As the year draws to a close we have the opportunity as a College to reflect on our Vision, Values and Strategic Plan. It has been an exciting year with strong enrolments particularly in the 16 – 23 age range. We remain committed to nurturing a specialist Senior Secondary learning community with an adult ethos. We value diversity, support students to achieve personal success and provide the foundation for multiple pathways and on-going learning. To achieve this development of student graduate qualities, one of our commitments is to supporting student success through high quality teaching.

The end of 2013 sees the retirement of three such Marden teachers: Chris Evans, Liz Coventry and Nick Sidoryn. Each of these professionals embodies a belief in the value of education and a commitment to life-long learning that remains as strong as ever. In this year leading up to their retirement, for example, Chris continued his role in mentoring early career Science teacher colleagues through the Teach SA program, Nick’s skills in IT and English Studies saw him present his work at national conferences and Liz advised on and helped with the regeneration of the Virtual Enterprise. Along with Laboratory technician, Jan Beames who is also retiring, all have maintained right to the end their focus on the best outcomes for MSC students. These colleagues have given outstanding service to public education. As a College community we offer our thanks for their contribution and wish them much future happiness.

To students who are finishing Year 12 or a Vocational Certificate course or indeed a dual qualification, this term probably marks the end of your secondary schooling and the beginning of a whole range of new and exciting possibilities. On behalf of all of the staff of Marden Senior College, I would like to wish all of you every success in whatever pathway and pursuits you choose over the coming years. Thank you for your contribution to Marden Senior College.

For the many students returning to study in 2014, you will notice continuing improvements to facilities including in the library and two storey classroom building. Upgrading of facilities is on-going work and we have relied on student input to help us prioritise the work done over the last four years. There will be new staff joining us and our focus on both wellbeing and achievement continues through major developments in mentoring and interactive technologies.

Next year is looking great for Marden Senior College. Our student numbers are already strong with enrolment appointments filling steadily, and so I invite you and any other prospective students to call the College soon on 8366 2800 to take best advantage of our services. Have a safe and happy Festive season. Best wishes for 2014.

Brenda Harris
Principal
Throughout the Ancient Studies course we have learnt an immense amount about ancient civilizations and the way they functioned. While learning about each civilization was interesting, it is also important to learn about how our civilization has come to know so much about the past. Consequently archaeology has been a major focus of this course which has allowed the class to study not only information about the past but also how that information is gathered. This study culminated in conducting our own simulated ‘Dig’.

Our group participated enthusiastically in our archaeological efforts, while learning to incorporate effective communication by working as a team, collaborating ideas, sharing knowledge and interacting with our small community.

Jessica and Daniel

Learning about the archaeological processes through hands-on work was a terrific way of getting a feel for just how much work goes into finding and studying artefacts from ancient civilizations. The best part of the dig was collaborating with a group of ‘new found’ friends to choose the civilizations and then finding the items to create this civilisation. It was also a lot of fun to participate in the digging and burial and finding of the items as well.

Dozens of native orchid species once grew on the Adelaide plains prior to European settlement but orchids were some of the first native plant species to be exterminated. Orchids need fungi for germination and specific insects for pollination. Many orchid flowers mimic pollinating insects. While only one species survived development on the Adelaide plains, new propagation techniques have allowed the re-introduction of a variety of rare orchids. Propagation of native orchids is limited to a few species and is a highly specialised skill.

Four schools on the Adelaide plains received native orchids in 2013. Marden Environmental Studies students planted many individual plants representing four species – donkey orchids, greenhoods, pink fairies and spider orchids. Look out for these stunning flowers in early in spring next year.

Peter Allen
Environmental Studies teacher
Featuring the work of Year 12 students from both the Open Access and Marden Senior colleges the appreciative crowd was impressed by the high quality and variety of the art, photography and design on Friday 8 November for our annual art exhibition.

In addition to the Year 12 work were displays by Marden Senior College students, including work from Certificate III and IV Textiles, Painting and Drawing, Design, Digital Media, Media and Photography classes as well as the SACE Stage 1 Sculpture students.

The exhibition was formally opened by Tina Dolgopol, a former student and associate professor of Law at Flinders University. She complimented the College on such a fantastic visual arts display and was extremely impressed by the high standard of work. Tina spoke on the merits of adult education, the educational balance that Marden offers and how her studies at Marden have led to a deeper appreciation of the arts. Tina now volunteers at the Art Gallery of South Australia.

It truly was a remarkable celebration of artistic endeavour. Well done to all students and thanks particularly to the teachers whose professionalism and commitment has guided the students throughout the year.

Anne Johnson
We are thrilled to say we have been a part of Marden Senior College. As Nelson Mandela once said **education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world and Marden is our first step towards changing the world.** Marden Senior College has allowed students to all come together and achieve one ultimate goal: to receive an education that can lead us towards our dreams.

Marden Senior College is unique in regards to its diverse group of students. Within this diverse group we have all formed friendships with one another. As Student Government Association Presidents for 2013, Isabella and I have been fortunate to be a part of Marden Senior College's development this year. Friendships between students, teachers and support staff have blossomed, and as the year passed and we crept closer to the end of our secondary studies these friendships appear stronger than ever.

Various events throughout the year, organized by the Student Government Association, not only helped to cement these friendships but also worked to increase the school spirit. We can in no way say the Student Government Association was the sole reason for this year’s achievements, because it was the spirit and enthusiasm of the student body that led to each and every success.

Some of this year’s achievements include:

- Designing and delivering the first, of hopefully many, senior jackets to the student body of Marden, creating a sense of unity among the students
- Three successful Trash and Treasures accompanied by barbeques raising money for a variety of good causes
- Tree planting day which is a reflection of our growing concern for the environment
- Harmony Day celebrations that reflected the diverse student body of the College
- Melbourne band Masketta Fall playing live at the school
- And, the Senior Formal held at the Sebel Playford

The formal was a wonderful way to come together and celebrate the friendships we have formed since January. Students and staff were given the opportunity to mingle outside the school campus in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. The formal was a night I am sure all those who attended will remember for a long time to come.

Being part of the Student Government Association has also allowed us to be a part of the side of Marden Senior College that most students do not get to see. This included attending monthly Governing Council Meetings. It is clear to see in the behind the scenes of the College, that each person who makes up the College is dedicated to ensuring we, as students, are all successful. Brenda Harris, the College Principal, in particular, is to be commended on her passion and eagerness to ensure that we all thrive during our time at Marden.

On behalf of the Student Government Association we would also like to extend a special thank you to Erin Papps and Tim Wells who have shown us an immense amount of encouragement, dedication and respect.

To all parents, caregivers, teachers, Marden staff and Governing Council members we want to thank you for the support and dedication you have shown us all over the last year.

It is a humbling feeling to have worked to bring the Marden community together over the last eleven months. We hope the success of every event this year inspires the Student Government Association of 2014 to raise the bar in the coming year.

And while we celebrate those who have worked hard towards their SACE or Certificate courses we must remember while our Marden experience may be over, our education does not stop here regardless of what path we choose for our future.

Just remember that so many people believe in you and have invested so much in helping you succeed. Now it is up to you take up the advantage they have given you. And with that we want to leave you with these parting words:

‘To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.’

Ashleigh Bradshaw-Hay and Isabella Rogers
In September I had the privilege of visiting KVUC, our “Sister School” in Copenhagen Denmark to finally see the school I had heard so much about from KVUC staff that had visited our College on a number of occasions. It was good to see and meet with familiar faces like Søren Andersen, the Principal, and others who had visited Marden.

KVUC is housed in a former office/warehouse building in “Old” Copenhagen; quite different to the physical environment at Marden. It was early in the academic year when I visited and the school was filled with enthusiastic students. There are many similarities about the two schools. Like Marden, KVUC caters for senior secondary students and people returning to education to improve literacy and numeracy skills and complete their secondary schooling so they can pursue further studies at university or join the workforce.

Some interesting differences between the two schools:

- KVUC has a special program to cater for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- A school counsellor maintains contact with students until they are 25 years old
- Pre-university subjects all have written and oral exams
- There are two non-teacher student guide and event coordinators who play a large role in student engagement and retention.

My visit was brief but very informative. I’ll have to return to find out more!
Lucy Poloni
Just as I sit down to write this article, two blowflies have started buzzing around the ceiling, bouncing into light fittings and off the foam ceiling tiles making annoying and distracting clicks as the hit each surface. So distracting are they that they have become the focus of my writing!

How easy it is to lose one’s focus.

Looking back over 2013, I have a great sense of satisfaction. Satisfaction at how the community that is Marden Senior College has recognised and embraced the notion of supporting and caring for each other, not just here on campus but in the broader community too;

- Trash and treasure days raising funds for worthy causes identified by students;
- SGA members engaging the student body who proudly display their connectedness with Marden by wearing their Marden Senior College jackets and by attending a fantastic School Formal, also arranged by the SGA;
- Planting trees to restore the ravages of humanity upon nature in ‘Our Patch’, adjacent to the Torrents near our campus;
- Collecting bread for friends or family or neighbours each Wednesday.

These are just a few examples of this care and concern. (Space prevents the exhaustive list) But I have seen also, very personal touches of care; being alerted to a student’s needs by a concerned staff member or a fellow student for example, not just once or twice but throughout the year and; not just alerting me to the needs of students, but going some way to addressing them too! The concern for each other has stood out this year. Indeed it has been a focus.

My satisfaction lies in the fact that this focus has never varied, has never been diverted by incidental, unnecessary or irrelevant trivia. Part of my role here at Marden is to help flatten out the obstacles that sometimes stand in our way along the pathway to success; to assist in overcoming those issues that might prevent the best possible outcomes. My satisfaction lies in how so many others have done this with me; - that is, have helped me in my focus.

Whatever your focus is, I encourage you to remain true to it. Do not allow yourselves to be distracted by trivialities and most of all; I hope your focus too, at the closing of one year and the beginning of another, can be on the care and concern for each other and for the wider community.

That is something of a focus at Marden Senior College. Oh yes......the blowflies have gone now!

Tim Wells
Uni & TAFE
Applications

Have you applied for uni or TAFE?

We would like to wish all our applicants for courses at university or TAFE every success and hope that you achieve your goal.

There are some important dates that you should keep in mind in the lead-up to offers being made by SATAC. The time line below is the latest information we have for each sector.

UNIVERSITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 December</td>
<td>Equal consideration closing date for late applicants. New applications after this date are not guaranteed equal consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>Results available from SACE Board. Now that you have your results, you may wish to change your preferences to ensure a better chance of getting into a course. You can also add new courses to your list and take out preferences that you are certain cannot be achieved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 January</td>
<td>Deadline for change of preferences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 January</td>
<td>Main round of offers emailed to students by 5.00 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 January</td>
<td>Late January offers emailed by 5.00 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 February</td>
<td>Offers emailed to students by 5.00 pm.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TAFE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 November</td>
<td>Equal consideration closing date for late applicants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 December</td>
<td>Last day to undertake the TABS test for consideration in the January round of offers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 January</td>
<td>Deadline for change of preferences for Main offer round.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 January</td>
<td>Main round of offers to courses emailed to students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 January</td>
<td>Further offers made to some courses from this date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Counsellors are on site from the Monday 13 January 2014 to provide information and support to you regarding how best to pursue any opportunities that may be available.

Good luck to all applicants.
Day Classes

- Accounting
- Biology
- Business and Enterprise*
- Chemistry
- Child Studies*
- Community Studies*
- Creative Arts - Art*
- Creative Arts - Design*
- Creative Arts - Photography*
- Digital Media
- Economics
- English Communications*
- English Pathways*
- English Studies
- English as a Second Language
- Environmental Studies*
- Geography
- Health *
- Information Processing and Publishing*
- Information Technology
- Mathematical Applications*
- Mathematical Methods
- Mathematical Studies
- Mathematics Specialist
- Media Studies*
- Modern History
- Nutrition*
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Research Project
- Society and Culture*
- Tourism
- Visual Arts - Art*
- Visual Arts - Design*
- Workplace Practices (Sport / Dance) - flexible delivery
- Workplace Practices*

Evening Classes

- Biology
- Classical Studies
- Creative Arts - Art / Design
- Creative Arts - Photography*
- Geology
- Legal Studies
- Maths Methods
- Nutrition
- Psychology
- Research Project
- Women’s Studies
- Workplace Practices (Sport/ Dance) - flexible delivery

*Available as 20 or 10 Credit Options