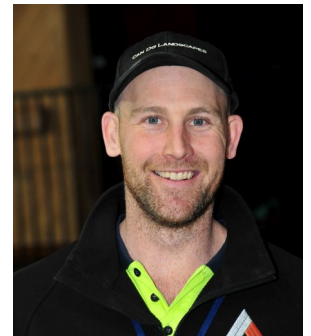
- Act as a mentor to current students in person, by phone or email.
- Special days - Talk to students about what you've been up to since leaving.
- Providing work experience opportunities for current students.



Thank you to Chana Walsh (Class of 2019), who helped our students with weekly dance rehearsals for this year's school production of Matilda.

"There have been two songs that I have choreographed, and I've run the rehearsals covering those."

A big thank you to our Alumni Dean Oliver (Class of 2010) for participating in a busy schedule in July. He was on hand at the Tertiary Expo chatting to Year 10's and participating in the VCE VM Information evening talking to parents and students about his career pathway. We very much appreciated it!



Congratulations

Congratulations to Emily Whitehead (Class of 2018)! Winning a Commonwealth Games Bronze medal in her individual performance and Silver medal as part of the Women's Artistic Gymnastics team! What an extra bonus Emily got to meet the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Charlotte!



Alumni events



When was the last time you saw your school friends from the early 1980s?
“Last week?” “Last year?” “Last decade?”
Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect.
Click below for tickets.

[Buy Tickets Now!](#)

*This event is organised by
Colin Elliott and John Cooney (Class of 82)*





Stay connected

Website



Email alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au

Facebook



LinkedIn



Leave your details

Click the button below to register your details and keep in touch.

REGISTER NOW

CLICK HERE

I wonder what they're doing now?

What are all the former students of Mount Waverley Secondary College doing nowadays? We still want to maintain recognition of your achievements big or small. Take advantage of our alumni network to connect with other alumni.

So how about it - to all of you ex-students out there - let's hear from you.

Victoria Tortopidis

Alumni Coordinator

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