



# Epsom Girls Grammar School Old Girls Association (Inc)

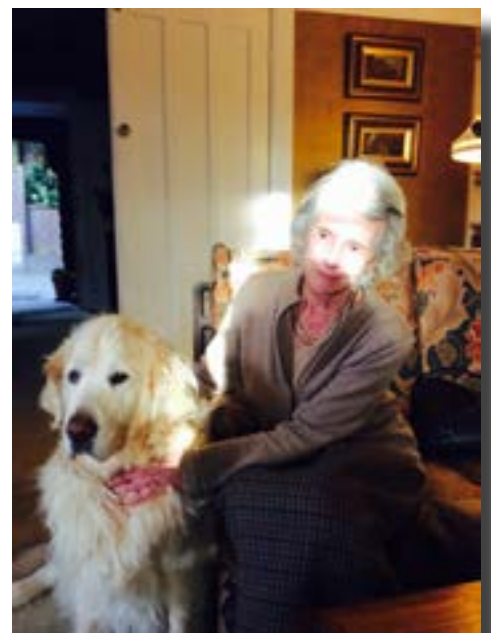
## THE EGGS SCHOOL SONG

### Here is a little background about the song ...

The general climate at School during World War II was rather fraught. The area we all fondly know as "Paradise" was dug into trenches and each class had its own trench and practised going to it when there were air attack drills. Trams, houses and street-lights were blacked out. Miss Loudoun, Headmistress at the time, gave weekly talks about the war at Assembly but it wasn't until the American forces arrived in New Zealand that everyone started to feel safer.

It was in this period of immense patriotism that Miss Loudoun asked Maureen Hooker (née Lamb) and her fellow classmates to write the School Song. Miss Loudoun chose the music (the Triumphal March from Verdi's Aida) and seven girls from Form VIA of 1943 wrote a paragraph each over the Christmas holidays. Maureen tied the paragraphs together and Miss Bell, the English teacher, helped.

The School Song that Maureen and her classmates wrote is the song that our present-day pupils still sing with gusto at the Senior School prize giving and other formal occasions. It is always sung with a sense of pride, by students and Old Girls alike.



*Photo of Maureen Hooker née Lamb  
and her husband*

## SCHOOL SONG

O thou, Lord, who art the God of all,  
Humbly on Thee we call.  
Lead us in our youth by the light of Thy truth;  
Be our Guide,  
That we, through all the years to be,  
Dwelling in harmony,  
May with zeal and skill every duty fulfil,  
Doing Thy will.  
Grant us the strength to fight,  
Vanquishing evil might.  
Ours is the heritage for which our fathers died.  
To them pledge we our vows today,  
That we will strive alway  
Worthy still to be  
That our land we may see  
Honoured and free.

May we, Lord, conscious of knowledge won,  
Mindful what man has done,  
Still aspire to know - every greater shall grow  
Wisdom's store.  
Through trials, through every test and strain  
Constant may we remain;  
So we, unafraid, shall go on undismayed;  
Strong in Thine aid.  
Help us protect the weak;  
Grant us the strength we seek.  
Give we to Thee, O God, our pledge for evermore.  
In years young though we yet may be,  
Let us devote to Thee  
Hearts that ever must  
Choose the right and the just  
Ours the trust!

***Words by Form VIA 1943***

***Music – Triumphant March from “Aida” - Verdi***