



From the Principal



Once again, we have had an incredibly busy few weeks since the last newsletter. I am delighted to welcome back Sr. Muirhead and am pleased to report that she is fit and well again. I really missed her presence around college, as I know you did too. However, I am not missing the sound of Matt's crutches or his scooter as he speedily makes his way up and down the corridors. Even though his foot is not completely healed, he is able to walk around relatively normally. I don't think he will be putting on his dancing shoes just yet!

The highlight of the Duchesne social calendar has been and gone! The proudly promoted, greatly anticipated, much envied, Duchesne College Ball was celebrated last week in the beautiful surroundings of the marquee at the Victoria Park Golf Club. I would like to thank Claire Witherdin and all the members of the Student Club Executive and Social Committee for the great amount of effort they put into making the event such a huge success. The Pre's held on the College Colonnades gave Sr. Muirhead and I (and Matt!) the opportunity to admire your dresses and hairstyles – you certainly looked beautiful! From what you have told us, it was a memorable evening.

Our Mexican Theme Night was a great

success. Thank you to Paola Barrientos and her team of international students who hosted the evening. Thank you too, of course, to the chefs who put a great deal of effort into preparing the authentic food. Everyone entered into the spirit of the evening by dressing up, sipping frozen 'margaritas' – and taking a turn at whacking the piñatas! Plans are already afoot for our next theme night but more about that later.

Our two big musical events – Band Fest and Choral Fest - have also been and gone. Our band members worked really hard to polish their performance. I particularly enjoyed the original piece, dedicated to our intrepid security guard, Brian! Our choir

did a wonderful job of preparing for Choral Fest. I noticed a vast improvement between the workshop on Anzac Day and the performance on the night. You looked and sounded lovely and, though it was a little disappointing not to be in the top three, you could not have been more committed and it was a fantastic night. Already, there is a great deal of talk about Dance Fest – the rest of the colleges had better look out when we go for a repeat of last year's win!

It has not all been about cultural activities, of course. We continue to wage a fierce campaign in ICC Sport with quite a few of our strong events still to come. It is a shame we had so much hockey on one weekend, especially as it clashed with rowing and the Mother's Day Classic Run. Amazingly, some girls managed to participate in all three! We had a strong turn out for the run, despite the rain and a very early start and were rewarded with the prize for the largest school or youth group. Another example of the famed Duchesne spirit! I have heard from Jacinta that the soccer tryouts were very promising so let's hope for a good competition – I am sure the Soccer camp at the end of the holidays will give you a good start.

Spectator sport will come to the fore this

week (at time of writing) with the first of the State of Origin matches to be played at Suncorp – and relayed to our own big screen for those who do not have tickets. This is the only time of year when the 'Crazy Blues' will be outnumbered in college!

Last week, members of our Executive, Sr. Muirhead, Matt and I attended a formal dinner at St Leo's. Instead of a guest speaker, Brother Vince decided he would like students to perform. Maxine Galante kindly volunteered (!) to represent Duchesne, accompanied on the piano by Sarah (or Claire, as Br. Vince seemed to prefer) Kirk. The piece from *Phantom of the Opera* was very well received. I would like to thank the girls for being prepared to perform. The Leo's representative, their pianist at Choral Fest, put in a very good performance too. We will return the invitation to Leo's Exec next semester.

We have almost completed our first round of Academic Progress Interviews – one or two of you are incredibly elusive! The interviews have gone well and I have certainly found it interesting to find out more about how you are doing. It is always difficult for freshers in the first semester to really know where they stand but I do get the impression that you are all working well and are committed to your studies. A few inevitably are not completely happy with choice of course but hopefully that can be remedied.

Swotvac approaches! I am pleased that so many of you are already using the library to full advantage for study and hope to see many more of you in there over the next few weeks. All the tutorial rooms will be available for you throughout Swotvac and the exam period. Please respect the needs of others and use the facilities appropriately – that means not setting up camp for the duration but taking your belongings away with you at the end of your revision session! Swotvac is not all bad – you do get a bountiful supper each night. Any suggestions for new additions to the supper menu to Laura Stock and Elise Lenke, the Food Convenors, and we will see what we can do.

From the Principal (continued)

We have had a little bit of rain in recent days but I am sure I do not have to remind you that the water situation is critical in Queensland and in other parts of the country. We are currently completing our WEMP (Water Efficiency Management Plan) and submission for grants and hope to introduce further water saving strategies as soon as possible. We all have a part to play in this so let us make every drop count.

You may be aware that we are trying to resurrect our Alumnae Association and have already held a couple of events. Our next event is scheduled for Sunday, 22nd July and will consist of Mass followed by luncheon. We are inviting members of the Executive, RAs and third year students to represent the current student body and hope for a good turnout from the Alumnae and invited guests. We have quite a number of names on our database now but if you know any former Duchesne girls, please encourage them to check the details on the website.

I will be setting out quite soon on visits to regional Queensland and Northern NSW. I found it fascinating last year meeting prospective students in their own environment as it helped me to understand the Australian context a little more. At a time when places at Duchesne are greatly oversubscribed, I find it is good to promote direct links with a nucleus of feeder schools. I also think it is good for potential applicants to hear from current students. So, if any of you are going to be at home in the last week of our holidays when schools have already returned, you might like to arrange a visit. If you are keen, let me know and I will give you current information on admissions.

Friday 25th May is the Feast of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, the foundress of the Order of the Sacred Heart. It is the 125th anniversary this year of the arrival of the first Religious of the Sacred Heart in Australia. Sr. Muirhead and I will be attending Mass and some of the celebrations for Madeleine Sophie Day at Stuartholme, a day our former Stuartholme girls will certainly remember. It will be a day to give thanks to Madeleine Sophie and to the many religious who have worked so selflessly to establish schools and colleges throughout the world to ensure the education of young girls, like you. I wish you every success in your examinations.

Kind regards

Mrs Nanette Kay

Principal

From the President

Hello everybody! As this is the last newsletter for the semester, I just wanted to thank everyone for such a fun-filled and enjoyable year so far. For the first years I hope you have enjoyed your college experience thus far. To the second years and the rest of us 'oldies' at the college I hope you have all had a great semester and I'm sure after the next few weeks of stressful studying we will all be ready and deserving of a good break....to come back and do it all again next semester!!

The semester ended just as it started at Duchesne; with energy, enthusiasm and tremendous spirit which has led us to achieving some wonderful results in the ICC competition. Now college idol, band fest, choral fest, cross country, hockey, netball and rowing are all behind us and we really have shocked the other colleges with our fantastic results. Congratulations to all the participants, coaches and supporters for your commitment, efforts and cheering! Special thanks also go to the conveners of each event; Laura, Kelly,

Carly, Jess, Sarah, Kaye, Kelsea, Meg, Monique and Kirky for their time and dedication.

The Mothers Day Classic charity run at South Bank saw 25 enthusiastic Duchies wake at dawn to run through the rain to raise money for breast cancer research. The wonderful support shown by Duchesne saw us awarded with the largest schools/colleges group honor. Congratulations to Anna Cranney for the time she put into organizing the event. Duchesne 'Creatures of the Night' Ball was a tremendous success with our 350

tickets selling out in about 4 days! The event this year was held at Victoria Park in a beautiful Marquee with several sparkling chandeliers. It really was a breathtaking venue and Witho and the exec worked hard to ensure everything was organized for the night. All the girls looked stunning and I'm sure everyone had the most memorable night!!

Well that just about wraps up the semes-



ter so far. I'd like to wish everyone all the very best for your end of semester assessment, work hard Duch! Have a wonderful holiday everyone!!

Cheers to semester one!!

Kathleen Price
Student Club President

From the Social Convenor

My, my, my... I now feel confident in saying that our Duchesne girls are certainly outgoing and always keen for a good time! Whether it be on our weekly exchanges with other colleges, out supporting the rowing regatta, or popping along to other college events, Duch girls have been centre A in all the action.

Of course, our pretty ones have been Centre A for one big event... The Annual Duchesne Ball! And wasn't it a night to remember! The night kicked off with a stylish and inviting pre drinks where our stunning girls stepped out onto the colonnades to meet their dashing lads. Without fail, cameras were clicked, giggles were heard and

ladies met gentlemen with charming smiles and anxious grins for what was to be 'The Ball...'

The theme for the night was '*Creatures of the Night*', and it could not be more fitting. I have heard rumors from College Rd that some people see more of Duch at night, than during the day, and yes, this may be true (thanks to Foxtel in the Common Room!). The venue at the Victoria Park Golf Club was charming with huge chandeliers and satin decked out walls. The only thing missing was the ridiculously good looking girls to follow. The night ran smoothly with a few slips and tumbles here and there, however if our girls have learnt anything, it is to pick themselves up from the slippery dance floor and dazzle the audience with moves which could start

to crumble a scotch finger.

The night was successful, with great thanks to the Student Executive for all their help, Kate Cranney for the spectacular ball poster, and to our lovely admin, who made pre's such a beautiful start to the night. I'm sure your daughters will have a thousand photos to show you when they return for mid-semester break, so you can all look on with awe, for you have bred not only brains, but beauty!

Claire Witherdin
Social Convenor



Erin Nolan, Sarah Kirk, Imogen Chapman, Claire Witherdin, Chloe Baldwin, Kathleen Price and Anna Cranney exhibiting their elegant yet stylish Ball attire.



Creatues of the night: Aisha Thomas, Kelly Stallard, Alison Yung, old girl Sarah Crawford and squash sensation Laura Stock.

Laura brings Green-and-Gold to the Crazy Blues!

One could never argue the fact that when it comes to being diverse, Duchesne College is number one. Be it slashing through the swimming pool, crooning in the choir or daring a hoe-down on the RE Hotel's dance floor, a Duch diamond is never far to be found. Thus, it is no surprise that when placed within the constraints of a four-wall hot box, armed with a HEAD sponsored racquet and a bullet of a ball, Duchesne has a girl with all the moves of a master. I am referring of course to the great game of squash and our champion second year, Laura Jane Stock.

Hailing from Mackay, Laura is part of a family of squash players and has been playing for ten years. What started as a fun form of fitness for a nine-year old has turned into a timeline of triumphs.

Laura first played at the Queensland State trials in 2000, first played at Nationals in 2001 and has been a commanding competitor there ever since. The only thing harder than Laura's backhand though, is getting her to admit that she has in fact been Queensland's number one u/19 player for two years. Moreover, this year Laura was placed 2nd out of 25 at Nationals in Canberra in April and has thus been selected as one of the four u/19 players to compete at the World Championships in Hong Kong in August!

In preparation for the championships she will be travelling to Malaysia at the end of May for a "mini" individual tournament where prize money and trying out her talents against Asia and Europe's finest, is the incentive. Other than that Laura *only* trains every Monday and Wednesday at

either the UQ or QUT courts, every Saturday and Sunday at the Wavell Squash Centre and has fixtures every Tuesday and Thursday. *Luckily* on Fridays she has time for her degree, a Bachelor of Science majoring in Medical Imaging... and maybe to breathe. No Sunday night late RE sessions for this star.

For Laura we hold admiration, faith and hope. We admire and congratulate her on her amazing achievements; have faith that she will do us proud on those sweaty (yet sun-safe) courts and desperately hope that we can convince this humble sport star to stay at Duchesne for another year!

Zenetta Burger
Year 1 B. Journalism/B. Arts

From the Vice Principal



125 years ago

*the "Orient" arrived in Sydney Harbour bringing the first
Religious of the Sacred Heart to Australia.*

90 years ago

*Religious of the Sacred Heart came to Annerley, Brisbane,
to search for a site to begin a boarding school.*

The Society of the Sacred Heart was founded by Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat in France at the end of the French Revolution.

We celebrate her feast on 25th May.

This year commemorates the arrival in Australia, 125 years ago, of the Society of the Sacred Heart, the Congregation which began Duchesne College in Brisbane in the 1930's. The small foundation of those days made it possible for Catholic women from regional Queensland, to attend the only University which the State had at that time, and thus a significant contribution to the education of women.

As well as Duchesne College the Society of the Sacred Heart established Stuartholme School in Brisbane and other Schools in Sydney and Melbourne.

Sister Kathleen Muirhead
Vice Principal

From the Sports Convenor

With 2nd semester drawing to a close, the question on everyone's mind: 'is Duch still winning ICC sport?' Netball finished up with Duch placing 5th however all our matches were extremely close and it really came down to the team who played best on the night. An overall third placing in rowing certainly helped the scoreboard but the final placings for the semester were to be determined by hockey. Our four toughest matches were played over one weekend with some awesome action for the spectators with three wins against Emmanuel, Womens and Union and a tie with Johns. The last match resulted in a convincing 5 nil victory over International House and an unexpected loss by Women's left the table at the conclusion of Semester 1 sport as follows:

Duchesne: 44.5

Women's: 43

John's: 43

Emmanuel: 39

with everyone else far behind!

There are still plenty more sports to come in second semester including soccer, tennis, squash, basketball and athletics. A soccer camp will be held over the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the June/July holidays with all members of the team expected to attend. Thanks to all the individual convenors for their help throughout semester one and for everyone who par-

semester one and for everyone who participated and supported Duch sport. I'm looking forward to a successful semester two!

Laura Greenhalgh
Sports Convenor



From the Cultural Convenor

Our 30-strong choir shone in Choral-fest this year. To the cheers of enthusiastic support, the girls sang proudly outfitted in sparkling turquoise sashes. They took to the stage with vivacity, singing Say a Little Prayer, and then took it down a notch for the sombre Steal Away. Next it was the sweet-sounding hymn, The Beauty of the Earth, before the grand finale - the fast-paced, heart-pumping The Rhythm of Life. The choir had been rehearsing for months before and the hard work paid off. Duchesne was

placed fifth, tying with Union and Cromwell colleges and just missing out on an announced placing. Choral-fest marks the end of cultural events for Semester One. Preparation has already begun for next semester's events. Scripts are being short listed for performance in One-Act Play and ideas for Dancefest themes are budding.

Monique Vandeleur
Cultural Convenor



Library Notes

With examinations just around the corner, the library is being well used by students.

Recent additions to the library include *Ecology* by C.J. Krebs, *Equity and Trusts* by Tina Cockburn and others, *The Hospital by the River* by Catherine Hamlin, *My Story* by Peter Cosgrove, *The Selfish Gene* by Richard Dawkins and *One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey.

A box of books was acquired at the Alumni Book Fair to supplement the Light Reading Section.

I would like to remind everyone that unwanted texts, general reading and light reading donations are warmly welcomed in the library.

Sally Hall
Duchesne College Librarian



From the Service/Liturgy Convenor

I can honestly say that the ladies of Duchesne have done our college proud again with their willingness to participate in all things Service for 2007! The year began with some beautiful masses that were said by Fr. Norbert Olsen, Fr. Peter Quin, Fr. Ian Howells and Fr. Terry Fitzpatrick. Their beautiful words, engaging stories and wit ensured that it provided time for meaningful reflection for all those involved. Thanks must go the girls from each year whose creativity, enthusiasm and suggestions have made the masses all the more accessible to the girls of Duchesne.

In terms of community service, we began the year by aligning ourselves with the UQ volunteer organisation, 'Bridge'. We were fortunate enough to have the Duchesne Administration willingly sponsor girls who wanted to become members by waiving the membership fee, which the Student Club also matched. In our first activity for the year, we participated in Clean Up Australia Day through Bridge and I can honestly say it was a surprisingly enjoyable few hours of picking up rubbish around UQ and St. Lucia. Once again, this was entirely due to the 35 girls who tackled the task with a good sense of humour and

enthusiasm.

But to our most recent news, that of the Mother's Day Classic run, raising money for breast cancer research. With a team of 24 girls and 5 members from St. John's College under the team of "Duchesne" we participated in the 4km run around South Bank and along the river. Whilst many amusing stories can be told from that day – including the conversations that we endured running alongside a young man who had been "clubbing for three days and hadn't been to bed yet"; the refreshing but torrential downpour that we all had to bear whilst running; and our lovely president Kathleen succumbing to exhaustion following the race, one may just say it made for a very worthwhile, albeit dramatic, day! But the most exciting news for the event was that the high levels of participation from the Duchesne girls meant that we deservedly won the schools/colleges group for the race! This meant that Duchesne was one of the three groups who won a \$500 cheque from the corporate sponsors Members Equity Bank.

With breast cancer affecting 1 in 8 women in Australia, and therefore meaning that nearly all of us will be affected by it at some stage or another in our lifetimes, I can only hope that it has raised the profile of the issue amongst the Duchesne community and the importance of us being aware of the disease even as young women. I would finally like to thank everyone who has participated and supported all these activities, most notably the wonderful Service Committee; Meg, Anna, Jacinta and Sarah! THANK-YOU!

Anna Cranney
Service/Liturgy Convenor



“USA invades Lady Elliot Island”

Duchesne College's American exchange students Colleen Shutts, Rae Hyde-Basso, Anna Ratoff, Mandi Deutsch, Jessica Wic and Caroline Ogilvy visited Lady Elliot Island situated east of Hervey Bay at the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef as part of the fieldwork component for MARS2005 (Australia's Marine Environment).

Owing to the tragic fire at the University of Queensland Heron Island Research Station the field trip was relocated at short notice to Lady Elliot Island. As a consequence our tough residents had to endure the resort style dormitory accommodation not to mention the generously sized bar.

The trip was conducted twice for two separate groups of students between the 13th and 20th of April. One of the groups studied sediment deposition on the reef on the windward and leeward side of the island. Abandoned by a negligent tutor our residents braved the elements, razor sharp

coral, the rising tide and the growing number of reef sharks to make it back to shore to ensure that the precious data they had collected would survive to further the growing body of knowledge concerning Australia's most precious natural resource. Our intrepid residents also explored the surrounding aquatic environment either snorkeling or scuba diving to "collect samples".

Highlights of the trip included watching turtle hatchlings emerge from their subterranean nest and race down the beach to the awaiting waves and sighting several creatures of the deep including a manta ray.

All in all our residents rated the trip as the best ever and the helpful and humorous academic staff contributed to the wonderful experience. Learning about Australia's only natural wonder left a lasting impression on our residents not to mention new insights into

the scientific authenticity of the movie "Finding Nemo".

Colleen Shutts and Rae Hyde Basso
(co-author: Matt Downey)



Rae and Colleen ready to conquer the seas

From the Business Manager

STAFF PROFILE

Coralee Jeffrey – Business Manager

Since joining Duchesne College in March 2005, I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many of the fine young women in residence. As the mother of a ten year old daughter, it is inspiring to see that this is possibly what she could blossom into as a young woman.

My previous working life has been somewhat different to that currently enjoyed at Duchesne. For 22 years I was pleased to serve as a member of the Australian Defence Force. During my time in the Army, I was able to travel to many parts of Australia as well as serving with the United Nations in both the Western Sahara and East Timor. I have been awarded both the Australian Active Service Medal and the Australian Service medal for participation in these operations. In many ways, the skills that I acquired through my military training (not only administrative and financial) have been most beneficial here at College. Preparedness for operational contingencies is certainly a key factor in helping to ensure that the

day to day functioning of the College continues. However I must admit that I am at times tempted to revert to my “sergeant major” role and conduct the occasional room inspection.

At Duchesne College, I am fortunate to work with a hard working and committed team of professionals without whose assistance my job would be most difficult. I consider myself privileged to be working in a position that I find consistently rewarding and challenging and look forward to many more years at the wonderful “Duch”.

SEMESTER 2/2007 FEES

Invoices for second semester fees will be forwarded during the last week of June 2007, payable by 13 July. In addition to credit card and EFTPOS facilities, payment of fees may be made direct to the College bank account (details displayed on invoices). Please remember to include either your name or the invoice number in the reference details for internet transfers. For over the counter transactions, the agent deposit number will again be your invoice number. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

NOTICE – WASHER AND DRYER INSTRUCTIONS

As advised earlier in the year, the College has introduced water saving front loading washing machines and new clothes dryers. The machines which are the first of their kind in Australia have experienced some minor technical difficulties. They have now been thoroughly tried and tested by both the supplier and our staff and we do not anticipate future disruptions. **Detailed user guides have been placed in all laundries. Please read instructions carefully to avoid operating errors.**



Mexican Formal Dinner

On Tuesday the 1st of May we celebrated the Holiday of the “Cinco de Mayo” with a Mexican themed formal dinner. Together all the International students organized the party. We enjoyed Mexican food, traditional (though non-alcoholic!) Margaritas, swotted piñatas, listened to Mexican music, played bingo and of course had tons of fun! The origin of Cinco de Mayo, which is traditionally celebrated on the 5th of May, is the victory of the Mexicans over the French army in the battle of Puebla in 1862.

I am very glad that you gave me the opportunity to show you more about my country. I hope you enjoyed the party and remember that you are always welcome to Mexico.

MEXICO WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU. VIVA MEXICO!

Paola Barrientos

“The frozen margaritas is definitely a must keep for the next party! Kept on getting up for more!”

(Rosanna)

“The food was great, and the piñata game afterwards was entertaining”

(Claire)

“The hats were great and colorful!”

(Ira)

“I’m so glad that we got to bring some of our international culture to Duchesne”

(Mandy)

“I thought the bingo game was a great way to keep us entertained while waiting for the food” (Edna)

“The frozen margaritas were very tasty and so was the food”

(Rhianna)



International residents Caroline Ogilvy, Paola Barrientos, Ally Mayfield and Ira Suseno show that Duchesne International Residents know how to party!

From the Dean of Students

“Going Home”

One of the few consolations about exams is that they have to end sometime! Following that final exam and the subsequent relief and celebrations there is the inevitable trek back home. However, home means different things to different people and it is sometimes useful to think about “home” and what it means to you.

Our recent formal dinner speaker Mr Sam Watson from the University of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit reminded me of the great spiritual connection which the indigenous people of Australia have for the land. I also think about my Polish grandparents who fled their war ravaged country after World War II

along with many other thousands of European migrants and refugees to make their home here in Australia. Still others have no locality which they readily identify as home but find their place of belonging wherever they may be.

For many of you Duchesne is a home and one which you will hold dearly in your memories for many years to come. However, there are two things I can guarantee you regarding your home at Duchesne. Firstly, it will change, and secondly you will one day feel somewhat like a stranger if per chance you choose to visit your old college “home” sometime in the future. From this it could be said that home encompasses your memories of the past, where you are now and where you would like to go in the future. Experiencing each day and being aware of your present sense of home brings to the forefront of your mind the people you enjoy

being with, the things you like doing and your dreams and hopes for the future.

Good luck with your exams, travel safely and I look forward to seeing you back “home” in semester 2!

Matt Downey
Dean of Students



Sunset from Lady Elliot Island

Newsletter Compilation

Thank you to all those who help make the newsletter happen. Hopefully we can get some continuity with these newsletters so that in ten years from now you can come back and be reminded of what your time at Duchesne was like.

If you would like to contribute photos or written material please send them to:

mdowney@uq.edu.au

or phone (07) 3377 2325 for more information.

This newsletter is also available electronically at: www.uq.edu.au/duchesne

