



MOUNT WAVERLEY SECONDARY COLLEGE

Alumni Monthly Newsletter

Issue 3

April 2023

Welcome

Welcome to April's issue of the Mount Waverley Secondary College Alumni Newsletter.

We would like to wish our Alumni friends and family a happy Easter.

In this issue view photos from the Class of 73,83,93 School Tour Reunion. Also, read full details of the Class of 2003 upcoming 20 year School Tour Reunion.

If any Alumni can assist with Work Experience placements for our Year 10 students during the week of 19th - 23rd June, please reach out.

If you have any updates or news to share or any suggestions as to what you'd like to see in future newsletters, email alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au.

Community. Choice. Engagement.

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Alumni of the Month

This month's Alumni Spotlight is on our former student Peter Degorski, class of 2010.

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

PETER DEGORSKI

CLASS OF 2010



When Peter was young he wanted to be vet or a lion tamer, this might have to do with the fact that he would wake up early on weekends and undertake exhaustive research on bird, bugs and predators all day long.

WHAT HAS HE BEEN UP TO?

Peter's University strategy for picking subjects involved picking the hardest ones. His logic behind that thought was 1) going to University is an opportunity to learn and 2) you learn a lot when you are challenged.

For three years he let his curiosity be the drive which helped him complete a Bachelor of Science, majoring in mathematical physics. After that he did a further two years in a Masters of Atmospheric Science.

WHERE IS HE NOW?

Chance encounters have played a big role in Peter's career. For example:

He met stranger on a train who worked at the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), the brief conversation sparked an interest which turned into an internship with BOM and a two year research project, understanding the composition of the atmosphere.

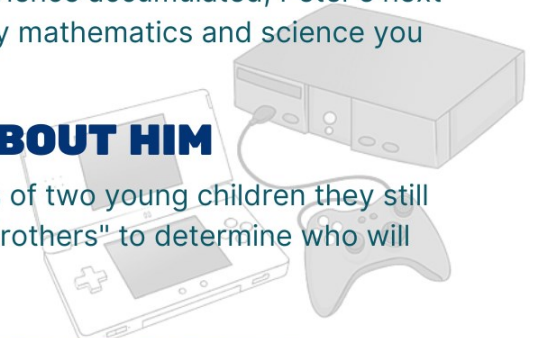
Another chance encounter on a tennis court found Peter employed for a year developing software to detect mutation in humans genomes.

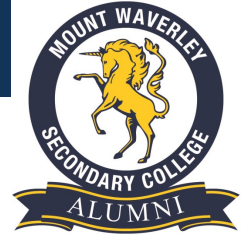
And yet again, coffee with engineer turned into 3 years role building an Australian industry which can be power by renewable weather.

The "destination" remains blurry but with each new experience accumulated, Peter's next step gets a little clearer. For any MWSC alumni who enjoy mathematics and science you are welcome to reach out to Peter.

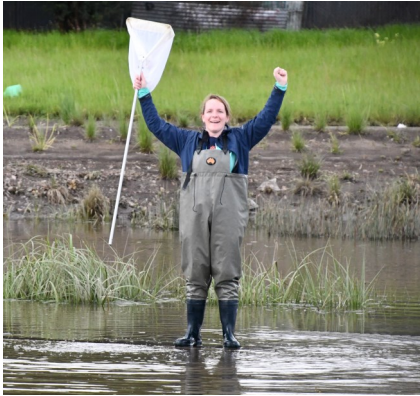
SOMETHING YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HIM

Even though Peter and his wife are very sensible parents of two young children they still enjoy playing Nintendo video games like "Super Smash Brothers" to determine who will be doing the dishes "washing up" duties.





Congratulations to our Alumni



Mel completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours) and PhD at Monash University. Mel was lucky enough to focus her research on an iconic Australian, investigating the impacts of land use and climate on the platypus. We wish Mel all the best.

Melissa Klamt
Class of 2005

College Memories

"My friends and some of the teachers. Being awarded the All-Around Excellence Award at the end of Year 12. "

Sabastian Aurisano
Class of 2011

"Playing in the Senior Stage Band"

Kelvin Nguyen
Class of 2018

"Photography class and sports"

Kate Flynn
(Nee Pepperell)
Class of 1993

"Walking downhill to school and class friends"

Michael Ryan
Class of 1969

"There are far too numerous to mention however I have the fondest memories of my teachers to whom I will forever be indebted to for their tuition and guidance"

Steva Pajic
Class of 1997

"Playing four square at the year 12 courts, hanging out with my friends in and outside the classroom, going to the school athletics and swimming carnival every year and playing interschool sports every term"

Sameer Srinivas
Class of 2018



School Reunion Tour - Class of 73, 83, 93

Sandra a conscientious student was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship which allowed her to enrol in into Toorak Teachers College after finishing her HSC at Mount Waverley. Sandra worked at Mount View Primary School for few years then moved into Early Childhood Education, where she remained for over 20 years. Sandra talks passionately on the fundamentals of teaching and how the student themselves are great learners. Sandra is a dedicated mother to four amazing children.



Sandra Laing
Class of 1973

"I really enjoyed reliving my High School days on your amazing campus which is barely recognisable from my time 50 years ago. Thanks for hosting us and best wishes moving forward with this great school"



Marianne Robinson
Class of 1973

After completing HSC Marianne enrolled into a Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapists) at Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences. After graduating Marianne worked in the Mental Health Industry for years and spent her last working years working mostly with children. Marianne is enjoying retirement.

"Thanks for organising the tour yesterday, I thoroughly enjoyed it"

In 1983 after completing her HSC, Kerrie picked up a summer job at Gordon & Gotch publishing distribution (where she did her work-experience) that then turned into a full-time role as assistant to the Public Relations Director. She then packed her bags and travelled around Australia and overseas for the next few years before working in the music & entertainment industry, FMCG and educational institutions. She is now a Senior Advisor Learning and Development for NELP (North East Link Program). Kerrie's Class of '83 was the first to introduce Media Studies (her favourite subject). She also loved participating in all the school musicals – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Pippin, Brigadoon and Annie Get Your Gun.



Kerrie Hosken
Class of 1983

"The school tour was just fabulous btw... thank you for co-ordinating!"



School Reunion Tour - Class of 73, 83, 93

Julia's love of travel started from a young age and after completing her VCE at MWSC she followed her passion, studying a Diploma of Hospitality Management & Business at William Angliss Institute. Brief stint in Dubai as a Flight Attendant with Emirates, Julia returned home joining The Westin Melbourne in a Human Resources role before transitioning into Sales. In 2002, Julia moved to London for 8 years, represented luxury 5-star hotels worldwide. Back in 2010, she joined Flight Centre 'cievents' in Business Development winning multiple sales awards. In 2013 transferred to New York City for 2-years to launch the brand across the Americas, receiving a Global Outstanding Achievement award for her efforts. Once again in Melbourne, Julia has spent the last 5 years as an Account Manager, managing key accounts Harris Scarfe & Spotlight whilst continuing her travel adventures.



Julia Froggatt
Class of 1993

Having not set foot in the school grounds in 30 years, the tour provided a wonderful trip down memory lane - an opportunity to appreciate the development in school facilities and delight at some old favourites still standing! A lovely chat with Amanda Irwin who still teaches at the school was a highlight, as was sharing stories and experiences with ex-students, including some who are still my friends to this day!



Belinda Wright
Class of 1993

After finishing her VCE, Belinda enrolled in a six-month program at a Legal Secretary School and worked as a temp in a law firm. She relocated to London and spent several years working as a legal secretary. Upon her return, she became part of a prestigious law firm in 2000 and has remained there ever since. For the past two years, she has been working in the Learning and Development department of the law firm. Belinda is an enthusiastic reader and learner.

After completing VCE in 1993, Cara completed her Certificate IV in Fitness Instruction and worked in the fitness industry for two years. She then moved into recruitment but her love of real estate and houses saw her get a job at Metricon Homes. Twelve years was spent there and now she currently works at a building inspection company as a Project Co-ordinator for some of the big infrastructure projects in Victoria.

"Thanking you for a great morning, it was great seeing Mt Waverley High as it is today. very fascinating and going down memory lane was a hit"



Cara Le Grand
Class of 1993



School Reunion Tour - Class of 73, 83, 93





Photos fresh from the Archives



School Life 1978



School Life 2003



Year 11 Fancy Dress 2018



School Life 1983

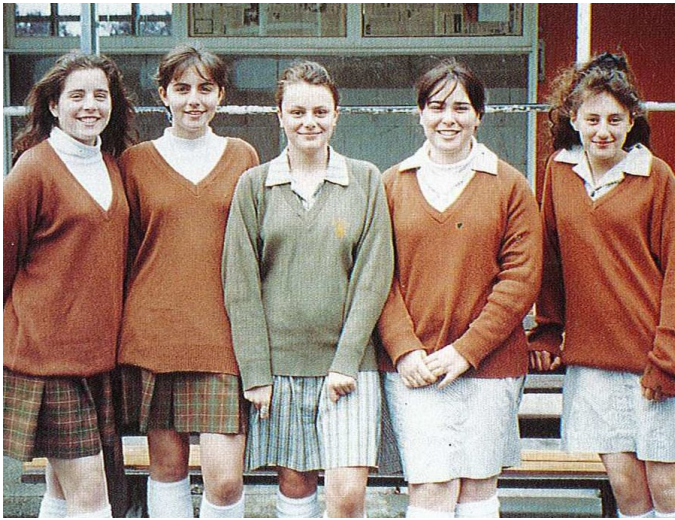


School Life 1991





Photos fresh from the Archives



School Life 1993



Year 8 Camp 2013

Sweet Memories



Unicorn Yearbook Pages 1973

Giving Back - Work Experience Opportunity for Students



Work Experience

Another way alumni can get involved is to provide work experience placements for a student.

We have **250 + year 10 students** who need to find a place for work experience.

If your workplace can hold a student, or if you have any contacts that could offer this opportunity, please let us know.

Email ✉ alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au
or phone 9803 6811.

It is a great way to give back to your school community!





Alumni events



LET' S CELEBRATE SCHOOL TOUR REUNIONS

This is a great opportunity to come back and visit your old school. There will be a school tour of the Senior Campus followed by light refreshments.

Take the chance to come and see how things have changed since you were last at school. Meet up with old school friends and teachers.

If you have family or friends who went to Mount Waverley in the years listed below, please pass on the exciting news.

Class of 2003
Friday 26th May
10am

Bookings essential.

Don't miss out! Click below for tickets.
<https://www.trybooking.com/CHGMD>



Alumni events

Any Alumni events coming up will be listed here and posted on our Facebook page. So keep an eye out.

Class of '83

It will be 40 years this year since the Class of '83 completed their HSC. There has been a Facebook group set up to connect with "old" classmates, Class of '83 Reunion Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/580818643531691>.

Group name: MWHS Class of '83.



Media Studies Class 1983
Teacher: Ed Grossman

Stay connected



Website



Facebook



LinkedIn

Email alumni@mwsc.vic.edu.au

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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