



Epsom Girls Grammar School Old Girls Association (Inc)

Old Girls Association Policy on Obituaries And Obituaries for the last Year

We can no longer commit to including obituaries in the OGA newsletter unless space permits. Instead the Committee will endeavour to record obituaries of former students and staff on the website for a period of 12 months from the date of death. We can only record obituaries if we are notified of them by a relative or if we are able to verify information in a published death notice. We apologise in advance if we miss recording an obituary. To notify us of the passing of a former student or staff member please email us on oga@eggs.school.nz or phone Brenda Perry in the Development Office on Ph 970 6753.

Obituaries on the website will record the name; maiden name; date passed away; years at school; and any other relevant information we are provided with.

Passed away January 2012

Audrey Patience nee Innis: died 13 January 2012 aged 85 years; Audrey was one of the girls who wrote the School song; Audrey's 5 daughters also attended EGGS.

Jocelyn Elly nee Cobb: died 13 January 2012 aged 83 years; attended EGGS 1942

Cecilie May Elizabeth Cooper: died 10 January aged 83; Cecilie taught French at EGGS from the 1960s to the 1990s and was a much loved and inspirational teacher at EGGS.

Passed away December 2011

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Joan Isobell Holt nee Deniize: Died 17 November aged 86 years; Joan was in 3D in 1938.

Passed away in October 2011

Jean Ellen Wright nee Fletcher: died 24 October aged 96 years; Jean was in 3A in 1928.

Edith Jean Sheffield nee Roberts: died 21 October aged 97 years; attended EGGS in 1929; Jean wrote books on Pakuranga's history particularly on "Tyrone Villa" and Roberts Road Pakuranga where her family farmed. Tyrone Villa where her service was held is now the Davis Funeral Home. Her sister was Dulcie Dickson nee Roberts who attended EGGS 1926.

Vivienne Lenore Beach nee Slyfield: died 13 October; Viv attended EGGS 1940 – 42 and started in 3C; she attended the 1939/40/41 reunion earlier this year.

Joy Henrietta Astly Lewis nee Glover-Clark: died 9 October aged 89; attended EGGS 1935(3B) to 1939; MA (Hons); Joy was a member of the National Council of Women

(Executive), Federation of University Women (Auckland Executive) and Member of the Native Forest Restoration Trust.

Passed Away in September 2011

Ailsa Blair Walkley nee Crickett: died 10 September in her 86th year; Ailsa was in 3HM in 1938.

Cherry Barbara Lois Morrissey nee Hill: died 9 September in her 85th year; Cherry was in 3C in 1940.

Deidre Clare Were nee Beddock: died in September aged 85 years; Deidre attended EGGs from 1939; Deidre's 2 daughters also attended EGGs (Marg Bodley 1960 and Jan McDell 1964).

Ruth Stephen nee Earle: died 6 September in Wellington aged 93 years; Ruth attended EGGs from 1933 – 1935.

Helen Mary Pemberton nee Hooton: died 5 September in Takaka; Helen attended EGGs from 1929 (4A); Her late daughter Elizabeth Pemberton attended EGGs from 1958 to 1961.

Passed Away August 2011

Raewyn Joy Hadwin nee Sklennars; died 31 August; Raewyn attended EGGs 1952 – 1955; her sister Leonie Walker attended EGGs from 1950.

Dr Marjory Elisabeth Macready (Betty) nee Cuttle: died 22 August in Blenheim; Marjory attended EGGs from 1932 – 1936 and was Head Girl in 1936.

Shirley Ann Foote nee Curin: died 16 August 2011; attended EGGs 1950 – 1953; Member of Order of St John (60 years service); Volunteer at Middlemore Hospital for St John; SPCA Dog Squad member; Sang in 3 choirs including Dalmatian Choir; Secretary for Papatoetoe Electorate of the Labour Party; Member OGA Committee from 1992 to 2006; Shirley's 4 daughters also attended EGGs (Petrina Shaw 1975, Nicola Mayos 1980, Karmella Ashby 1983 and Jurlina Foote 1988).

Passed Away July 2011

Nora Keesing nee Pool: died 31 July aged 93 years; Nora started EGGs in 1933.

Gwen Wichmon Chadwin nee Kelly: MNZM; died 30 July; Gwen was a member of her local historical society and wrote the book "Soaring Bird" about the history of Manurewa.

Patricia Helen Vallance nee Robinson: died 25 July; Patricia started EGGs in 1953.

Diana Neesham nee Cobb; died 17 July aged 84 years; Diana attended EGGs from 1941 – 1943; Diana's daughter Janet Neesham attended EGGs from 1976.

Elizabeth Catherine Laura Boswell nee Dromgool; died 12 July aged 97 years; Laura attended EGGs from 1927 – 1931; Laura was a NZ Senior National Scholarship recipient; her sisters also attended EGGs (Mary Byrnes 1924, Edith Whelan 1928, Lulu Dromgool 1932, Audrey Williams 1937, Stella Askew 1937 and Hilda McKenzie 1939); Laura's daughter Lauretta Boswell attended EGGs from 1972.

Lesley Martha Gibson nee Rowe: died 5 July; Lesley attended EGGs from 1943 – 1946 and was a Prefect in 1946; she represented NZ in athletics (220 yards hurdles and relay) in

the Empire Games at Auckland; Lesley received a Founder's Award for athletics in 2002; she was one of the former students at the turning of the first sod for the new Sports Centre Stage 1 in March 2010 but sadly passed away one day before the opening ceremony of the Sports Centre.

Passed Away June 2011

Christine Hirstich nee Bremner: died 21 June.

Merrilyn Beatrice Duthie: died 20 June; Merrilyn started EGGs in 1963; her sister is Marion Duthie who attended EGGs 1970 – 1973; her mother was the late Margaret Duthie (nee Thorburn) who attended EGGs from 1937.

Mary Pilkington: died 2 June; aged 101 years; attended EGGs 1924 – 1926; Mary's sister Jane Hughes attended EGGs in 1922; her nieces Dr Edwina Hughes and Jenny Manning attended in 1947 and 1949; her great niece Amber Manning also attended EGGs.

Passed Away May 2011

Jean Embolten Fraser: died 28 May; aged 97 years; Jean attended EGGs in 1928; her sisters are Helen Harrop who attend EGGs 1928 and Sheila Millener who attended EGGs 1932.

Jean Hall (nee Dreardon): died 15 May 2011; Jean attended EGGs in 1924; she farmed in Kauri Road, Awhitu until recently and was a member of the Franklin Branch of the OGA. A clock in her memory will be put in the Pukekohe Methodist Church.

Evelyn Therese Park nee Marks: died 15 May 2011;

Marjorie Serita Jackson nee Fordyce: died 2 May 2011; aged 105 years; Marjorie attended EGGs from 1920 – 1921. She was the wife of the late Rev George Jackson who was Reverend at Greenlane Congregational Church in the 1940s, 50s and 60s.

Passed Away April 2011

Leah Josephine Goodwin (formerly Hudson, nee Emanuel): died 21 April in Whangarei; aged 105 years; Leah was matron of the hostel for many years during the 1940s and 50s.

Suzette Borsteinas: died April; aged 85 years; Suzette who grew up in Paris was a much loved French teacher at EGGs for 21 years from 1971 to 1992. Girls regarded being in her class as a real privilege. Several generations of EGGs girls also worked as her 'slaves' in the School textbook room known as 'the dungeon'. She was interested in every student and passed on a passion for the subject to each one.

Passed away March 2011

Barbara Gough nee Giles: died 3 March after a 5 year illness; attended EGGs 1962 – 1964; Barbara loved champagne and led a very social life in Wellington for many years.

Passed Away February 2011

Dame Judith Binney (nee Musgrove): died 15 February; also known as Te Tomairangi o Te Aroha "the heavenly dews of love" bestowed upon her by Tuhoe; started 3AL 1953; historian who dedicated her life to Tuhoe; Dame Judith was a mighty author, academic, historian and leader who has contributed an enormous store to the history of Aotearoa.

Beth Elaine Poelman (nee Walker): died 3 February; aged 78 years; Beth was in the fourth form in 1945 and was a hostel resident.

Passed Away January 2011

Jill Vernon nee Parker: died suddenly on 20 January in her 53rd year; at EGGs 1971 – 1975; well known official time keeper and referee for Swimming New Zealand for over 20 years; recognised by Auckland Swimming Association with an Auckland Service Award in 2004; involved with Waitakere Girl Guides and worked at the Auckland Guide office for many years; Jill is survived by her husband Neil and three adult children.

Nessie Beverly Eaglesham Sweetman: died earlier this year; Nessie was secretary to headmistresses Ailsa Blakey and Gae Griffiths from 1974 -1984; her daughter was the late Phillipa Joy Sweetman who was in 3A at EGGs in 1975.

Dorothy Iles Hutchinson (nee Cannell): died 16 January in her 90th year; at EGGs 1934 to 1938, Prefect 1938; BSc 1942; Staff 1958 -1977. Dorothy was an outstanding physics teacher who for decades shaped the path of young women as science students and graduates. Dorothy also helped the OGA especially in its Jubilee Celebrations.

Lois Alberta Paynter (nee Wolfe): died 9 January; began EGGs 1943; Lois was a celebrated speech and drama teacher, and theatre director; (a Life Member of the New Zealand Theatre Federation); she was also a stalwart of the Mairangi Players.

Grace Muriel Lewis (nee Thornton): died 7 January; aged 91 years; Grace taught English at EGGs from 1954 to 1956 and from 1958 – 1981.