Welcome to our first Proteads Newsletter for 2013, a little late but we’re sure you’ll enjoy what we have for you in this edition.

It’s always a pleasure to hear from our past staff and students including those overseas—former English teacher Sarah Gowdie shares a little of her time in Canada and travels with 4 kids in tow! There have also been many celebrations amongst current and ex-staff and students which we are pleased to share with you—weddings, births, exhibitions, etc..

We send our congratulations also to:
Narelle McFarlane, who taught English and was a co-ordinator during her time at MESC (2003-2009) and her husband Russell, on the birth of their daughter Olive on the 12 March—two very besotted parents we are told!
Kate (Jobson) King (Business teacher and coordinator since 2009) and her husband Matt, who welcomed their daughter Elise in February. Kate hopes to be back teaching at MESC shortly.
Jessica (King) Bambridge, former teacher at MESC and now at FHS, and her husband David welcomed their second daughter in October 2012—(Jess has promised us an article for our next newsletter—so we’ll be chasing her up for that!)
Greg Heale, both a former student and former teacher at MESC, he was married in December 2012. He is currently working alongside Jess at FHS as Director of E-Learning.

Lynn, Ros, Marcia
Editors

Success for ex-MESC Students

Former student Torre De Roche (1991-1997) is currently on a media tour after having her book “Love with a Chance of Drowning” published by Penguin in March 2013. It has also been picked up by four other publishers worldwide, with movie rights and the whole shebang! According to ‘her bestie from high school’ (Pia Blair) it is a great read, a true story and was discovered on Twitter! We hope to share more from Torre in our next newsletter but in the meantime you can find out about her adventures and view a book trailer, on her blog “The Fearful Adventurer” http://www.fearfuladventurer.com - Look for it in a bookshop near you!

Sarah Hendy (1995-2000) has been listed as a finalist in the 2013 Archibald Prize for her portrait of Sydney-based figurative painter and sculptor Jasper Knight. She was a finalist in the 2012 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize and the 2010 and 2009 Metro Art Award. You can view her portrait and further information at http://bit.ly/10b5mae. Many of you will remember her impressive figurative painting of ‘The Violinist’ which won the ‘Ron Barron Acquisitive Prize’ in 2000.
A Change of Seasons

I left Mount Eliza in 2009 and we have had a nomadic few years since then. We’ve moved a few times, mostly to do with my husband Pete’s work as a doctor. We spent a year in Warragul where I taught senior English at St Paul’s Anglican Grammar School and Pete worked at the local community hospital, completing his paediatric training. It was also during this time that our second baby boy Fletcher (our eldest is Finn) was born.

Since 2011 we have been living in Toronto Canada, once again for Pete to complete part of his medical training. He has been working at the ‘Hospital for Sick Kids’ and I’ve been looking after our boys. Living in Toronto comes with its benefits—we’re a short flight to New York, not too far from the Caribbean and close to the Rocky Mountains, so we’ve managed to do quite a bit of travelling while we’ve been here.

We’ve absolutely loved the change of seasons in Canada—shovelling snow is still a novelty for us! We’re still amazed when we see people walking their dogs on frozen lakes and children riding on sleds to school. I did have a laugh when I got a notice from my son’s school indicating that all children were expected to play outside up until minus –28 degrees and they should be appropriately attired (evidently minus-29 is the tipping point when it just gets too cold)! It did make me think about the many times students would complain about going outside during the Melbourne winters!

The other event in our lives has been the birth of our twin boys, Harvey and Griffin, on New Years Day 2013. So, we’ll be bringing a couple of Canadians home with us when we return to Melbourne later this year. We’re not looking forward to that long haul flight home with four kids in tow, but we are really looking forward to getting settled back into Melbourne and being close to family and friends again. My best wishes to everyone at Mount Eliza Secondary College - I love hearing what you are all up to.

Sarah taught English and Senior English whilst at MESC. We wish Sarah and her family a safe trip home later this year and look forward to catching up with her family.
EXHIBITIONS AND INTERVIEWS

We are very fortunate to have many talented ex-students amongst our Proteads community and we are happy to feature information about upcoming exhibitions by them.

Kathryn Leopoldseder (1993-1998) shares information regarding her current exhibition and you can find out more about Kathryn’s work as a contemporary jeweller and artist at www.kathrynieopoldseder.com.au

“Where Moth and Rust Decay”
14th March - 4th April
e.g.etal, 167 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Pia Blair (1994-1997) who we featured a 2012 edition of ‘Proteads Newsletter’ has been enjoying great success after a recent exhibition of her works in Melbourne, juggling many interview commitments regarding her work. You can view some of her work and links to her interviews via Pia’s Facebook site “littlelandofpia” http://on.fb.me/Xi7rsp

We would also like to congratulate Pia and husband Luke on news of their impending parenthood and look forward to hearing more from them.

STUDENT REUNIONS 2013

Class of 1983

A 30-year reunion for the Class of 1983 is being planned by Muriel Bakker (Mainland) - mark this date in your diary…

Saturday 10th August 2013

Class of 1993

A reunion is being planned for the Class of 1993 (20 years) - to be held in October and currently being organized by Sarah (Hill) Dickinson
Congratulations to Indra King (Indonesian teacher) on her recent marriage to David Webster. The ceremony and reception was held at ‘Stillwater at Crittenden’ on a beautiful day in January. Some of you may recognize a couple of other past MESC students in the photo—Indra’s sister Louisa (1993-1998) and also Karli Sellenger (1996-2001) who has been working alongside Indra in our LOTE area since 2009.

Congratulations also to Sue Holderness and David Gregory on their recent marriage at McCrae Beach on 2nd February 2013. Sue has been teaching at MESC since 2004 and David was on staff from 1999-2004 when he left to teach at The Peninsula School. Romance blossomed for them in 2009 and they have just finished building a new home in McCrae which includes a gallery and B&B—named “The Gallery B&B McCrae”. Their reception was held at the Safety Beach Sailing Club where over half the guests were teachers!
Congratulations to Kevin Hunter (ICT Technician since 2005) on his recent marriage to Emily Sharp. Their ceremony was held at the ‘White Chapel Receptions’ in Langwarrin with many family and friends in attendance. We wish Kevin and Emily many happy years ahead as husband and wife.

Emily is teaching at Cranbourne East Primary School alongside ex-MESC student Alyssa Bakker (1996-2001). Alyssa is engaged to Brent Clinnick and they are currently planning their own wedding in October 2013. Her three sisters are to be bridesmaids—Deanne (1997-2002), Jenna (2002-2007) and Courtney (2006-2011). Parent John Bakker was also a school council member for many years.

Congratulations to Claire Johnson (1996-2001) who married Dan Talha (currently teaching IT and Design at MESC) in September 2012. Claire and Dan held their ceremony at Marysville, with a reception to follow in the Dandenongs before honeymooning in Port Douglas. There were a number of familiar faces amongst the bridal party—Karlie Sellenger (1996-2001), Evelyn Farag (1996-2001) who did the hair and makeup, and Laura Brown (previously Grimsley, 1996-2001) who flew over from Vietnam for the occasion.
A Trip Down Memory Lane (for some!)

How many of you still have your copies of ‘Ripple’ and when was the last time you read them? Why not get them out next time you’re with friends and take a ‘trip down memory lane’!

Share your stories with us in future newsletters—contact proteads@mesc.vic.edu.au