

SUPPORTER Q&A



WITH HANS & ROSE VERSTEEG

Hans and Rose Versteeg are the successful proprietors of the Arts Centre Café at Campbelltown Art Gallery and valued hosts of our Structured Work Place program. Over the years Hans and Rose have provided placement for six of our students and in addition to this have provided post school employment for our 2014 School Captain Phoebe Said. Mater Dei is grateful for the very meaningful work placement opportunities that Hans and Rose provide for our students and also for the care and support that they extend to the Mater Dei community well beyond the Work Placement program.

Q How did you first become involved with Mater Dei?

A We had an opportunity to visit Mater Dei School and then attend the Performing Arts Night. Since then we became involved with the school's Work Placement program.

Q What have you learnt since you began your connection with Mater Dei?

A We have learnt that Mater Dei brings out the best in people, and that we are all great at something.

Q You have stayed loyal to the cause for some time. Why?

A We really like the people, both students and the school staff and community.

Q Do you have a favourite story to tell about Mater Dei?

A My favourite story is actually from visiting Mater Dei as a young primary school student. The school made such a strong impression on me as a child and I have fond memories of hanging out with the kids and running around the grounds (and singing Doctor Nicker-Bocker). Every visit to Mater Dei leaves us with a really positive feeling.

Q Who are the most inspiring person/people you have met?

A Without a doubt, the Mater Dei students – both current and past. It is great to stay in touch with the students as they journey into the next stage of their life and work.

Q What is your mantra?

A We don't have one specifically, but if we did, it would be somehow related to coffee and how it is the answer to everything.

Q How do you like to spend your leisure time?

A I love to run and do yoga and Hans practises karate and is a mad gardener (in a good way!). We also love to travel; this Christmas we're going to the Philippines which is pretty exciting! Coffee and food feature significantly in both our work and leisure time.

Q If you could invite any five people to dinner, who would they be?

A Carmen Nardi would definitely be invited, and she would be bringing dessert because she's the best cook in town :)