



Epsom Girls Grammar School Old Girls Association (Inc)



E-Newsletter

October 2019

Dear Alumnae

We're pleased to send out this E-Newsletter with a few updates and bits of info.

We're busy preparing for the annual Graduation Dinner for Year 13 leavers and their families, to be held on Tuesday 3rd December at Ellerslie Function Centre. We have a record number of attendees this year, and it's a sell-out, which is wonderful. Our guest speaker will be EGGs 2016 Founders Award recipient Dr Michele Cox (see below).

The OGA Scholarships are presented at the Dinner to girls who epitomise the all-round Epsom student. The girls, selected by the Deans, don't know who they are until the announcement is made on the night, and this adds a layer of anticipation. The qualities the Deans are looking for are not just academic – they include kindness and consideration for others; being honest and reliable; and achieving good results through hard work.

Recipients will be good at a range of activities including academic work and sports or art/cultural activities. It's always a pleasure to present these special OGA Scholarships to girls who show all the above qualities but have not necessarily had a high profile. Each Scholarship is worth \$600 towards books and other course-related costs of tertiary study. The OGA Centenary is in 2021 – we'll be holding a range of events on Friday 26th March 2021 at the School. We sent out a Survey link earlier this week and really do encourage you to respond by Monday 4th November so that we can get a good picture of likely attendance at the proposed events, and the type of things you're interested in. Please be aware, the Morning Tea is open to all Old Girls, not just the Reunion Decades. If you have already completed the Survey we apologise that this was unclear in the form. The form has now been amended and shows as two separate tick boxes. If you're keen on the Morning Tea, please tick the box!

Here is the link to the Survey form: <https://forms.gle/EgNS8ntEkC24Bavv5>

As more and more Old Girls have email addresses these days, and because posting is both costly and onerous, we are looking to move towards fully digitised and online Newsletters in the future. All Newsletters and E-Newsletters are available on the OGA tab of the School website and can be accessed via this link: <https://www.eggs.school.nz/our-family/old-girls-association/newsletters-and-communications/>

Our final Newsletter for the year will be our December edition which will include Obituaries and stories/profiles of Old Girls. If you have anything you'd like to share, please get in touch.

The year is romping to a close, but the weather has been wintry. Let's hope the sunshine comes soon ... and stays.

Per Augusta Ad Augusta

Sally Blyth (Editor) and Lynley Sheweiry (Design), Co-Presidents 2016–2019

Dr Michele Cox 2016 - EGGs Founders Award Recipient and CEO at NZ Football Foundation



We're very pleased to have Michele as our Guest Speaker at this year's Graduation Dinner. Michele was honoured as an EGGs Founder in 2016. At the time, she was living and working in Switzerland and couldn't attend the special Founders Assembly, but she did send through a highly inspiring video message which was played on the day. We're thrilled that Michele will be addressing our Year 13 Leavers, who would have been in Year 10 when Michele became a Founder.

Here's an overview, from Michele's Linked In page ...

Michele is a former New Zealand international football representative who went on to work in sponsorship and corporate development in the financial services sector before moving into a long-standing career in sports administration. Her working career has been complemented by her academic background, having completed a PhD in Health Promotion/Physical Activity as well as an MA(Hons) in Psychology and a post-graduate Diploma in Business specialising in Marketing. Additionally, she is a successful author with five books published to

date, including a series of three books educating children through sport and two non-fiction motivational titles for adults.

Michele has accomplished a great deal in her life, competently merging her skills and passions as she helps guide others towards their sporting dreams. Here's a quote from Anita Roddick that Michele aims to live by: "If you do things well, do them better. Be daring, be first, be different, be just."

TAURANGA BRANCH LUNCHEON



The Bay of Plenty Tauranga Branch of the EGGS Old Girls Association held its annual Luncheon on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 in the dining room at Pacific Coast Retirement Village in Papamoa.

Once again, the event was co-ordinated by Anne Powell who also donated a beautiful handmade patchwork quilt for the raffle to raise money for School prizes. OGA Treasurer Julie Goodyer attended on behalf of the Committee.

Anne Mortensen, Elizabeth Johnson and Noelene Shrimpton.

About 20 Old Girls enjoyed listening to the guest speaker Barbara Wilson, a Village resident who is soon to publish her moving book *From Tragedy to Success*.

After surviving a fatal car crash in her early 30s, and losing the full use of her hands, Barbara went on to start a spinning group. She became a sought-after Master Weaver, exhibiting at craft fairs around the world. Some of Barbara's work was on display and for sale at the Luncheon.

At nearly 90 years of age Barbara was an enthusiastic, inspirational and entertaining speaker.



The Luncheon concluded with everyone joining together to sing the School Song.

If you would like to purchase Barbara's book you can email her on

barbarawilson@gmail.com

CALLING ALL FRANKLIN-BASED OLD GIRLS ...

The Franklin Branch has officially closed but the Annual Christmas Dinner will go ahead. All Old Girls in the Franklin area are encouraged to come along.

The Dinner will be held on Monday 2nd December 2019 at 6:30pm for 7:00pm at the Franklin Club, 7 East Street, Pukekohe. There will be a set menu, main and dessert served for \$28 per head (tbc), to be paid on the night. A cash bar will operate.

If you can attend, please email oga@eggs.school.nz or phone either:

Christine Black 021 482 062 or 09 235 8070 or Sonia Butcher 09 238 8252 or Julie Goodyer 027 296 5294.

We need to confirm numbers by 25th November 2019 so please advise if you are coming before then.

ARCHIVES UPDATE EGGS Archived Photographs – an online solution is coming

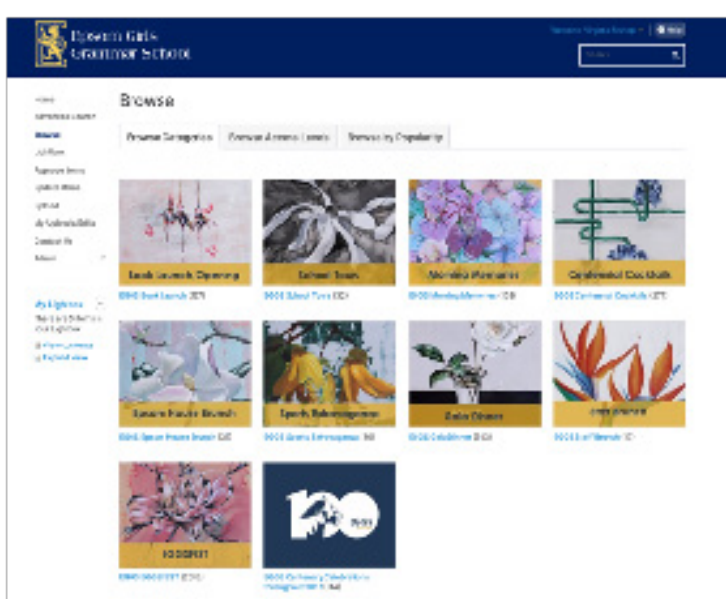
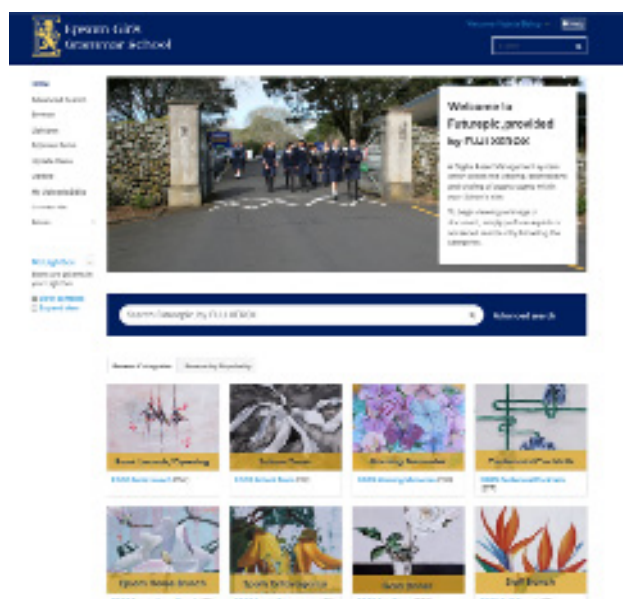
We have been promising that we will have an online platform for viewing school photographs, year books and other archived documents and, as we prepare for the Old Girls Centenary in 2021, we have explored how we can present our archived documents in a contemporary, secure and private way.

There are also other obvious benefits to storing our physical photographs and documents in a Digital Asset Management System, including:

- Allowing for immediate retrieval of the documents;
- Securing accessibility to documents;
- Less physical searching for physical documents, photographs etc;
- Enabling of greater sharing of the memories and documents held;
- Minimizing the risk of losing documents by natural or man-made causes – fire, water, insects, sunlight etc.

We have now completed the categorizing and sorting of our archived material - most of it in physical storage of paper documents. We are delighted to announce that we have engaged Futurepic (a platform provided by FUJI XEROX) to assist us with creating a simple online platform to view the documents. Futurepic is a Digital Asset Management System which allows the viewing, downloading and sharing of assets stored within the secure site to enable viewing an image or document, as well as the ability to browse the categories.

We have the online secure website developed – here are some screen shots of how the page will appear:



As you can see, we have already loaded a bunch of pictures from the Centenary in 2017.

We need your help!

As a start point for our document management, we are keen to upload and tag/name as many of the archived photographs as possible. There are 100s of them, which means there is still a lot of work to be done, as follows:

1. Install the Fuji Xerox hardware at the school to begin the scanning and entering of the information. This is planned for Nov/Dec 2019.
2. Further sort the 100s of Archived photographs into decade groups and ensure these are ordered and identified accordingly.
3. By mid-end January 2020, we plan to begin to scan and name/tag photographs – starting with year 2019 and working backwards to 1960ish.
4. We have a number of photographs stored on discs and USB sticks, so we will start with a bulk upload of these photographs.

We are looking for volunteers with the right skills to assist with this project.

Perhaps you'd like to volunteer to assist? Or maybe you know someone with the skills as listed below? If you're keen, please get in touch!

Person specification:

- Available January – March 2020;
- Knowledge of office administrator responsibilities, systems and procedures;
- Proficient in Cloud-based document storage e.g. Google Suite etc;
- Proficient in MS Office (MS Excel; MS Powerpoint; MS Outlook, Outlook and Office 365 in particular);
- Proficient with email scheduling tools, spreadsheets and databases;
- Excellent time management skills and ability to multi-task and prioritize work;
- Attention to detail and problem-solving skills;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Accurate data entry and high-level attention to detail;
- A creative mind with an ability to suggest improvements/

Not too daunting? Then give Ginny Bishop a call on 0275 536 715 or email vbishop@eggs.school.nz

MEMORABILIA

Meanwhile, we encourage Old Girls to continue to send in any items of memorabilia – and of course you are welcome to visit the Archives area if you wish to. Contact the OGA to make an appointment.

Ed's note: A big shout out of thanks to Lynley Sheweiry and Virginia Bishop who have spent many hours sorting and organising the School Archives to get to this point. It was a massive undertaking and the result is an orderly collection of important School records, photos, memorabilia and more, followed by these important and valuable planned next steps.

CONTACT DETAILS

We are working on capturing contact details for all school leavers and have set up a new process to ensure we have a good up-to-date record of Old Girls in our database.

If you know any Old Girls who would like to be on the database but may not be, please let them know and send through their contact details. oga@eggs.school.nz

FOUNDATION NEWS - THE NEW "JUDITH POTTER CENTRE"

Building a brighter future for Epsom Girls – fundraising target achieved!

Great news to report – the fundraising target of \$150,000 towards the refurbishment of Judith Potter Centre (formerly L Block) has been achieved. The Foundation set this target in 2017 and a multi-tiered fundraising approach meant it was reached – even slightly exceeded. The official fundraising campaign period closed on Friday 27th September. Job done! The OGA gave \$7,160 to complete the interior of the Centre, with the money being used to complete indoor/outdoor decks, purchase furniture etc. This amount was made up of individual donations and our Film Night. Thank you to everyone who has got involved! Collectively, the School community can feel very proud and the Foundation expresses heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported them to deliver the goal. Contributors included parents, Old Girls, sponsors and suppliers.

Events held included "Meet the Maker" (Nov 2017 and Sept 2019), NZ Women in Politics, A Conversation with Helen Clark and the OGA Movie Night (Sept 2018).



The Judith Potter Centre will be a flexible learning environment that creates positive outcomes for young women – a multi-functional space for connected and collaborative studying and a stronger sense of community. This space will benefit thousands of young women who attend EGGS now and in the future.



MEET THE MAKER – another fun night!

The second Meet the Maker event was held on Friday 13th September. The event was well supported by our EGGS community of parents, alumnae and partners. Delicious food and refreshing beverages were provided and many local businesses donated items for auction. Local sculptor Shona Lyon provided a sculpture trail showcasing a sample of her bronze figurine and portrait sculptures from her collections. Over \$30,000 for the School, a significant contribution to the fundraising goal for the Judith Potter Centre (formerly L Block). Feedback received was extremely positive and everyone enjoyed the relaxed, fun atmosphere. Major sponsors were Barfoot and Thompson, and Mini Garage and there were many “Makers” involved in the event, along with supporters and donors. The team of dedicated, committed parents and supporters who make up the fundraising committee and PTA were thrilled with the success of the evening and their hard work was well worth the reward of a special and fun evening.



Shona Lyon sculpture

BONE HEALTH NEW ZEALAND – Preview of a new approach to Bone Health

Over the past couple of years, we have been collaborating with Osteoporosis NZ with the aim of including education about Bone Health in the curriculum. It's been a slow process, but things are taking a step in the right direction around broader awareness of the importance of good Bone Health from an early age. Here's an update ...

Osteoporosis NZ (ONZ) is moving from being a medical society to focus on public health, consumer awareness and prevention education. Lorraine, Julie, Sally & Lynley were recently invited to preview ONZ's new consumer-facing brand Bone Health NZ (BHNZ). Sally and Lynley were unable to attend but Virginia Bishop attended in their absence.

BHNZ aims to drive a step change in the Bone Health of all New Zealanders through awareness that leads to proactive behavioral change and action. Their mission is to prevent fractures due to osteoporosis by raising awareness that protecting your bones now will ensure a stronger future.

BHNZ is looking for people who are able to support them in starting a conversation around Bone Health – they want to move away from the negative connotations of frailty and old-age that are generally associated with osteoporosis and are keen to start a conversation around positive proactive Bone Health.

Whilst genetics play a significant role in determining skeletal growth, decisions made by parents and their children, regarding nutrition and exercise, can have a profound effect upon fracture risk later in life. We genuinely owe it to our children to ensure that they have a well-balanced diet, rich in calcium, vitamin D and protein, and take adequate exercise to set them up for a long, healthy and active life.

In February 2020 they will be officially launching the new BHNZ brand. The launch will be supported by a dedicated PR and a communication strategy to raise public awareness of the importance of Bone Health.

This will involve Executive Director Christine Gill and members of the advisory group fronting the campaign that will be supported by social media, digital ads and case studies that will appear in broad appeal media titles and convey our messages in a personalised way. They will also be deploying a consumer-friendly website including the proven self-assessment tool. This tool enables anyone to complete a simple yet clinically-based questionnaire that identifies an individual's risk of fracture and provides a report to discuss with their GP. It will also provide education and resources so that people know what to do to address their risk factors. With improved Bone Health knowledge people can be proactive in the health and lifestyle choices that they make. This will impact on their health in general which will improve their Bone Health too.

BHNZ are actively trying to raise funds to support development of all of these resources and to fund salaries for new team members such as a Bone Health Nurse Specialist to support NZ consumers with any concerns or queries, build fact sheets, develop FAQ's and support those in need in the community as a whole.

If anyone has interest in finding out more or want to be involved in this exciting journey please email: admin@bones.org.nz



Dr Barbara Kensington Miller, Prof Jill Cornish, Jeanette Johnston and Lorraine Pound.



Executive Director Chris Gill addresses attendees.

“SETTLING THE SCORE” – The EGGS School Song Wins!

On 28th October, our stirring and well-loved School Song was announced as the winner of the “Settling the Score” competition, aided by mass voting from current students and Old Girls. Check out this link for more info and to see the girls in full voice!

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/concert/programmes/upbeat/audio/2018719390/epsom-girls-ruffle-some-feathers-the-lark-descending>

We received this email from Elizabeth Miller (nee Dickson) in relation to this fabulous achievement, and we’re sure you share her sentiments. Well done to Peter Thomas and the music team!

Congratulations to the Music Department and the senior girls of EGGS for their success at achieving top place and a high profile in the Concert programme of Radio NZ, in the recent ‘Settling the Score’ music popularity competition. It was great to hear the publicity about the girls’ effort and the high profile of the EGGS school song. Well done. Having great music that was chosen for the school song decades ago certainly helped. I wonder how many women throughout NZ were singing snatches of the school song as the music was played!

Best wishes to all.

Elizabeth Miller (Dickson)

EGGS 1959-1963 (3AL, 4AL, 5Sc, 6BSc, 6A)



OLD GIRL SEEKING RENTAL ACCOMMODATION IN AUCKLAND IN DECEMBER

Old Girl Linda Wannan (EGGS 1965-1969) is based in Melbourne and is on the hunt for accommodation in Auckland to rent for the period 13th to 27th December 2019. Ideally a 4-bed or 5-bed house, she wants to catch up with her adult children who are coming to Auckland from the USA, and other adult children in Auckland. A garden is essential. She prefers inner Auckland (Mt Eden, Epsom, Remuera or similar) but will consider further afield if there is something suitable.

Linda has looked on Airbnb but also had the foresight to contact the OGA and put a call out to Old Girls. She says “if any OGs are planning to be away at that time, it may be to our mutual benefit!” Perhaps a house-swap could work!?

Please contact Linda directly on lindawannan@gmail.com or text/phone her on +61405470568

Save the Date - 2019

OGA Centenary Survey response by	Monday 4th November 2019
Franklin Branch Christmas Dinner	Monday 2nd December 2019 6:30pm for 7:00pm
Graduation Dinner	Tuesday 3rd December 2019
OGA Centenary Celebrations	Friday 26th March 2021