Welcome to 2014 at Marden Senior College

College Community

At this time in Term 1 it’s useful to reflect on our year so far at the College. Many students are new to Marden and experiencing studying in an adult environment for the first time. I trust everyone has experienced the College as an encouraging place based on a foundation of mutual respect and mutual responsibility. Every year Marden attracts students aged from 16 upwards whose backgrounds are diverse and who enrol with different personal goals. Our College’s uniqueness is evident in the opportunities presented in this rich mix of people and experiences. We have a chance to learn from one another and fashion our 2014 school community. Whether you are a new or continuing student, or a student we currently share with another school – welcome and best wishes for your studies at Marden.

It is with great pleasure we also welcome new MSC staff: Noel Beard, teacher of English and History, Dr Keith Gatford, Chemistry and Biology specialist, and Coordinator Innovative Programs, Rachel Moore. Their infusion of new ideas and skills is a real asset. Thanks go to everyone for supporting these new colleagues, and for helping students to settle into courses and to stay on track towards their personal success.

Supporting students to succeed has been further enhanced through the expansion of mentoring to all Marden students under 21, through the roll-out of a Study Skills and Time Management program by ‘Elevate Education’, in the student - mentor morning tea and the parent evening to meet the mentors of our younger students. We look forward to more developments in this work on student well-being and engagement.

College successes

There have been many notable events already in 2014. SACE results and SATAC offers saw significant successes for many students from last year. At the SACE Merit Ceremony at Government House 32 students were awarded with A+ with Merit for their studies last year. The Registered Training Organisation Graduation Ceremony was well attended by graduates, trainers, and many family and supporters including Governing Councillors. At this celebration graduates praised the quality work of our College trainers and the variety of the VET certificates available. Congratulations go to all students now on the next leg of their learning journey, particularly those recognised at the recent Celebration of Student Achievement event. Well done also to teacher Len Altman and the Geoscience Pathways Project team for their recent grant in recognition for their important work in the area Australian Science Curriculum. Other successful activities highlight the range of services and talents at the College. Orientation Day, College Forums, the Breakfast with Mentors and the Student Program activities gave many new students a chance to meet their teachers and settle in. Elections are complete for the Student Government Association and student reps joined the Governing Council at the AGM on 31 March. The 2014 Fringe Photography exhibition at the Burnside Atrium demonstrated the depth of creative talent here. Harmony Day and the recent successful Trash and Treasure days, Pancake Lunch and Wednesday Bread days also show strong commitment to community involvement.

College facilities

Students are now enjoying the updated Library and the expanded IT facilities after work was completed in February. Renewal of the Reception and Administration areas currently underway will further improve visitor access, and the new Archive area is already a great boon. Strategic planning input on other improvements is always encouraged. How do we predict and serve student needs into the future while being as flexible and sustainable as possible? Students and parents are invited to contribute, and ideas can be forwarded through members of the Student Government Association, teachers or directly to me.

At Marden we focus on a student’s ‘pathway to success’ through attention to their education, training and well-being. The responsibility rests with everyone at Marden Senior College to contribute to our welcoming, safe adult community, and in doing so to build personal achievements reflected in a set of Graduate Qualities. Communication is the key to this educational partnership, so share your skills and thoughts, and make the most of the services offered at the College to achieve your study goals for this year and define your plans for the future.

Brenda Harris
Principal
The 2013 Marden Senior College Presentation Night was celebrated in grand style on Tuesday 3 December at the Norwood Town Hall. It was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of our students and celebrate their success at the end of the school year.

Guest Speaker was Arthur Mutaguby, a past MSC student. Arthur’s speech was inspirational, he shared with the audience his experience at Marden and his strategies for remaining focused and achieving his goals.

The evening was made especially memorable by the vocal performances of Katelyn Rogers and Anthony Snow and friends.

The 2013 Caltex Best All Rounder Award winner was Michael Henningsen. He enjoyed his experience at Marden and his strategies for remaining focused and achieving his goals.

The 2013 Caltex Best All Rounder Award was introduced to how the other half of the world had lent perspective in a monumental fashion. Here I was, an 18 year old Australian, who had the privilege to re-attend school, if... he chose to, in order to construct a new future for himself. Watching thousands of people go about their lives that never had an opportunity to begin with. Before witnessing all of this, I was worried about how I would be judged by my old class mates for re-doing year 12, along with how stupid I felt for not doing it directly after I had finished school. As far as I’m now concerned, all of those thoughts were pathetic, shallow and pessimistic, and it was this realisation that forced into a state of stagnancy. Yet, I was determined to do something in the New Year, to keep myself occupied as I pondered over my future. This determination, of all places led me into the Western Australian mining industry where I worked as a Geological Technician for a year; during which time I quickly found myself wanting more from life... as I didn’t feel accomplished in an environment where I had already plateaued. This eventually led me towards finding Marden, where upon doing my research, was quickly convinced that repeating year 12 was the right avenue to pursue.

Upon leaving the institutionalised lifestyle of the mining industry, I was at first worried that I had made the wrong decision. Furthermore, being the stereotypical teenager that I was, I soon began to ponder a variety of negative thoughts, as I was worried what others would think and admittedly, was slightly embarrassed by the concept of re-doing year 12. However, all of these thoughts changed when I travelled to Nepal where I had already plateaued. This eventually led me towards finding Marden, where upon doing my research, was quickly convinced that repeating year 12 was the right avenue to pursue.

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This unique opportunity shouldn’t be overlooked, instead utilised. As next year may be the last opportunity you have for a long time to work, travel and possibly gain some invaluable life experience.

As of next year, I’m hoping to do either a Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science at the University of South Australia or a double degree in Law and Commerce at the University of Adelaide. Aside from academics, I’m also looking forward to mountaineering in New Zealand this summer, finishing my skydiving licence and rock climbing the rest of Australia. As for the rest of you, I hope that this year has acted as a stimulus towards a brighter and more rewarding future in whatever fields you choose to pursue. Growing up I’ve always believed that you make your own luck in life; however, being born in Australia is enough evidence to suggest otherwise. We have it made here, and no matter what side of the political fence you sit on, we can all concur to that. So make the most of it and set out to achieve your goals; only to replace them with new ones while making the most of everything you have available here.

Once again I would like to thank the helpful, thoughtful, wonderful and most of all patient staff of Marden, who have always put my best interests and the best interests of the students first. Again, thank you all for your attendance here tonight which has made the evening a memorable success and one I won’t soon forget.

We are going to die, and that makes us the lucky ones. Most people are never going to die because they are never going to be born. The potential people who could have been here in my place but who will in fact never see the light of day outnumber the many grains of the Sahara. Certainly those unborn ghosts include greater poets than Keats and scientists far greater than Newton. We know this because the set of possible people allowed by our DNA so massively exceeds the number which have come into existence. In the teeth of these stupefying odds it is you and I, in our ordinariness, that are here instead.

Professor Richard Dawkins

Michael Henningsen

This year’s SGA is set to be the best yet. Under the leadership of president Alice Weekes, the SGA team is hoping to make the impending school year much more enjoyable through organising a variety of fun and exciting activities to help break up the school day.

March 20 saw the first SGA event of 2014; Harmony Day. Free pancakes were offered in lieu of the traditional sausage sizzle, giving the SGA a fantastic opportunity to introduce themselves to the student body. The event was a huge success and we would like to extend a thank you to everyone who attended. In addition to bringing a stream of fun lunchtime events throughout the year, senior jumpers are being brought back by popular demand. Designs are currently in the preliminary stages and more information about those will be available very shortly.

Lastly, the school year will culminate with the SGA-organised school formal. With tickets expected to go on sale in Term 2, our team of dedicated formal organisers are already working hard to ensure it will be a night to remember.

As always, the SGA is open to any and all suggestions. Don’t hesitate to contact any member with ideas, questions, or feedback. We look forward to meeting everyone over the year and helping to provide the best possible school experience.

2014 SGA Members

Alice Weekes, James Michael, Katie Court, Emily Foster, Alex Muggridge, Ali Rahimi, Xinyun Song, Jessica Lymn, Kebe Kormah, and Bianca Marcus.
In 2013 there were 197 RTO graduates from a range of industry areas including Children’s Services, Visual Arts, Business, Photoimaging, Media and Education and Skills Development. 81 graduates attended a ceremony, held at the Payneham Library complex, to celebrate their achievements in 2013. Graduates were supported by 116 guests. A number of invited guests as well as staff from Marden Senior College and Open Access College also attended the event.

The ceremony was opened by Jeane Shocroft (joint RTO manager and Deputy Principal of the Open Access College) who welcomed everyone and provided a brief background about the RTO. Guest speaker was Margaret Lambert who, in her long term role as Industry Skills Manager Eastern Region, outlined the history of vocational education in South Australian schools as well as possible future directions.

Kebe Kormah, a graduate of Certificate II in Education and Skills Development, delivered an inspirational speech outlining her educational journey as well as future ambitions. Brenda Harris (joint RTO manager and Principal Marden Senior College) closed the ceremony and invited guests to join graduates and staff in light refreshments.

Bernadetta Chaustowski: RTO Manager

**RTO Graduate Speech**

Distinguished guests, families, friends, staff and fellow students I am a graduate in Certificate II in Education and Skills Development. Today it is a great pleasure to give honour to the staff and Principal of Marden Senior College, my teachers in Africa, and especially, my uncle, David Mulbah as well. Thank you to all these people for getting me this far in my journey to become a Social Worker.

My teachers in Africa taught me so many things. What I remember most is when one of my teachers Mr Nyumah said “English is your passport to the world! And if you want to succeed in life you should study English.” I decided that I would make an effort to conquer what so many of my classmates refused to accept.

My uncle was a major influence on me. He taught me to be determined, respectful of others and to always be on time. However, the most important thing that he taught me, was to put education first as it would be the key to success in life.
I arrived in Australia in 2011 and experienced a massive culture shock. I thought I could speak and write English but soon realised that I had to do many more English courses to be able to achieve my career goals. It was my Dad (he was already here) who enrolled me in a New Arrivals Program where I learnt a lot about Australian culture, which is so different to African culture. In 2013, I studied Certificate II in Education and Skills Development with the Marden RTO. During the course of my study I learnt about Australian culture as well as other cultures. I learnt not to be afraid to speak with others and also to ask questions. Most importantly I learnt to ask for help when I needed it. For me that was so difficult to learn.

My teachers have had a great impact on my life. I learnt many things about Australia including housing, transport, important events, educational systems in Australia, Australian weather and what to expect when the seasons change.

At Marden, I was given the opportunity to choose from a wide range of subjects which included VET, to complete my SACE and I am forever grateful for having been given the opportunity to do so. I would especially like to thank some staff members who were very supportive along my journey. Firstly I would like to thank Lucy Poloni, who was my mentor. She helped me to decide upon my future career direction. I would also like to thank my trainer in communications competencies Claudia, who like my uncle, taught me the importance of being organised and meeting deadlines. She reinforced that good communication skills were important when seeking employment.

So, today I want you to always remember that whenever the going seems too tough, listen to these words:

“Train up a child in the ways that seem right and when that child grows up they will never depart from it.” Michael Pearl

My days at Marden have also shown me that the richest life comes from pursuing life-long learning.

To make the most of life’s opportunities, you will always need to ‘take the attitude of a successful student’. Never be too big to ask questions and never know too much to learn something new.

These are things I will remember from my studies at Marden Senior College.

So, never give up and always appreciate the opportunities that you have in Australia. Millions of people in the world never have these opportunities.

Thank you to everyone who has helped me on my way to becoming what I am today. Thank you, for getting me this far along my journey to enrol in Social Work at the University of South Australia, and for the knowledge and understanding to help me succeed.

Kebe Kormah
An enthusiastic team of staff is available to assist students in the library. We are open each day from 8.30am and until 3.45pm Monday and Thursday and until 3.30pm on Friday. On Tuesday and Wednesday we are open until 7pm as there are evening classes happening at the school. So, there are many opportunities for you to use the library and get assistance, if required.

The library has an extensive range of resources you can access either in the library and/or via the MSC website under the Library link including books, DVDs and electronic databases. An online tool that is proving very popular is the Online Referencing Generator (ORG) that can assist in the preparation of bibliographies. The tool is available on the library page on the website. If you need any help to find or use the ORG or any of the other resources, then please ask. There is always a staff member at the desk to help out.

Topping up Printing and Internet. The machine to top up your credits for printing and/or internet is in the library. You will need your ID/Library card to use in the machine. Please ask the library staff if you need help the first time you use it!

Current events are highlighted by displays in the library. So far this year we have had displays about The Fringe Festival, Womadelaide, Chinese New Year, Clipsal and Writer’s Week. On display in the foyer is the MSC Pedal Prix car.

And, for when you need a snack – the MSC SGA is selling chocolates! They are available from the library desk for $1 and the funds raised will assist with costs for the Formal.

We look forward to seeing you in the library soon!

Sue Johnston: Library Manager

On Thursday, 27 April, the Stage 1 Short Film Making class and some Certificate 3 Media students went on a tour around the ABC studios in Collinswood. We saw a range of aspects of media and got different ideas for our own personal project.

Firstly we saw the “Behind The News” set and the News studio, where our guides showed us the cameras and autocue and explained how they work in producing these events. The guides showed us the green screen technique and how BTN film their shows.

We next went into the little studio where one person does the job of previously five people. When the newsreader reads the news this is all controlled by one person who is able to move each of three cameras, the camera angles and zoom, film clips, audio and the autocue without even being in the studio.

One of the producers spoke to us about how an idea evolves into a story and then produced and all the people that go into making a production. We went into the 891 Adelaide radio station, talked to Sonya Feldhoff, the presenter and listened in on a little bit of a segment of their radio show. There were many unexpected comments coming from people ringing up and all of us had to stop ourselves from laughing when someone talked about “whether to use soap or lanolin to clean their face, private parts and exhaust area”.

After that we met the crew in the BTN production area who talked to us about what they do and the week-long process of putting a show together. They answered our questions in much detail.

Overall it was a fun and exciting day and I would definitely recommend it as a fun learning experience.

Tahlia Foweraker

Well entrenched into our routine at Marden, Wednesday has definitely become known once again as ‘Bread Day.’ The line-up that develops at recess time each Wednesday, is as long as I can remember, possibly even longer. Some weeks there are very few cakes, other times, especially after a long week-end, there is less bread. Seeing a very long line and seeing very little bread or very few cakes is quite stressful! Yet each time, there is enough, even a little left over.

Of course we apply rationing and the like; perhaps one cake each, or one loaf or two bread rolls and then come back for seconds if there is still some left over. But it is also due to the fantastic way our community reacts and works together. People are patient, courteous, tolerant and even let others go before them at times! Always, there is something for everyone.

My thanks for the gracious way people accept this generous gift each week from Bakers Delight at North Adelaide. This activity is a pleasure, not a chore and I really enjoy chatting to people, meeting them and getting to know them. If you have never joined the queue at Wednesday recess, come along and see for yourself; I would love to meet you too.

Tim Wells
From tentative beginnings in 2013 comes an exciting and confident display of art works. The Certificate IV Marden Senior College Visual Arts students present the culmination of their final year’s work as emerging artists. The amalgamation of painting and drawing students with the textile students gave both classes the chance to further expand their knowledge and discover new mediums.

Working on their own individual theme, each student has produced a body of work which embraces the mediums of oil, acrylic, watercolour and drawing together with adventurous textile work. This includes contemporary fabric wall hangings, installation, fashion items, collage and innovative fabric printing and dyeing. Each of the pieces illustrates the student’s dedication and focus to their chosen theme.

Don’t miss out on this exciting diversity of work produced using brushes and threads. The exhibition runs from 28 March through to 24 April. Pepper Street Arts Centre, 558 Magil Road, Magill.

On 13 March the Stage 2 Environmental studies, Society & Culture and Tourism classes headed to Granite Island for the day. The focus varied between subjects. Environmental Studies students investigated issues around Ocean Ecology and species extinction, Tourism students looked at whether Granite Island was a sustainable tourism destination, while Society & Culture students learnt about aboriginal culture, history and dreaming.

When we arrived on the island and split into two groups, Tourism and Environmental Studies students looked at issues associated with the decline of the little penguins while the Society & Culture students went on a guided tour of the island’s aboriginal culture.

The weather was ideal for an excursion and overall the trip was an enjoyable educational experience.

Peter Allen
Students interested in tertiary study and / or employment options may wish to take advantage of the following upcoming events to begin their research into relevant courses, study options or career development opportunities.

**ADELAIDE CAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT EXPO 2014**
The Adelaide Careers & Employment Expo is South Australia's premier and largest careers, employment, education and training event. The event showcases a range of education providers, employers, industries and Government initiatives in South Australia. Students are able to speak directly with major employers such as SA Police, SA Government, SA Health, Defence Force Recruitment, TAFE SA, Australian Aerospace, BAE Systems, Woolworths, Careers Australia, a wide range of Group Training organisations and many more....

Jubilee Pavilion, Adelaide Showground, Goodwood Road
Friday 16 May, 9 am – 3.30 pm
Saturday 17 May, 10 am – 4 pm
FREE ADMISSION

**TERTIARY STUDIES AND CAREERS EXPO 2014**
TSCEA is an important event for anyone seeking to explore their tertiary studies, training and career options. With an overwhelming number of courses on offer each year and constantly changing career opportunities and pathways, entry requirements and study options, it is vital you keep up to date with the latest information on your career prospects. This event is ideal for all senior school students, parents, and mature age students, as well as career seekers. With exhibits from all public South Australian Universities, as well as those from interstate and overseas, visitors can gain a comprehensive insight into the institutions and programs that best suit them. TSCEA also features representatives from TAFE SA, Defence Forces, Private Education Colleges, student support services, as well as a significant number of graduate employers and government agencies recruiting for graduate placements.

Adelaide Convention Centre
Sunday 25 May, 10 am – 4 pm
Monday 26 May, 9:30 am – 1.30 pm
FREE ADMISSION