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**Happy 21st Birthday**

**Class of 2003**
The Helena College community welcomes the new Junior School Principal, Marie Barton.

Diploma of Teaching
Bachelor of Education (Maths)
Masters of Religious Education

Background
I have been a teacher for 28 years and have been involved in school leadership as an Assistant Principal for 19 years. During that time I was invited to be short term principal on three occasions; once in the country at Northampton, at St Anthony’s in Wanneroo and Matthew Gibney in High Wycombe.

Throughout my teaching career I have taught from Years 2 to Year 7 as a classroom teacher and I have also taught children from pre-primary to Year 7 as a music and information technology specialist. I have a passion for teaching that has grown and deepened through time and, I enjoy the opportunity that a leadership role allows to work in collaborative leadership with the whole school community.

What a wonderful day we had with our Old Helenians on Friday, 30 March. We had several ‘old’ students visiting us who now live in Kalgoorlie. It was great to catch up with them and hear their recollections of life at Helena in the ‘old days’. There was a display of memorabilia for them to browse through and much laughter and discussion took place about how the school had changed since their time here. A time capsule that was buried during the 1980s was opened at a ceremony with the Old Helenians and the whole school present. It was an exciting time and the old school gong was rung – a sound which the past students recognised readily as it was used to call them to meals, etc.

We are still in search of another time capsule that was buried in the 80s so if anyone has any ideas about where it may be hidden please contact us at the Junior School.

Marie Barton
Principal
Junior School
mbarton@helena.wa.edu.au

A message from Senior School Principal, John Allen-Williams

Best wishes to all Old Helenians during this year when the realisation of climate change seems to have finally broken through right across Australia. Planet Earth is in an age of ‘global warming’ as they say.

Thinking about trips to Kalbarri over the years it was quite a while back that I remember thinking that Perth was getting much more ‘Geraldton-like’ in terms of climate and the area north of Geraldton much more reliant on tropical, or monsoon derived, weather. All the weather systems seem to be ‘shifting south’ as they affect our west coast.

Many of you will relate to the Year 10 students currently starting to prepare for their Kalbarri or Cape to Cape walk expeditions, now a firm part of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award.

There is a ‘climate change’ afoot in educational circles as well. Having a considerable impact on our schools are ever-increasing federal compliance requirements, all tied to funding. They vary from flags to values with just about every letter of the alphabet in between represented in yet another impost. The latest threatening of a ‘breaking wave’ is in the area of set requirements on performance pay for teachers which seems to be the current federal minister’s favourite topic.

The other aspect of the climate change is the impact of senior secondary modifications at the same time as state legislation is requiring all students to ‘stay on’ (in some form of education or training) until the year they turn seventeen. These modifications are having a considerable impact on teaching conditions in our school.

In all respects my hope is that we may move through a period of turbulence to genuinely sustainable living and working conditions in the future.

Yours sincerely
John Allen-Williams
Principal
Helena College Senior School
principal@helena.wa.edu.au

Correspondence received from Old Helenians...

Dear Sally and all those involved in organising the ‘old’ Helenains Reunion,
Thank you for making us all seem so welcome. It was nice to see the school again and catch up with peers. Helena Junior School looks as lovely as ever!!
Regards
Melissa Boekhoorn (Nee BALL)

Dear Julie
Thank you so much for inviting us back to Helena. It was really great to catch up with the ‘old’ students and reminisce about our time there. I had not been back to the school since I left in 1955 so the changes had been enormous and all for the better! I made some wonderful friends who remain friends to this day. They are all outstanding people whose strong character was formed at this time. I wish the ‘new’ Helena Junior School well, and thank you once again for the opportunity to come back. The impression I came away with was of a caring, peaceful learning environment which the community can be proud of.
With kind regards
Jill Thomas (nee HOLMES)
Back to Helena School Reunion

Friday, 30 March 2007

DID YOU KNOW that Helena College Junior School had its very early beginnings in Perth, followed by a move to McNeil St in Peppermint Grove, on a site now part of PLC? Helena School (as it was then known) eventually relocated to Darlington in the early 1940s when many women and children were being evacuated from the coast during the Second World War.

In 1942, after Principal Miss Jessie Jones died, Miss Jane Ashbury became Principal, and Miss Mary Jones came back from the family station to assist. Miss Mary looked after the running of the boarding department, taking on the responsibility of the catering and the accounting. At that time there were about twenty-five boarders, mostly from WA country towns and a few from Malaysia. Imagine being only three, four and five years of age and being sent away to boarding school, far from mum and dad, brothers and sisters, far away from the farm, the country towns and familiar surroundings. It must have been hard, both on the parents and the children. But the children were tough. They had to be to survive in their new 'home' away from home in Darlington.

Eileen Dowsett (nee Jones) remembers 'boarders' outings with other children and their parents on Sundays, walking to the creek on the weekend and picking wildflowers on the spare block (now the Junior School oval) and that daily dose of Hypol. Ugh!'

Cecily Pritchard (nee Ray) remembers 'reading Wind in The Willows with Pip Preistner, folk dancing in our floral skirts, Miss Ashbury's sewing and handwork, white smocked Sunday frocks that we wore to church, lined up in a crocodile. What a picture! 2 by 2, all in white frocks and panama hats.'

Diana Warnock (nee Robinson) remembers 'catching tadpoles, feeding the chooks and Miss Marion singing When Love is Kind.'

John Jones remembers that he 'wanted to get a rock and kill her (Miss Jones) so I could go home to mother.'

In the 1960s there were about thirty-five boarders. The boys went on to Guildford Grammar School after Grade 3 and the high school girls who boarded went on to study at Perth College.

At the recent Back to Helena School Reunion several of these Old Helenians from the late forties and early fifties returned to catch up with ex-classmates from that era. Joining them were ex-students from the 1980s, as well as past and present staff. Visitors and guests met in the old school house, now the Junior School music room. There were many comments about how small it now seemed compared to how it must have appeared to a tiny child. A walk through the old Helena House brought back many memories.

We used to sleep on the verandahs.... There were bunk beds all around... it was freezing in winter... I had to go and chop wood... I remember having to string the beans for Sunday lunch before we walked to church... oh the concerts we had were fantastic... playing in the bush around here...

To add to the nostalgia we had prepared a memorabilia display of some of the old photographs and documents. You can be sure that the conversation was lively and the air thick with reminiscences of what life was like at Helena School in the early days.

After a tour of the school the visitors joined with the whole school – staff and students – gathered in the amphitheatre to witness the opening of a time capsule, which had been buried since 1980.

Many thanks to current Junior School parent and P&F Secretary, Jacinda Jansen, for preparing a delicious morning tea. Thank you also to the wonderful Year 6 students who helped to serve refreshments.
Billy Tea and Damper 1987 - 2007

The demand for a Helena College Senior School was first identified in June 1982, when Junior School parents were surveyed for their input about what they liked and didn’t like about the school.

Overwhelmingly the typical response from parents at that time was that they were disappointed that the education of their children at Helena College ended at Year 7 level.

Over the next few years much groundwork and research was done and a proposal to establish a senior campus was soon under way for the Bilgoman Rd site. Mr Tom Herzfeld and the College Council completed much of the early planning and documentation.

On 2 May 1987, commencing at 3 pm, a small group of people gathered on the bush block on Bilgoman Road for a ‘billy tea and damper’ meeting.

Lloyd Butcher, Chair of Council, chaired the meeting. Brian Hassell, then Principal of the Junior School, spoke about the philosophy and ethos of the school.

Mike Ipkendanz, architect, presented drawings of the proposed new campus buildings.

Sally Herzfeld, appointed as inaugural co-ordinator of the new school, spoke on the proposed curriculum. The local hills newspapers were invited, as were parents of prospective Year 8 students.

From little things big things grow…..Originally there were only 27 Year 8 students, four classrooms, two general-purpose rooms, offices and an ablution block. Sally Herzfeld was the Coordinator, and Alasdair Leonard was the only full time teacher. Compare this with our current enrolment of 470 students from Year 7 to Year 12, with fantastic facilities across all learning areas.

This week we celebrated the 20th anniversary with another ‘billy tea and damper’ meeting for staff at recess. Sally Herzfeld was out there behind the staff room, building a fireplace, boiling the billy and making the damper for all to share. Sally also spoke about the history behind how the Senior School came to be the school it is today.

Current staff, Sally and Tom Herzfeld, and special guests, including the architect, Mike Ipkendanz, and foundation staff member, Mme. Gael Cameron, enjoyed the tea and damper.

We look forward to further celebrations in 2008, when we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the opening of Helena College Senior School.
News from Old Helenians

Births...

PITT, Justin
Justin (Health & Phys Ed Coordinator) and Mel welcomed a beautiful baby girl Bria Bettina Pitt - 8lbs 11oz on 15 February 2007.

BATES, Jason
Jason and Lauren (nee WOODLEY, Class of 1996) welcomed a baby girl, Jessica, on 10 March, 2007 at Mercy Hospital.

WOOD, Tracey
Tracey (Relief teacher) and Matthew welcomed a beautiful baby boy, Sebastian Frank Wood - 8lb 10oz on 10 April 2007.

Marriages...

COWPER, Rachel (Class of 2000) and Noel Christian were married in St John’s Anglican Church in Northam on 30 September 2006. Naomi DREHER (Class of 2000) was a bridesmaid. The bridal party travelled by carriage to the breakfast reception at the Northam Town Hall. Their honeymoon was spent on the Indian-Pacific train to Adelaide and exploring the Flinders Ranges. Congratulations to you both!

In Loving Memory...

KELLY, Guy (Class of 2003)
Earlier this year the Helena College community extended their deepest sympathy to David, Sue and Steele on their tragic loss of their son and brother, Guy.
We remember Guy with fond memories. He was a gentle and considerate student and well loved by many in our community.

Le LIVRE, Phillip
Passed away in March 2007

WILLIAMS, Frances (nee JARVIS)
Passed away in June 2006

Note from Lenny Maiolo
artist, filmmaker and traveller of life

Since graduating from high school, I have continued painting. Last year I had my first major solo exhibition, comprising of about 30 works. The exhibition was held at our studio in my home in Sawyers Valley. To my amazement it was an incredible success, selling 24 paintings in total, 19 of which sold on the first night. I would especially like to thank all of my friends for being there and supporting me and for being there at my going away BBQ.

I currently live in Sydney and am working on more creative projects. I am a member of Urban Arts Base, a creative workgroup for youth, where I am developing my musical and artistic gifts.

I am working on recording an album, producing paintings for my next exhibition, and working on directing a short film; it is based around my experience with having schizophrenia as a teenager. The film is about having courage in the face of severe adversity and pain, exploring dark themes such as anxiety, loneliness and confusion, but also show a lot positive forces such as love, bravery, friendship and family bonds. For those of you close to me, expect to see someone playing YOU up there on the screen... hope that brings a smile to your face.

With future plans to study an arts degree at university, I am currently at the beginning of a new career, starting a new contract as a model, and hope to have a go at acting to experience and to better understand the other side of the film world. I also plan to work for the NSW Police Force as a radio communications officer as a supporting point of contact to the community.

I want to say ‘hi’ to everyone back home and to all my old teachers. Thank you for everything. I could not have made it this far without you.

My best wishes to all of you.

Lenny
It is always amazing, and heartening, to hear from our ex-students – where they are living, what they are studying, where they are working and just what contributions they are making to this world of ours. Old Helenians are spread right across the globe and studying, achieving and working in so many different areas. This year the students from the Class of 2003 are turning 21 and we wish them all a very happy birthday from all of us in the Helena College community.

Simon BERGIN
I’m currently studying at ECU, in the final year of a double degree in Human Resource Management and Education. I’m looking at travelling next year and then moving towards the business sector, but am still undecided about which direction to take when I finish studying.

Sarah BILBROUGH
I’m studying Education and Asian studies at Curtin University. I’m working full-time with the police in human resources, as well as two promotional jobs and studying. I’ve travelled to Bali 3 or 4 times since leaving school and plan on going back every couple of years. I plan to travel when my degree is finished at the end of this year. I’m currently sharing a house with Victoria Fryer and Anthony Jones.

Ashleigh BOL
I’ve completed a TAFE certificate in business. I’ve also worked in offices doing accounts work and am currently working two jobs, including managing a family business until I leave to go overseas with a couple of mates. I’ve also enjoyed past holidays interstate.

Petrina BRUNNER
I completed a Certificate III in Design at TAFE and went into retail for three years. I’m now working as a pharmacy assistant. I’ve been skiing in Victoria and hope to travel to the Philippines in January 2008.

Conor BUSH
I am currently studying at UWA for a double degree in Engineering and Arts.

Adrian BUZYNISKI
After graduating I completed one year of study in health science and commerce and then transferred to medicine. I’m now in my third year. Last year I attended the Polish folkloric festival and this month I’m travelling to Adelaide to attend the largest medical conference in the southern hemisphere.

Seaton CAIRNS
I have been pretty busy since graduating. Apart from working a host of ‘student’ jobs, I lived in Singapore, studying at the National University there for a year as part of my degree (BA Asian Studies), which I obtained from UWA with a double major in Indonesian and Chinese at the end of 2006. I used my time in Singapore to travel around the region and have embarked on trips to Southern Africa and Europe as well. I am currently completing my honours in Asian Studies, writing a thesis on China’s growing influence in Africa. I am hoping to move to China for a year in September to further enhance my Chinese skills.

Dan CALDER
I would like to sum up my time since leaving Helena College as ‘Living the Dream’.

Belinda COLLIER
(According to her mum) Belinda has completed her fourth year at the University of WA, with a double degree in science and commerce. She is also planning a European holiday.

Arran COOK
Since leaving Helena I have undertaken a few courses in software and computer engineering, completing my Certificate II in Engineering. Currently I am working as a landscaper part-time whilst I finish my computer science and computer security degree. I live with my girlfriend in Maylands.

Katy CORKHILL
I’ve moved to Broome where I’m currently studying nursing, hoping to finish my degree at end of this year. I hope to continue my studies by undertaking a post-graduate degree in medicine.

Chanelle COX
I’m currently in my fourth year at uni studying teaching and hope to teach in early childhood when I finish my degree in June 2008. I travelled to Europe in 2006 and will be doing camp America in 2008. I currently work part-time at the Kalamunda Hotel and Guildford Grammar.

Byron DOWNES
I am attending Curtin University, studying medical imaging. I work part-time at Bunnings in Midland in the plumbing/tool shop section. I enjoy socializing with my friends and have travelled interstate quite a bit, lately to Victoria and Philip Island.

Gareth ELLIOTT
I have a Murdoch University degree in science, majoring in Biology and also an English degree, majoring in Art. I am currently teaching ballroom dancing in Myaree. I travel to Melbourne each year for ballroom dancing championships. Two years ago I won third place in Adult B grade Latin. At completion of my studies I hope to become a science teacher.

Victoria FRYER
Since leaving school I have worked and studied and of course had some good times! I have nearly finished a communications degree at UWA and I’m working full time in human resources. In the next few years I hope to move to the UK to work and stay with my family. Whilst I am over there I would like to travel further throughout Europe and the world. I am still unsure of what exact career path I want to take but know that I want to work in direct contact with people and possibly with the media. I’m going to Bali in a few weeks so I have a holiday to look forward to! Good luck and best wishes to all my other fellow leavers of 2003.
Peta FYSH
I completed a Certificate IV in veterinary nursing. I’m currently a fully qualified registered vet nurse working in Victoria Park and I also manage the puppy socialization classes. I’m about to start a new course specializing in canine behaviour.

Katy GIBB
Since leaving Helena College I’ve completed a Bachelor of Commerce. Recently I worked in the USA for three months – in Aspen, Colorado - and I’ve travelled overseas each summer holidays since leaving school. I’ve also become a qualified swimming teacher. Eventually I hope to go into marketing or tourism management.

Tamara GRAYSTONE
I had two years off, working after school. With my sister I went to Perth Academy of Natural Therapies and studied one year of naturopathy. I’m now studying remedial massage.

Vanessa GRAYSTONE
I also had two years off, working after school. My sister and I studied at the Perth Academy of Natural Therapies and I’m now in the second year of naturopathy. I travelled to America last year for two months.

Martin HALLAM
I completed first year of the Diploma of Surveying full-time at Leederville TAFE and I am currently doing more study on a part-time basis. I have been a surveyor’s technician for Midland Surveyors for the past two years.

Daniel HEPTINSTALL
Currently I’m working as a groundsman at Helena College Junior School as well as running my own sound and lighting business. I’m involved in the Mundaring Seen & Heard and the local police and still actively involved in Mundaring Fire and Rescue, currently as the apparatus officer.

Kate HOGAN
Since graduating I have been studying at ECU for a double degree in Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Bachelor of Business (Human Resource Management). I am now in my fourth and final year with only one semester left to complete. I am really enjoying my studies and complementing it with part time work as the Human Resource Assistant at Midland Brick. I have also been on some great holidays including one to Phuket early this year, and am looking forward to spending the mid-year uni break in California.

Kwai HONDOW
Since leaving Helena College, I have completed a degree in Public Relations and Advertising at Edith Cowan University. I recently had my graduation at the Perth Convention Centre, which was a wonderful experience. I’m now working for the Goodearth and Perth Ambassador Hotels in the City as a Sales and Marketing Coordinator. I will be flying to Broome for the North West Expo for the first week in May. I am thoroughly enjoying the experience!!!

Chris JAMES
I’m studying towards a business degree at university part-time. I have also been playing in local band ‘Streetlight’ for the past three years and touring nationally with the band. In 2003 I travelled around Europe and parts of USA. I hope to finish my degree eventually! The band is releasing its debut album this month and I’m writing and recording for albums in the future.

Anthony JONES
I worked in transport for two years and I’m currently working as a ceiling fixer. I’ve done some travelling to Malaysia and New Zealand. I enjoy wakeboarding in my spare time.

Simon KIRK
After doing one year of part time work I went to New Zealand for snowboarding. Now at Curtin Uni I am doing a double degree – a Bachelor of Social Science and a Bachelor of Commerce. I only have one year to complete. I have worked at Bunnings, done landscaping and next week will start as a concierge at the Hyatt Hotel.

Benjamin KYI
In 2004 I studied at TAFE, completing Certificates III and IV in screen. I previously worked for Medicare and am currently studying AUSLAN Australian sign language. Eventually I hope to pursue a career in entertainment.

Anna LAMBECK
Since graduating from Helena College I completed a Social Science degree and am now doing a graduate certificate in children’s and family services. I’ve been involved in eventing, working, not travelling at present but I’m possibly planning on working up north at the end of the year for a couple of months.

Sheree LANGHAM
At TAFE I studied for a Certificate III and IV in aged care. I followed that with an apprenticeship and am currently working at a nursing home, as well as being more than half way through studying towards my registration for nursing. I still coach netball and in 2006 I went to Brisbane with the Year 10 Helena Hornets team as their coach.

Claire LAWRENCE
After leaving school I worked for a performing arts company for three years and performed in numerous plays across Perth (including dancing). Since then I have worked in secretarial positions and am currently working as an administrator for a brokering firm. I’m looking at buying a house with my boyfriend and really enjoying life.

Leonard MAIOLO
Currently I’m travelling around in Sydney (Bondi), painting and hope to put together an exhibition. I’ve also been involved in speaking to groups about film and animation. I plan to continue my journey, backpacking and linking up with other young artists. I’m also playing music, musical instruments, jamming at pubs and doing a bit of singing, engaging with all the arts in free spirited way.

Patrick McCARTHY
After graduation I went on to the West Australian Aviation College and learnt to fly. Since then I’ve worked in Exmouth and Manjimup and I now live and work in Darwin, flying to remote Aboriginal communities and various other locations.
**Michael McCRUDDEN**
I am currently in my final year at Curtin University studying Geophysics. Over the summer vacation I began to work part time as a geotechnical engineer for Worley Parsons. We contract to companies to determine the subsurface geology for, amongst other things oil and gas fields, an area I intend to go into once I have completed my degree. I still live at home with my parents and my brother and sister and see many people from school. Some I see most weekends and others every now and then and whilst out during the weekend. At the end of the year I hope to go travelling as far and wide as possible to gain some worldly experience.

**Alex McNEIL**
I now have a commercial pilot’s license and work for Geraldton Air Charter as a charter pilot. I won the 2006 West Australian light aircraft championships for aerobatics. I travel regularly to the Abrolhos Islands and enjoy taking scenic flights and joining the passengers on the beach for a barbecue.

**Matt NOBLE**
After graduating I worked for a year at Aztec Engineering as a trades’ assistant. I then gained an apprenticeship with Westrek and am now in my second year as a First Class Machinist.

**Katy PAYNE**
When I left school, I took a year off and worked for a printing company in Midland. The year after I started uni studying Health Science at Edith Cowan University, and in 2005 decided to start studying a double degree in business and science. In March 2006, I was offered a position at National Jet Systems, employed as a Cabin Crew member working on the Qantaslink 717 service in Darwin. I moved to Darwin in June of 2006 and a month later my partner, Patrick McCarthy, also moved up to work as a pilot for a charter company. We have been living in Darwin for almost a year now and I am currently studying at university by correspondence. I have also been selected to be on the recruitment board for National Jet Systems and will be involved in cabin crew interviewing in Perth next month. I aim to transfer to Perth at the end of this year.

**Kyla RANSTED**
Since leaving Helena College I’ve completed a Bachelor of Health Science degree, with major in Biomedical Science which landed me a job at St John of God Pathology. I work in the Histology and Cytology departments and get to deal with a lot of exciting specimens, assisting with their processing. Apart from the shift work the job is very rewarding. In late 2006 I travelled to Thailand with a friend from uni (which was fantastic) and we are currently in the process of arranging our next travelling adventure.

**Jemma REYNOLDS**
Hi all!! My life has been fairly boring for the past few years. After school I enrolled at Curtin University and have been there for the last four years completing a Bachelor of Psychology. Currently I am in my final year, completing honours, desperately looking forward to finishing in November! Other than uni I have done a bit of holiday travelling and been working as a therapist with children with autism and also at Feral Brewery in the Swan Valley; so if you’re ever in the region, stop in for a drink and a chat! Hope everyone is going well and enjoying life!

**Ellen SIMPSON**
After taking a year off and doing odd jobs, I completed one and a half years of a primary teacher’s course at Curtin University. I am now working full time for an earth moving company that works from Paraburadoo. I’m still a keen horse rider, concentrating mainly on eventing.

**Ben SMEETON**
For the first six months after leaving school I did a business course at TAFE then worked full time for one year in a small business called ‘Beeta Bug’. In 2006 I started a new job as a trades assistant for an electrical company called Positron at Yandy Kujina. I work for five weeks then have nine days off. I’ve just returned from a trip to Hong Kong where I spent ten days sight seeing, shopping and eating. My future plans are to get a full time apprenticeship and buy a property. I still enjoy playing various musical instruments.

**Andrew TREASURE**
For the first six months after graduating I did various odd jobs then went backpacking around Canada. The next experience was to New Zealand to do snow boarding. After coming home for a while, I set off again to do more snow boarding in Dublin, then Canada, then back to New Zealand, where I also worked as a barman for nine months. In October 2005 I returned home to begin a university course in sports management and marketing. I’m currently working for Main Peak snowboarding store and will travel to Austria in January.

**Jaz TURNER**
I worked as a car detailer for eight months then commenced seismic work for a company. For a while after leaving Helena College Ben and I had a graphic design company. Currently I work in America for an Australian gas and oil company in Kentucky. I live there for three months at a time and then come home in between times.

**Carli TURNER**
During the first year after graduation I did Year 12 at Canning College. I was then able to enrol at Murdoch to study Marine and Environmental Science. I’m now in my third year and working part time at Caversham House Function Centre. I still enjoy playing netball and hope to travel to the Whitsundays at the end of this year.

**Ben VAN GROOTEL**
After leaving Helena College, I completed a Certificate IV in website design. In 2005 Jaz and I started a graphic design company. With a band I toured Australia then went to live in America for six weeks, working as a field analyst doing seismic surveys. At present I work for Western Cellars at the Glen Forrest Liquor Store and I enjoy playing with my band. We’d like to take the band overseas.

**Ellen VITALI**
After leaving College I travelled around Victoria, South Australia and rural WA working at a variety of odd jobs. I then went to Tuart College to re-sit Year 12 and next year I hope to study anthropology at UWA. I do part time work with a jewellery chain and as a bar tender in a cocktail lounge in Subiaco, as well as studying Italian.
Shoshana WALL
After graduation I took two years off to go backpacking down the east coast of Australia from Cairns to Melbourne. I travelled in a $700 bomb which only died after I had also driven it across the Nullarbor to get home! While over east I enjoyed skiing at Thredbo and did various jobs in bars etc. Now I am doing part time work and communication studies at UWA.

Mark WARREN
Since leaving school I’ve completed a Bachelor of Economics at UWA and I am currently studying for honours. I have accepted a position at ANZ in institutional and business banking and will begin working next year. While studying I’ve been working in the army reserves, K-mart and I have just started teaching at uni. I’ve done some travelling with friends during the uni breaks and so far have been to Thailand, Bali and Nepal.

Felice WILLIAMS
I took the first six months off after graduation and worked mainly in the hospitality industry, before going to Curtin University. I’m now in the third year of a nursing degree. I’ve done some travel around WA and I still play hockey.

Lisa WILLIAMS
After graduating I went travelling across Europe and Asia and did a hospitality course at TAFE. Over the last few years I have done casual teller work at banks and I’m now working full time at Bank West as a sales consultant. Music is all important to me as I sing in the church choir on the weekends and still play my violin.

Lara WILSON
The year after leaving Helena College I commenced a Bachelor of Music course at WAPA and am now in my final year. In July 2004 I had a fantastic experience visiting Iceland at the time when it never gets dark. I have worked at all Perth’s major concerts doing technical work connected with lighting. Last year I performed at concerts during the Commonwealth Games and after completing my studies at the end of this year I plan to move to Melbourne to work.

EDITOR’S NOTE:
We were unable to contact or had no response from, some of the Class of 2003. If you’re still in contact with any of the following students please ask them to send us an update, current addresses, phone numbers, mobiles and email addresses for the Old Helenians database. Thank you.

Chris BERTRAM, Steven BOUD, Kestryn CHALONER, Emma COLEMAN, Anneke de BOER, Tim ELBERRY, Kathryn HIGGS, Melanie HOUGHTON, Lucas HOWLETT, Jarrad KAKOSCHKE, Ebony Le FEUVRE, James LYELL, Samantha MAGUIRE, Rob PARSONS, Scott PATerson, Hayley Potts, Hannah PRUYN, Nick RANDELL, Callum RIDEOUT.
Class of 1997 Reunion

Remember that diverse bunch of old friends from Helena College, your fellow graduates of 1997?

If you would like to catch up and re-live some of those memories and find out where they've all ended up after ten years please contact coordinators Martyn Young, Tim Thorn and Bec Noonan.

All ex-students, partners and staff are invited....

Saturday, 3 November 2007
1.30 pm
Meet at the Senior School for drinks and nibbles and a tour of the school.
See how the school has changed over the past 10 years, including the new gym!

3 pm onwards
Meet at the Ironbark Brewery, Valencia Complex, 55 Benara Rd, Caversham
www.ironbarkbrewery.com.au

Please RSVP to hc1997@gmail.com and let us know if you are able to make it, and if you are bringing a partner to the reunion.

Thanks! Tim, Martyn and Bec

Dear Old Helenians

Top class library resources, new technologies and up-to-date building facilities are essential for the education of all students at Helena College. We are proud to be able to offer excellent facilities for our students.

However, tuition fees from parents do not enable us to meet all current educational needs. Generous giving from the Helena College community in the past has made a huge difference to the education of our students today.

Over the past ten years, the average price of books has more than doubled and school libraries also need to keep pace with new technologies and on-line resources. To ensure that every student has access to the most up-to-date resources, many Helena College families in our community assist in the purchase of resources by donating to the Helena College Library Fund.

Gifts to the Helena College Building Fund from 2002-2005 contributed $500,000.00 towards the building of the recently opened $1.8 million sporting and recreation complex at the College. The families, students, staff and Old Helenians, who contributed so generously to that appeal, have ensured that the facility is one that benefits the health and wellbeing of all current and future students. In the near future Council is committed to the re-development of the Helena House site at the Junior School and for the building of new classrooms at the Senior School. Your gifts could assist in the provision of these exciting new building projects.

Embracing difference is part of our ethos at the College and the Helena College Special Education Fund is used to provide resources to enable the Junior and Senior Schools to offer extra support and assistance for those students who need it. This support could be in the provision of physical resources, teaching materials and new technologies to assist and/or extend individual learning.

On behalf of Council I invite you to support one or all of the Helena College Library Fund, the Helena College Special Education Fund and the Helena College Building Fund because a gift will directly benefit the students of Helena College today, tomorrow, and into the future.

Your gift will have a lasting impact on the education of ALL students.

Please find in this edition of the Helena Connection an Annual Giving brochure on the College Funds. All donations over $2.00 are fully tax deductible.

On behalf of the College Council I thank you for your support.

Daphne Vose
Chair of Council

Helena Connection Newsletter, June 2007
Strong Performance for 2006 Leavers

Parents, staff and students at Helena College were very pleased with the results gained by the graduating class of 2006. One hundred per cent of students enrolled in Year 12 last year gained Secondary Graduation. Helena College was amongst the top ranked schools for this requirement. The College was also ranked in the top 10 schools in Applicable Mathematics (for the third consecutive year) and Food Production (for the fifth consecutive year).

It was particularly pleasing to note that the strong performance was reflected in both the wholly school assessed and the students university bound students, where 62 per cent of the students who sat for the TEE gained a TER of 80 or more, 6 per cent gained a TER of 98 or more and wholly school assessed students were rewarded with excellent grades and TAFE offers.

Approximately 94 per cent of the students who sat for the TEE were eligible for university places, with the majority receiving an offer for their first preference.

Once again this excellent academic performance is particularly pleasing in the light of Helena College’s enrolment policy where students are not selected on academic ability; financial resources are available for all students and not directed to academic scholarships for the elite few. Also Helena College has consistently maintained a policy of not excluding students from sitting the TEE.

Congratulations are extended to the students and their families.

Certificate of Excellence (At least 10 A grades in Years 11 and 12)

* Over 94 per cent qualified for entry into a university faculty in Western Australia
* 6% gained a TER above a TER of 97.6
* Approximately 19 per cent were above a TER of 91
* More than 62 per cent were above a TER of 80.0
* 100 per cent gained Secondary Graduation

Ian Lyons
Deputy Principal
ilyons@helena.wa.edu.au

Values Forum

As a federal requirement for funding, we have been developing an opportunity for the whole school community to reflect on the values we hold most important and those to emphasise in the school curriculum. Two values forums are being planned for the start of next term to give an initial review of our values.

What is it that YOU value highly that this school community could not be without?

This is your chance to have input, and to be involved in a values forum to discuss current societal values trends, the values at the forefront of education offered at Helena College, and the values of our students.

There will be round table discussions on a variety of issues. We will include discussion on our Statement of Purpose, which was developed over ten years ago. Is it still relevant for today? Does it typify the graduating student of 2007, and beyond? Are there changes that need to be made? Should be appoint a chaplain for both schools? Old Helenians are most welcome to join us for the forums.

Values Forums

Monday, 23 July 2007
7.30 pm – 9 pm in Senior School library
Refreshments and finger food will be provided.

Tuesday, 24 July 2007
7.30 am – 8.45 am in performing arts centre
Light breakfast provided.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 4 July 2007 to developmentoffice@helena.wa.edu.au with details of your name, Year left Helena, contact phone number. Thank you.

International Year of Planet Earth

This year we celebrate the International Year of Planet Earth, with the aim being to contribute to the improvement of everyday life and to preserving our planet for future generations. Planet Earth is in our hands. We need it to survive. We depend upon it completely. We evolved from it. We will always remain part of it. We exist via courtesy of a self-sustaining earth system. Our planet provides us with so many riches and such great beauty. It inspires us.

This year as a curriculum focus, many of the students at the Junior and Senior Schools are researching and learning more about our planet, developing ideas to preserve it and nurture it for the children of the future.

Many of our Old helenians are working in the earth sciences and sustainability areas… so if you would like to volunteer some of your time to talk with our students, maybe speak at assembly or work with small groups involved in sustainability studies please contact me via my e-mail address below.

Julie Carlton
Development Office
developmentoffice@helena.wa.edu.au
Old Helenians in the News...

EMILY REILLY - DANCING WITH THE STARS
Past student of Helena College Junior School, and local Darlington girl, Emily Reilly, was the first WA female to be selected in the current series of Dancing With the Stars on Channel 7. The Helena College community congratulates Emily for her wonderful dancing in the competition, with partner, Todd Woodbridge.

Emily started ballroom dancing at the age of seven and has since had a very successful dancing career with achievements including winning WA and Australian titles and representing Australia in world championships. Currently Emily is a ballroom coach at Danza Pasion in Balcatta.

As well as a rigorous dancing schedule, Emily has completed a Bachelor of Environmental Design at UWA and is nearing completion of a Bachelor of Commerce. Emily won the UWA Matilda Award for Cultural Excellence and also the Mundaring Bicentennial Scholarship for the Arts. She is also involved in choreographing and performing shows and also does some dancing for charity work. Keep on dancing Emily, and congratulations from all of us!

BEN IPKENDANZ - Class of 1998
Ben has featured several times in the local hills papers, the Midland Reporter and the Hills Gazette, with his business Biobean. If you’re looking for a quality, ethical coffee with an added bonus of being certified organic, then look no further! BioBean Coffee is a young company with firm principles towards producing a quality product, but not compromising on ethical stance. As such, the only coffee we roast is Fairtrade certified. While this might limit the range of coffees available to us, we only choose the very best that the Fairtrade market has to offer.

For more information on Biobean see www.biobeancoffee.com.au or to contact Ben biobeancoffee@westnet.com.au

CLAIRE HOOPER – Class of 1994
Claire Hooper has been a regular guest on The Sideshow With Paul McDermott each Saturday at 7:30pm. It’s a comedy / variety show with a great mix of local and international artists, from the worlds of comedy, music, cabaret, burlesque and good, old-fashioned circus. The program allows Claire to show off her zany sense of humour, which was always evident when she was at Helena College! Congratulations Claire!

Claire has been busy over the past few years, building her reputation as one of Australia’s funniest women.

The following list of achievements is taken from The Comedy Store website – see address above:

2006 Best Newcomer Nominee - Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2006 National Improv Championships
2006 ‘Nova Nites’ Nova937
2005 Presenter ABCTV’s ‘How the Quest Was Won’
2005 RoveLive appearance
2005 The Comedy Zone - Melbourne International Comedy Festival’s handpick of the latest, brightest comedy acts
2005 National Improv Championships ‘Best and Fairest’
2005 ‘Big Fun Sometimes’ Female Lead
2005 ‘The Messenger’ regional tour, Female Lead
2005 ‘Fairytales on Thin Ice’ Writer/Director
2004 WA Winner Triple J Raw Comedy
2002 - 2005 Full time member of ‘The Big Hoo Haa’ @ Lazy Susan’s

CONGRATULATIONS to Annika Van GROOTEL - Class of 2002
Annika was one of the ECU team of advertising students which recently won the International Advertising Association Dentsu InterAd XI Global Student Competition for the Asia Pacific South Region. Well done Annika.

Reflections
Quite a number of the 2006 Graduates have not yet collected their copy of Reflections. Please call in to Administration to collect your copy. Thanks.

Database update
Included in the last newsletter was an ‘Update your details’ form for completion and return please. Helena College has moved to a new administration system in 2007 which will enable us to keep more comprehensive data. Your support with the records update would be appreciated. Thank you to those students who have returned theirs to the Development Office. It would be appreciated if others could do the same. Thank you.

Website Discussion Board
The website discussion forum is available again after being re-built. Please log on to http://www.helenacollege.wa.edu.au/discussion/

Change of address and e-mail address
We have a lot of mail returned to sender because Old Helenians move around and forget to let us know of the new address. Please e-mail to old.helenians@helena.wa.edu.au or update on the website.

2006 Leavers
Students from the Class of 2006 are invited to contact the Media Learning Area to collect their copy of the 2006 Leavers DVD.

Denise Makley
dmakley@helena.wa.edu.au

Many thanks to Will Faulkner and all the Media students who contributed towards the production of the DVD.

Denise Makley
Media Learning Area

Thank You
Many thanks to the McCrudden family for the very generous donation of a new lectern for the gymnasium.

We’ve attached a lovely plaque to say thank you:

DONATED
By
The McCRUDDEN FAMILY
Michael - Class of 2003
Bryony - Class of 2005
Callum - Class of 2005

Helena College Number Plates
NOW available – orders are being taken for Helena College number plates @ $150 per set.
Contact Julie Carlton
developmentoffice@helena.wa.edu.au
or 9298 9100 for an order form

Purchase your copy now!
LUNCHBOX
THE BOOK
Hundreds of recipes, tips and ideas for great lunches provided by the Helena College community and compiled by Mikaela Castledine.

Only $15

Copies of LUNCHBOX can be purchased from:
HELENA COLLEGE SENIOR SCHOOL
Billigam Rd, Glen Forrest
HELENA COLLEGE JUNIOR SCHOOL
Rycroft Rd, Darrington
KALAMUNDA BOOKSHOP
Haynes St, Kalamunda
THE GOOD STORE
363-367 Albany Hwy, Victoria Park
or contact Mikaela Castledine at mikaela@costelinse.com.au
2007 CALENDAR DATES

Old Helenians are welcome to join us for the following events:

Thursday, 5 July
Senior Ball
Hyatt Regency Ballroom

Monday, 23 July
Values Forum
7.30pm Senior School library

Tuesday, 24 July
Values Forum
Performing Arts Centre
7.30am performing arts centre

Friday, 7 September - Saturday, 8 September
Music Festival
Performing Arts Centre

Sunday, 9 September
Music Festival Gala Concert
Performing Arts Centre

Thursday, 18 October - Saturday, 20 October
Creative Arts Exhibition
Performing Arts Centre

Saturday, 3 November - Sunday, 4 November
Darlington Arts Festival
Darlington Oval

Friday, 23 October
Year 12 Graduation
Gymnasium

Friday, 7 December
Awards Evening
Gymnasium

Gala Performance

Seeking initial expressions of interest for an Old Helenians Gala Performance... the date is yet to be determined as it may depend on availability of those willing to perform, but will probably be held in June, 2008.

So if you have the passion and the talent, no doubt fostered at Helena College, we would love to have you come back for one great gala performance in the performing arts centre.

Do you sing solo or sing with a group, dance, juggle, mime, act, recite poetry, do stand-up, play an instrument, do street theatre or can entertain in any way we’d love to hear from you. Old Helenians are an amazingly talented lot! This is your chance to come back to Helena College and share your creative talents in this evening of performance.

Ideally it would be wonderful if a group of Old Helenians could take this project on for 2008. So if you would like to volunteer to coordinate the event, be the MC for the evening, take on the invitation design, do front-of-house, and be stage manager or any of the other tasks that will be involved please make contact.

Please forward any expression of interest and any preferred dates to: Julie Carlton developmentoffice@helena.wa.edu.au or phone 9298 9100.

Archive material

Do you have any material to donate to the Helena School / Helena College archives such as old photographs, programs, newsletters, uniforms, trophies etc.? Please contact the Alumni Coordinator, Julie Carlton developmentoffice@helena.wa.edu.au

Update your details please!

It is really important that our database for Old Helenians stays current with correct addresses, phone numbers and especially e-mail addresses. Please forward any changes to: old.helenians@helena.wa.edu.au

The Helena Connection is a twice yearly publication for Old Helenians.

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Contributions of text and photographs may be e-mailed to: old.helenians@helena.wa.edu.au

Updates of contact details may also be e-mailed to that address

The DEADLINE for material for the December issue is 30 November, 2007.

Helena Connection Newsletter, June 2007