

# SIONIANS

## Beyond the Cherry Red Gates

Autumn 2022 | Edition 34



Our Lady of Sion College  
Past Students' Magazine

# Contents

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## Acknowledgments

Thank you to those who contributed to the articles and photographs in this issue.

Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of Our Lady of Sion College. The editor reserves the right to amend or reject any item submitted for publication.

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## President's report

Welcome to the first edition of *Sionians* for 2022! I hope you have all had a good start to the year and that these days of fewer restrictions have allowed you to reconnect meaningfully with loved ones.

As President of the Past Students' Association over the last four years, I have thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with the College, attending the annual reunion and getting to know so many of you.

Looking ahead, the College has decided to reimagine the structure of the Past Students' Association and therefore the position of President will no longer exist. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tina Apostolopoulos and her team for their support over the years. Be reassured that past student engagement through reunions, career mentoring, events, and social media will continue to be as important as ever.

I wish the community of Our Lady of Sion College all the very best in the future and encourage our past student community to continue their association.

In the meantime, if you would like to write to the College with any news and photos, please email [paststudents@sion.catholic.edu.au](mailto:paststudents@sion.catholic.edu.au). If you wish to update your details, you can do so on the College website at [www.sion.catholic.edu.au/embrace-community/past-students-association](http://www.sion.catholic.edu.au/embrace-community/past-students-association).

**Mary-Ann Di Ilenno**  
former President



# From the desk of the Principal

In this edition of our *Sionians* magazine, I am proud to share with you the sage advice of our Dux for 2021, Hannah Gassman, who recalls the guidance given to her when she began at Our Lady of Sion College in 2016, 'Never leave any door unopened'. In reading through the many pieces within this edition of *Sionians* about our past students and the Sisters who travelled to Australia in the 1890s to establish Sion schools, it is evident that this advice has been a lived reality for many.

One of the defining attributes of our school is the family atmosphere that staff and students create during their time at the College. It is the legacy handed down to us from the founder of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion, Theodore Ratisbonne, and the Sisters who travelled across our globe to establish our school. In 2022, we delight in the fact that we celebrate 94 years of providing a well-rounded education and wellbeing support within a community of faith. At Our Lady of Sion College, there is a place for all and a genuine sense of belonging to a unique community. Judging by those who have contributed to this edition, this sense of belonging does not leave once our students graduate. Students are encouraged to work hard and to try their very best. They are also encouraged to become discerning people who reach out into the world and make a positive contribution in whatever field they choose to follow.

Last year, we shared with you the 13 connections involving the O'Donnell, Ditchburn, Gloag and Dawes families; in this edition we share the extensive family connections that bind Amelia (Year 11) and Estella (Year 9) Faulisi with our school. Resoundingly, their family members reflect on the strong family bond - Sionian and actual family connections - that they enjoyed as students and which continue to be a source of pride for them.

For students who go on to forge a career in education, it is not uncommon for them to return to the College as two of our current teachers have done (Stephanie Jones and Jordyn Frood). As leaders within the school, they have imbued their work with a deep

understanding of the importance of relationships as a means to bring out the best in our students and to support them to achieve their goals. It reflects a spirit of giving back and paying forward; something that our 2021 Daughter of Sion, Abbey Dutch also shares with us in this edition.



We always encourage our students to embrace life; to begin their journey beyond Year 12 with what feels right for them at that time and to be open to the many opportunities that will unfold for them as their careers progress. So it is in this spirit that we are also very proud to congratulate Rachel Coghlan (Class of 1996) who was recently awarded the 2022 Fulbright Scholarship in Non-Profit Leadership.

The expression 'Daughter of Sion' defines the special and unique relationship we have with each other in our Sionian family and ultimately the relationship that God has with us. In the biblical context, the word Sion refers to Jerusalem and so for our students identifying themselves as a Daughter of Sion means that we are a community which reflects the care and love of a family for its children and also for what Jerusalem - the City of Peace, represents. It is a vision of love, care, peace and justice. In our current context of global suffering and conflict, these values are sorely needed and we remain proud that Our Lady of Sion College has been an important part of nurturing our understanding, commitment and leadership in working towards building a better world.

**Tina Apostolopoulos, Principal**





## Top Achievers Assembly

It is always a moment of great pride when our school community acknowledges the outstanding achievements of our VCE students. In a year of significant disruption and change, having to navigate so many challenges, we could not be prouder of what the Class of 2021 was able to achieve. Not just because of their outstanding academic results and pathways, but because of the people that they have become; indelibly marked as Daughters of Sion.

Since receiving their results, 96% of the Class of 2021 who applied through VTAC, have been offered a tertiary place with the majority gaining a place in a course of their first, second or third preference. A small number of students has also taken up tertiary opportunities interstate. This is an inspiring achievement and we are very proud to have supported the students to experience this success.

Held on 7 February, the Top Achievers Assembly celebrated the top performing students from the Class of 2021 who received an ATAR above 90, many of whom were also dux of their subjects.

With plenty of practical advice to share on VCE study tips, we heard from our remarkable College Dux, Hanna Gassmann, who achieved an ATAR of 99.25. She addressed students and staff providing

invaluable advice to current senior students but also to our incoming families:

'I remember the first piece of advice I was given here and that was to not leave any door unopened. This is what I proceeded to do over the next six years, and now I would like to pass this on to all of you. Sion really has given me countless opportunities to learn and develop myself across all areas of school life, I strongly advise that you take any and all opportunities offered to you, in particular now that we are not all stuck at home, as you never know where they may lead.'

Hanna is currently studying a Bachelor of Science/Veterinary Medicine at The University of Melbourne.

At the assembly, we welcomed special guest Dr Cindie Giummarra from the Class of 1993, who gave a reflection of her successful career in Science and Engineering. Cindie spoke about how her hard work ethic, developed whilst a student at Sion, laid the foundation to her many professional successes. She encouraged students to look for opportunities to learn and grow, to be courageous in their goals, be curious, have fun, and make good friends who will support and value them. For more information about Cindie's outstanding career and to



*L-R: 2021 College Dux, Hanna Gassmann, and special guest, Dr Cindie Giummarra, past student*



*2021 College Dux, Hanna Gassmann addresses the Top Achievers Assembly*

find out what she's up to these days, read our interview on the next page.

We congratulate all our VCE students from the Class of 2021, and in particular, our top achievers. We wish them all the best in their studies and look forward to hearing of their future successes.



# Where are they now?

## Dr Cindie Giummarra (Class of 1993) Engineering Manager at Boeing Aerostructures Australia



Dr Cindie Giummarra graduated from Sion in 1993 and after completing a double Bachelor degree in Engineering/Science at Monash University moved to the USA and completed her Masters of Engineering and a Ph.D. in Materials Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. She is currently an Engineering Manager at Boeing Aerostructures Australia in Fishermans Bend, Victoria. Always willing to give back to the Sion community, it was wonderful to hear all about her outstanding career at the Top Achievers' Assembly for the Class of 2021. Read on to find out more about her impressive achievements and what she has carried through in her life from her days at Sion.

**Your career has taken you to the USA where you spent many years and achieved many accolades. Tell us about this time.**

I spent 15 years in the USA which included studying, working in industry and in academia, living in three different states and dealing with snow every winter!

After completing my Ph.D., I joined the Research and Development Centre at Alcoa (now Arconic) and worked on developing cutting-edge aerospace aluminium alloys and products for commercial aircraft wings and internal structures. In this role, I closely collaborated with customers such as Boeing, Airbus, Embraer and Bombardier to develop and utilise the materials on commercial aircraft.

I was a member of the team that developed aluminium alloy A2099 extrusions for aircraft wings, which won an 'R&D 100 Award' in 2007 and was selected by Airbus

for use on their A380 aircraft. While at Alcoa, I received two US patents, published a number of journal articles and spoke at various international conferences on aerospace materials. I have also worked as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota for five semesters teaching undergraduate materials engineering students.

While in the US, I met my husband, who is originally from Austria. We have two daughters, Katarina and Isabella, and an Australian Shepherd dog named Morris.

**You have always had a great interest in space and had aspirations of becoming an astronaut. Where did this come from and how close did you get to fulfilling this dream?**

I think my aspiration to become an astronaut came from my love of Sci-Fi movies and TV shows, like *Star Wars* and *Blake's 7*, when I was a child. As I grew and learnt more about this career, I thought it would be an exciting, rewarding and special thing to pursue. I have completed the educational and work experience prerequisites, become a US citizen, gained my Scuba diving certificate and ensured I have stayed healthy and fit. However, such a career requires sacrifices and is not very compatible with also having children. But, my life and career are not over yet, so never say never!

**What were your fondest memories of Sion?**

The friends I made, the great and supportive teachers, learning and growing in every subject, participating in the school musical, being a class representative, the bond the class had while getting through VCE and the final day of Year 12.

**What did your Sion education teach you?**

The belief in myself that I could succeed and do well in what I applied myself to. Also, the confidence to be a leader and an individual.

**What is the best advice you can give to our current students who have aspirations and dreams about their future careers?**

Read, learn, ask and experience as much as you can about your future career. Develop the skills and knowledge you need, work hard, be determined and ensure your passion for your future career shines through. Be realistic about the path but don't let other people decide your path for you.

**What are your plans for the future?**

Continue to work in the aerospace industry and encourage more young people, especially women, to consider engineering as a profession and support them to have a successful and fulfilling career.





Current students and sisters, Amelia (left) and Estella Faulisi (right)

## The Faulisi sisters and their 12 connections to Sion

For current students and sisters Amelia (Year 11) and Estella Faulisi (Year 9), their choice of secondary school was never going to be in question. With 12 family connections spanning more than one generation, including an aunt and many cousins who have proudly walked through the cherry red gates, Our Lady of Sion College continues to be an enduring element in their family's lives. Amelia and Estella's many extended family members who have attended Sion include their aunty Dian and members of the Sette, Carratelli, Polzella and Iori families, as well as countless friends who are like family to the sisters. We would like to acknowledge the wonderful assistance of Estella Faulisi who helped coordinate members of her family in order for their story to come to life in this edition of *Sionians*.

### What attracted the family to Sion?

MARIANNE SETTE (CLASS OF 1989): I had heard great stories about Sion. I had friends that were older than me that went to Sion who shared their positive experiences with me. I was keen to begin my high school journey and loved how it was close to my nonna's house. When I was given a tour of the school, the College felt both warm and welcoming.

DIAN FAULISI (CLASS OF 1997): As a member of St Francis Xavier's school and parish, I remember always looking forward to continuing my education over the road at Sion. The Sisters of Our Lady of Sion, together with the teachers, were great role models and encouraged their students to aim big and follow their dreams. I was excited about attending my secondary schooling at a place where new possibilities could be encountered, friendships made, skills and passions developed, and our voices heightened.

### Who was the first member of your family to attend Sion and how influential was her experience?

DIAN: My cousin Marianne was the first family member to attend Sion. She had developed great friendships and enjoyed her time at school and so it was an easy decision to want to join her there.

### What are some of your relatives' favourite memories from their school days at Sion?

MARIANNE: I really enjoyed attending camp with my friends. We were able to experience so many activities

and create long lasting friendships and memories, which we still talk about today. The teaching staff and Sisters of Sion were nurturing and were always available to help. My favourite subjects were Mathematics and Home Economics, I still refer to the cookbook *Cookery the Australian Way* for the occasional recipe. Friendships made at Sion are still cherished today. DIAN: I have a lot of great memories that come to mind including winning the interschool netball grand final, Sion Day fun with friends, learning the value of art with Ms Milburn and Ms Gilligan, Science experiments, getting out and about on geography excursions, camp and Reflection Days.

ELISSA CARRATELLI (BARILLA, CLASS OF 2004): I have so many memories through the years at Sion. All of them involve the fun that I had being able to study with my friends everyday. Even after all these years, I am still friends with girls from Sion. Being elected Liturgy Captain in Year 12 was also a highlight and a privilege. SARAH CARRATELLI (CLASS OF 2006): I loved dancing and was very involved with the Cheer-Leading Group who won their way through to the State finals, and eventually won the Australian Finals in Brisbane. NADIA POLZELLA (CLASS OF 2015): My favourite memory from Sion was towards the end of high school life, where we were treated as adults. It was a beautiful experience knowing our teachers cared for us and genuinely had personal relationships with their students wanting to see them do well.

GRACE CARRATELLI (CLASS OF 2017): For me, Year 12 was an overall highlight. Knowing that it was our final year together, everyone really put in that extra effort to make it special. Also, the retreat has to be one of my

favourite times to think back on. As a collective, our year level really bonded over those few days and that time meant a lot to me.

**What are the main qualities and values of a Sionian education that you have taken with you in your personal and professional lives?**

DIAN: Sion gave us the chance to build self-confidence and explore learning in a wide range of subjects to help us think about who we wanted to be. It gave us an opportunity to make great friends, learn about important issues such as sustainability and world issues and showed us how we can make a difference by reaching out and supporting communities in need.

**What are you most proud of regarding your family's connection to Sion College?**

DIAN: There's something extra special about sharing important events with family. My grandparents Teresa and Michael Papillo, migrants to Australia, valued education enormously because they knew it was the vehicle to endless possibility. Mum had a great friendship with several of the Sion Sisters, especially Sr Dorothy Renton (the Rentons and Papillos lived in the same street growing up) and later Sr Mary Raeburn, (who had taught several of my aunts and uncles at St Francis Xavier). So for me, to be able to link family connection with education is something I'll treasure always.

ELISSA: It was truly an exciting feeling knowing you attend a school with cousins and sisters who you look up to. It made my time at Sion more memorable knowing that I was sharing my experiences with them.

NADIA: I am proud to know that we are more than one person, but rather from a strong, family unit.

GRACE: I love the little mark we have left at Sion! Knowing that I had cousins and sisters who had attended the school before me really empowered my time there. I am proud that now Sion is something that brings us together, through family and education. It is a forever bond.

AMELIA FAULISI: We are trying to put our mark on the school, whether it's via the arts, the sports community or in our general classwork; we are having an amazing experience.

ESTELLA FAULISI: I'm proud that I'm able to belong to this community.

**Do the family members still keep in contact with the College and the friends they made at Sion?**

Many of us have kept in touch with a lot of friends we made at high school.

**Amelia and Estella, how does it feel attending a school where so many of your family members also attended? Has this connection made you even closer as a family?**

AMELIA: In a way it has, as we have something in common. It's special to have memories and stories

that we can share with each other. Also I feel very lucky and so proud that we have been able to have this shared journey and experience in our secondary school education.

ESTELLA: I'm proud that I am able to continue the legacy that we have with Our Lady of Sion College. The best thing of all is that it may not end with me, as there are already some great-granddaughters in the area. For now I'm happy to be here; I'm proud to be a Sionian, just like so many of the women in my family.



*L-R: Marianne Sette and Dian Faulisi*



*L-R: Sisters Elissa, Sarah, Teresa, and Grace Carratelli*



*L-R: Louise and Nadia Polzella*

**12 Faulisi family connections**

Marianne Sette (cousin)  
Dian Faulisi (aunty)  
Elissa Carratelli (cousin)  
Sarah Carratelli (cousin)  
Teresa Carratelli (cousin)  
Grace Carratelli (cousin)  
Louise Polzella (cousin)

Nadia Polzella (cousin)  
Claudia Iori (cousin)  
Victoria Iori (cousin)  
Amelia Faulisi (Year 11 student)  
Estella Faulisi (Year 9 student)  
(And more to come!)

# Daughter of Sion Award 2021



Each year, the Past Students' Association raises \$500 for the Daughter of Sion Award. The award honours a Year 7 or Year 8 student who has demonstrated leadership, empathy towards others, Sionian values and particularly a strong commitment to Social Justice within the school and the wider community. The student then nominates a charity, to which the \$500 is donated. The winner of the 2021 Daughter of Sion Award is ABBEY DUTCH and in expressing her gratitude, she has shared a heartfelt letter of appreciation for past students to read.

*Hello past students of Our Lady of Sion College,*

*Can I say that I love the idea of writing to you and even though I don't know any of you, you now get to read my story.*

*I was born in 2007 (I'm 14 turning 15 in July) and I'm currently in Year 9. When I was a year or so old, I was yellow all over - like face paint yellow! The doctors diagnosed me with Biliary Atresia. This is a big word I know, and it means that my liver was not working in the right way; it was spilling bile, a yellow substance that makes skin turn yellow. I was only 18 months old when I had my first liver transplant.*

*My liver was working well until the summer of 2017 Year 3-4 during the Christmas holidays. I caught a bug out of a pool called cryptosporidium and because of my medications, I was more vulnerable than most of developing an infection. Unfortunately, the infection meant that my liver failed to work properly and in Grade 4, I had another transplant. I had to learn how to walk again and had to work hard on getting my coordination back. I don't think that worked because I still bump into walls*

*even though I could swear I was nowhere near them, and I trip over my own feet. Let's not even mention my terrible handwriting and missing my friends' hands during a high 5. I just think it's me at this point and I love that about me.*

*In 2019, the Make-A-Wish Foundation granted me a wish and I decided to have a high tea party. I made most of the food and surrounded myself with my close friends to make up for the many months I had lost hanging out with them whilst I was in recovery and self-imposed isolation in order for my immune system to get stronger. The high tea party was so much fun - I don't think I will ever forget it. I still stay in touch with the friends that went to my 'wish' tea party. I'm healthy now and I feel great going to school and seeing new and old faces.*

*Whilst 2021 proved to be yet another challenging year with lots of lockdowns, I managed to participate in quite a few school activities including supporting The Generosity Collective through bake sales, putting hampers together, clothes drives, to name a few.*

*Last year, I was the Year 8 White Class Leader along with Sam, another girl in my class. We worked together to make Online Home Learning fun. I really loved my leadership role and made a promise to put myself out there and have a go. What's the worst that could happen?, I thought. I felt proud and totally surprised when I learned that I got the role! - I did not expect it at all. I love the community at Sion - it is so accepting and kind. It has really helped me to flourish.*

*I am currently in Year 9 and I'm looking forward to participating in many different activities such as Significant Person, Work Experience and just getting to have a year hopefully with no COVID-19 interruptions. Fingers crossed. I've already been on City Experience and I loved it.*

*Now that you know my story, it's no surprise that I want to give my \$500 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.*

*Thank you for reading my letter and for this wonderful award. I feel proud that I have had this opportunity and grateful to be able to give back to an organisation that is so special to me.*

*Kind regards  
**Abbey Dutch***



*Abbey with her beloved groodel,  
Gracie*

# Stephanie and Jordyn pay it forward

For Stephanie (Arranga) Jones (Class of 2009) and Jordyn Frood (Class of 2010), it feels like it was only yesterday that they were at Our Lady of Sion College contemplating their future beyond the cherry red gates. In fact, it would be fair to say that they feel like they never left. Since leaving Sion, both Stephanie and Jordyn have enjoyed successful careers in education leading them right back to where it all started for them as secondary school students. In just a few short years, both have ascended to leadership positions, and are now the Year 7 and Year 9 Wellbeing and Growth Leaders (WaGL) at Sion, respectively, in an environment that very much feels like home.

Both Stephanie and Jordyn's interest to become a teacher originated while they were students at Sion and was greatly influenced by the teachers who taught them. In Stephanie's case, Cassie Marsden, Stephanie's Year 12 Biology teacher and current Science Learning Leader, inspired her to pursue both her Science and Education degrees upon graduation from Year 12. Stephanie was a shy and quiet student who liked to fly under the radar, but teaching allowed her to realise her full potential. As a teacher, her goals were to become the type of person who could connect with students, engage their curiosity and influence them to develop a love for science.

For Jordyn, after contemplating a career in Psychology, it was Adam Rieusset, her Year 12 PE teacher at the time, and currently Sion's Year 10 Wellbeing and Growth Leader, who recognised how much she loved sport and gave her the confidence and encouragement she needed to pursue her dream of a career in sport.

Stephanie and Jordyn feel enormous gratitude for the opportunities that Sion provided them to realise their professional ambitions in an environment that values personal relationships. For Stephanie, her position at Sion is all about passing down traditions and encouraging her students to aim high, just like she did. Stephanie was fortunate enough to have had inspiring Homeroom teachers and year level leaders and considers it a privilege to be able to pass on the lessons she was taught to support her students during their own learning journeys.

After a year-long stint at Shepparton High School upon obtaining her degree, it was a dream come true for Jordyn to move back home and work where she attended her secondary schooling. Jordyn began teaching in the hope of being immersed in sport but it became so much more than this for her. As she began connecting with students, she very quickly realised that student wellbeing was another great passion of hers. Having demonstrated commitment in this area, the leadership team at Sion at the time, appointed her in a WaGL role, and she has never looked back. She now enjoys the best of both worlds, teaching about health/sport whilst also prioritising student wellbeing.



L-R: Stephanie in Year 12 and in 2022



L-R: Jordyn in Year 12 and in 2021

When it comes to the best advice they could give students considering education as a career, Stephanie and Jordyn are quick to point out the rewarding experiences they have both appreciated. Although their respective journeys have been challenging at times, the opportunities to pass on knowledge to students, create connections, shape them into the best version they can be and impact their lives in positive ways, have been very rewarding.

Their full circle journey from student to a position of leadership at Sion has seen them witness a number of significant changes including technology advancements and the addition of modern buildings, to name a few. However, it is heartening to know that they believe there is one thing that thankfully hasn't changed and that is the fact that every student is still 'named and known', something they have always valued about the ethos of the College and continue to uphold today as leaders.



# Embrace life beyond Sion

## News

### Rachel Coghlan awarded Fulbright Scholarship

Congratulations to past student RACHEL COGHLAN (Class of 1996) who is the recipient of the 2022 Fulbright Scholarship in Non-Profit Leadership, recently announced by Perpetual Limited. Rachel is an international public health researcher, advocate and Director of Palliative Care Australia.

This is what Rachel had to say about her award, 'I am absolutely chuffed to be the recipient of the 2022 Fulbright Professional Scholarship in Non-Profit Leadership. I cannot wait to spend time at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Humanitarian Health furthering research on palliative care in humanitarian emergencies and crises.

We are so proud of Rachel's achievement in being awarded this prestigious scholarship and the important work she is undertaking that is changing lives, both in Australia and abroad. We wish Rachel continued success in her research of humanitarian health.



Rachel Coghlan

### A season of excellence for our Class of 2021

Congratulations to three of our Year 12 students from the Class of 2021 for the following exceptional artistic achievements:

LIVINIA THOMPSON - selected to perform at Top Class Drama 2022 for her outstanding performance in VCE Drama

LARISSA HOGG - shortlisted for Top Arts for her work 'Hanging Monastery'

MONIQUE PULVIRENTI - her cherry blossom artwork was selected for the publication '50 Years of Friendship', produced by Whitehorse City Council.

As part of the prestigious VCE Season of Excellence, Livinia performed her solo 'The International Rescue Team Member' at the Arts Centre, Melbourne on 28 March, 2022.



L-R: Larissa Hogg, Monique Pulvirenti and Livinia Thompson

## Past students invited for 2022 Mentors' Breakfast



Past students of Our Lady of Sion College, Box Hill, are invited to share their experiences of further study and career pathways with our senior students at our upcoming Mentors' Breakfast.

If you are interested in taking up this opportunity, to provide support for our students as they navigate their own pathway, please contact Mrs Brooke O'Hara, Careers and Pathways Counsellor at [bohara@sion.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bohara@sion.catholic.edu.au) or 03 9890 9097. Please see details below:

**FRIDAY, 24 JUNE 2022**

**7.25 AM FOR A 7.30 AM START - 9.00**

**LOUISE HUMANN CENTRE, OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE**

# From the archives

## The beginnings of our Australian community



Bishop Corbett



Mother Raphaela

On 17 January, 1890, six Irish Priests and seven Sisters set sail from the Tilbury Docks situated on the River Thames, England bound for Australia. A year earlier, Bishop James Corbett, the first Bishop of the new Diocese of Sale, had travelled to Paris in search of Priests and Sisters to establish schools within the Diocese. His journey led him to the Congrégation de Notre-Dame de Sion and the leader, Superior General, Mother Marie Paul. Initially, M.M. Paul was hesitant and is said to have exclaimed, 'Oh, I could not ask the Sisters to go to the Antipodes!' However, upon asking for volunteers, seven Sisters stepped forward. They were Sister Charitas, Sister Philomena, Sister Sabina, Sister Edwardine, Sister Martina, Sister Osmond, and their party's leader Mother Raphaela.

The ship they travelled aboard was the *RMS Ormuz*, a passenger liner built in 1886 by Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. Ltd, in the shipyards of Glasgow, Scotland and registered to the Orient Steam Navigation Co. Ltd, London. The journey took 42 days sailing through the Suez Canal to Colombo, Sri Lanka before reaching Australia, first stopping into King George's Sound (Albany), rounding to Adelaide and then the Sisters' final destination, Melbourne. Upon their arrival in Melbourne on 28 February, 1890, the Sisters initially stayed with the Presentation Sisters in St. Kilda (now Windsor) before travelling by steam train to Gippsland.

There was great excitement within the Catholic population and at each station the Sisters passed through, a crowd was assembled to meet them and offer up refreshments of tea and scones. After a long journey, they arrived at their final destination of Sale where they took up lodgings in the Bishop's house which he had graciously vacated for their use. The Sisters wasted no time and on 6 March, the secondary school, with limited boarding facilities, was opened. This was followed by schools in Bairnsdale in 1897 and Warragul in 1905, before opening Notre Dame de Sion, Box Hill in 1928.

**Matthew Roberts, Archivist**



The Sisters and students outside Bishop Corbett's house in Sale in 1892

## Vale

We remember the following Daughters of Sion and their families in our prayers:

- Joanne Lee Dow (née Mc Lean, Class of 1955)
- Julie Hussey (née Farmer, Class of 1970 )
- Debbie Nielsen (née Thorne, Class of 1977)

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May they rest in peace.*

*Amen.*

# 2022 COLLEGE REUNION



**SATURDAY 28 MAY  
2.00 - 4.30 PM**



## CALLING ALL '2' GRADUATES!

Did you graduate in 1952, 1962, 1972, 1982, 1992, 2002 or 2012?

Then you are warmly invited to attend our annual reunion at the College, to celebrate your milestone anniversary year.

Come along to reconnect with your graduating class, reminisce about your years at school and end the afternoon with a tour of the College.

Refreshments will be served and limited car parking will be available onsite.

**Book your free ticket at**  
**<https://www.trybooking.com/BTBPO>**  
**or scan the QR code. RSVP by 5.00 pm, 23 May.**



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