

Jenny Timms

From: Yvette Vittorio
Sent: Friday, 23 February 2007 1:38 PM
To: Nadia O'Malley; Per Ardua; Chathuri S
Cc: Jenny Timms; Penny Bower
Subject: Idea for PAAA

Ladies

Sadie is our oldest member of Collegians online. She is 86yo! I thought she could be a good 'advert' for the online community in the next edition of PAAA. I have been corresponding with her and she is pretty cool with emailing and am sure would be delighted to help out in any way or with Archives. I have attached a copy of 2 previous emails. Just gorgeous :-)) and her details appear at the very end of this email.

Dear MLC Community,

Thank you so much for your birthday card. That was nice and brought back many memories - albeit from a long, long time ago. I was 86 this year - can't believe it, of course, and think there has been some mistake on my birth certificate!! Wishful thinking!!

The school has changed so much since I was there when Miss Walton was Headmistress. I remember walking from Claremont Station along Stirling Highway and seeing the Swan Brewery drays pulled by those wonderful Clydesdale horses - and there was manure on the road!! One never sees that now. I remember playing "cubbies" in the pine trees and swimming in the pool on the river. Once when I was climbing up the steps to get out of the water, I was cut on my knee by a barnacle - and I have the scar to this day!!

I am interested to read your newsletters and to know what splendid things the pupils are achieving. If my parents hadn't moved house, I would have spent all my school days at MLC, but went to Perth College when I left because it was nearer to us.

My best wishes to you all and thank you again for the birthday wishes.

Sincerely,

Sadie Bobroff (née Edmonds)

Lyceum Trips to the M.L.C.
 Rowing Association, on the
 Occasion of their Centenary
 of Federation Dinner
 30th June 2001.

Many years ago, after the age of the
 dinosaurs but before you were thought of
 and even before your parents and teachers
 were thought of, I was a pupil at M.L.C.
 My parents came to Australia in 1927,
 from Wales, when I was six years old,
 and we lived in Perth in the suburb of
 Riversdale.

In 1929, when Miss Gertrude Waller
 was headmistress, I came to M.L.C. and
 stayed there until the end of 1932, when my
 parents moved and I went to Perth College.
 I still have prizes from M.L.C.; The Cat,
 the Dog and the Doormouse (1930), Through
 the Looking Glass (1931) and Wood Magic
 (1932). They all have the school badge in
 green and gold embossed on the cover. I
 have just re-read them !!

Because we lived in Riversdale, I had to
 walk a mile and a half to the railway
 Station, catch a train to Perth and then
 change to one for Claremont. It was
 quite a walk to school from the station
 and I remember how I enjoyed passing
 Christchurch and the Christchurch School
 on the way. Then there was the walk up

the long drive to our school building on top of the hill, past the tennis courts. Something you may find interesting from days gone by is that there used to be horse manure along the road because, then, horses were much used for delivery vans, etc., and not everyone had a car. Today, one never sees such things.

In my first year, our class had a gardening period each week and we weeded and planted and took great pride in our plots. Once, after rain, I was stung by a bee which caused great drama followed by tears, but, of course, our class mistress came to the rescue, dried the tears and did the necessary comforting.

at that time, not far from the gym, there was a row of yew trees where we used to make cubbies. We would bring pretty things from home and put them in the branches and set up house and sweep the earth floor carefully and make it neat and smooth. It was great fun playing houses, and we used to eat our lunch there.

and, of course, we used to swim in our pool. We would troop down the hill to the river where the pool was fenced in with wooden pylons and there was a wooden walking platform all around the edge. Another drama I remember was when I cut my knee on a barnacle whilst climbing the wooden steps out of the pool. It was cut to the bone, lots of blood and I still have the scar. Is the pool still there? I'm sure now, you have an Olympic size, in-ground pool.

I can look back happily at my days at M.H.C., but it must have changed so much since those far off days. I wonder what your uniform is now? Ours was a green Traballo tunic with box pleats and a belt around the middle, and, of course, green Traballo bloomers!! Panama hats were the vogue with green and gold band and a metal School badge in front. Our blazers were green with a yellow badge on the breast pocket.

You can be proud of your school tradition and you will uphold it throughout life. Make your school proud of you and never forget the good values that you have been taught. I am now eighty years old and can look back and be grateful for what my parents taught me and for what I was taught at school, and these values have sustained me throughout my life.

I send you all my best wishes for a most enjoyable dinner on the 30th June and, in the future, for great success in your rowing.

Sadie Bobroff

(nee Edmonds)