



MERCY COLLEGE ALUMNI

Where are they now?

<p><i>Introducing :</i></p>	<p>Class of 1976 Name: Anne Whalley</p>
<p><i>Questions :</i></p>	<p><i>Responses:</i></p>
<p><i>Hello Anne!</i></p> <p><i>Thanks for sharing your story!</i></p>	
<p><i>Do you remember what it was like at College and when you left?</i></p>	<p>The first day at Mercy College I was assigned a seat down the back of the classroom next to Carmel Corsetti. I didn't know anyone in the class but I felt calm. I still see Carmel at our class reunions.</p> <p>I remember there was lots of learning and homework. English, Maths, Sewing and Religion were the subjects that appealed to me and are the subjects that have shaped my life.</p> <p>When I finished Year 12, it was time to find a job ... any job! I really had no idea what I wanted to do so I joined a bank and got trained on the job. This job enabled me to buy a property and I married my boss. You really know who a person is when you work with them every day.</p> <p>My values were based on what I learnt at Mercy College. I wasn't perfect but I still tried to improve my attitude and be the best I could be.</p>
<p><i>Did you set out with a career plan?</i></p>	<p>There's always room for learning!</p> <p>Part time studies:</p> <p>Melbourne College of Textiles & Fashion Design, IT, Adult Training & Assessment, Business & Administration Management, Public Speaking, Business planning and marketing, Image Consultant & Colour Analysis training.</p> <p>My working life started in the bank, a Ground Hostess with Ansett International, teaching Religious Education, teaching IT, Receptionist, Bequest officer for CBM, Retail sales in Fabric, Manager of Administration and finally launching my own business full time helping people dress to express themselves!</p>



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	<p>I am an International Sewing Mentor and Motivational Speaker, run Sewing Workshops and one on one sessions deciphering Style Ingredients.</p> <p>I travel around the world speaking at Sewing Expos and will be speaking at the Melbourne Stitches and Craft Show at the Royal Exhibition Buildings this month. I love sharing what outfits I make on Instagram and YouTube. I write a blog on sewing, fabric and life.</p> <p><i>Signature look: Drama + Comfort + Creative + Colour</i></p> 
<p><i>What were the significant milestones that have impacted your life journey so far?</i></p>	<p>Death has impacted my life journey the most! Friends and family that I have lost have made me really aware of how short life is! Using what God has given me to help others is what I love to do.</p>  <p>I have an addiction to Sewing that really does make my heart sing. I love to create outfits and think outside the box. I love people and love to see them succeed.</p> <p>My family is very supportive. My daughter Tara is a Textile Designer and has her own clothing range. Tara will be at the Big Design Market in December. My son Lachlan learnt how to make guitars from scratch and is a network engineer for NBN and my technical guru.</p> <p>My husband is my marketing guru who happens to be the happiest tram driver in Melbourne!</p> <p>He had an aggressive cancer 5 years ago and is now cancer free. We are all passionate about living intentionally and not wasting what we have been given.</p>



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'Hurra for foundations, makes the old young and the young merry.' (Jan 4 1841)

<p><i>Where has your business taken you in terms of connecting with wider organisations, meeting people of varying cultures; locally and internationally?</i></p>	<p>In March this year I was invited to speak at Sewexpo Puyallup Washington. I love America and especially Sewists. I met amazing women and I am going back next March. Instagram has also been a great way to connect with other Sewists from around the world. I was part of an International Creative Sewing program in Brussels last year and look forward to more opportunities in the future. The world is smaller than we think and people are just like us. Kindness goes a long way. For a shy girl I am certainly not shy when I talk on stage!</p>	
<p><i>Have you maintained any school friendships?</i></p>	<p>Keeping in contact with college friends is important to me. It's really great to meet up regularly and to be a cheer squad for each other. We all knew each other before we knew what life would reveal. Everyone has had their ups and downs and different experiences that we share with each other. It's precious and heart-warming.</p>	
<p><i>What's next for you?</i></p>	<p>I love to travel and share what I learn. More travel and speaking engagements and more learning, of course. Learning keeps my mind alive and life interesting.</p>	
<p><i>Mercy College is working on building the Alumni foundation network: past students and teachers.</i></p> <p><i>Would it interest you to give a short talk to current students at an assembly - the objective being a form of encouragement and interest for students and teachers alike?</i></p>	<p>I would love to talk to current students at an assembly!</p>	
<p><i>Future Alumni reunions – past students and teachers, will take place every year on the third Sunday in October. Would you be willing to speak briefly to those in attendance?</i></p>	<p>I would love to!</p>	