

## AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY

Earlier this year, an unforeseen opportunity of a lifetime emerged in my life that I believe I will always be grateful for. It was in my Advanced English class that I found out about a journalism course that was being offered. The course consisted of a limited amount of young boys and girls being chosen to travel to Melbourne for a week in order to be interns for the Australian Catholic Magazine. At first, as my teacher Ms Carter spoke about the opportunity, I had no immediate interest but that quickly changed. From there I followed the steps I needed to take in order for my application to be accepted. With my teacher and the careers staff helping me along the way, I finally sent all that was required from me to Andrew Hamilton who was the coordinator of the project.



Some say that the work of a superhero is never done, well I tell you, it's the same for an aspiring journalist. In saying that, I left Mildura on Thursday, May 12 and arrived in Melbourne the following morning as I had opted to take the long bus ride. I didn't rest when I arrived but after settling into my apartment, I went for a quick exploration of the area which would be my home for a week. Exploring Melbourne was great, but being a small town girl, getting lost was an unwritten law. On my orientation day, I got lost but Melbourne clearly had more in store for me as the week quickly sped by.

Throughout the week, our group of interns had a lot of challenges and adventures thrown our way but as the small champions we were, we took each challenge as it came and all in our stride. We were very lucky as we had guest speakers come and give presentations about their areas of expertise. The guest speakers include: Peter Casamento who is an amazing photographer, Fatima Measham who is an outstanding freelance journalist and many more. Each of our guest speakers took us on an exciting journey into their profession which allowed us to understand in-depth the industry we were headed towards.

Sadly, the week came to an end on Friday, May 20 with my mind almost bursting at the seams from all the amazing experiences. I had managed to create friendships that are sure to last and received a deeper understanding of what I wanted to do with my joy of writing. However, that's not the end quite yet. I am now writing two different articles which will both be printed in the next edition of the Australian Catholics Magazine, so keep an eye out for those! I look forward to my work being published and am more than excited to see the outcome of our magazine. The journey is something I will always look back on. I have learnt that no matter who we are, where we come from, we all have opportunities out there for us. All we have to do is make a grab for them. Anything is possible for all of us. Even if you are a small town girl like me!