

# **Epsom Girls Grammar School**Old Girls Association (Inc)



## Newsletter

**July 2019** 

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#### **CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

It's hard to believe we are into the second part of the year already. We're pleased to bring you a mid winter selection of news and stories of Old Girls and the School which we hope you'll enjoy.

Following the success of our two Women in Law functions, we're intending to hold similar career-focussed events for those working in or interested in other career pathways. In line with the areas that this year's Founders work in, we propose organising events on Engineering/Sciences, the Arts and Education over



the next year. If you'd like to be involved or wish to discuss sponsoring such an event, please get in touch. Over recent months we've spent time organising our Archives and things are looking shipshape. If you have items to donate, questions to ask or would just like to come and browse through old records, please let us know.

We have already started planning for our 100 years celebration. The date is set for Friday 26th March 2021 and we are planning a series of events to be held within the School on that date. We will be sending out a brief survey to OGA members in due course, to get feedback on our ideas, before fine-tuning the details. Please do take the time to complete it – the information we get will be invaluable as we continue planning for this special event.

Meanwhile, stay warm and connected!

Per Angusta Ad Augusta

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

#### **AGM 2019**

Our 98th AGM was held on Monday 10th June. We had a really good turnout and Old Girls enjoyed mixing and mingling over drinks and nibbles before getting down to the business. The Minutes and Reports have been sent out to all members (apologies for chopping Lorraine's face in half!). In that document, we also acknowledged our three new Honorary Members. Citations were read, flowers and certificates presented, and congratulations bestowed upon:

Chris Iles - for services to the Board of Trustees and School

Marama O'Loughlin - for services to the School

Gay Bates - for services to the Old Girls Association

Both Chris and Marama attended the meeting but as Gay is currently overseas, we'll present her with her Honorary Membership upon her return. Chris spoke to the meeting and it is wonderful to

have his support and encouragement as we head towards our 100 years of celebration in 2021.

Chris also offered to review our accounts gratis – this is a

formality that chops into our small budget and we are very grateful for this generous offer. Thank you, Chris!

Thanks to everyone who attended this year's AGM – let's hope we have even more members come along next year!

If you didn't receive the AGM Minutes/Report and would like a copy, please contact us.



Leila Corban, Rosemary Brock, Ehlin Young & Wailin Elliot

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

With Term 3 about to start, we are looking forward to spring and the end of rain laden lunchtimes and end of day downpours. The senior students are right in the midst of internal assessment, and then they will have school exams near the end of this term to practice for the real events which happen in November.

Year 9 students have settled into the School well, with the Year 13 peer supporters being a big part of this. With over one hundred Year 13 students involved, spread across the eighteen tutor groups, it is a wonderful introduction to secondary school life. For Year 13 students now is the time of year when many begin the process for applying for tertiary courses, scholarships and accommodation hostels. We have a significant contingent of alumnae at universities in countries including Australia, England and the United States, as well as being one of the major contributors of students to The University of Auckland, AUT and other Auckland tertiary providers.

A quick round-up of the holidays:

- The Senior Contemporary Art Trip started in New York and then went on to the Venice Biennale
- 3 students participated in the Youth Parliament in Wellington – Kelly. Lara and Puspa had a fascinating experience in the House and represented themselves and the School wonderfully
- Both senior and junior cycling teams came away with firsts for the North Island time trials - first time in over a decade

And the magnolias are beginning to bloom.

Per Angusta Ad Augusta Nga mihi, best wishes Lorraine Pound, Principal



#### **FOUNDERS AWARDS ASSEMBLY 2019**

Each year the OGA Committee recognises a small number of exceptional Old Girls to receive a Founders Award. Nominations are put forward, from which we select the recipients. We are fortunate that a great number of high calibre women graduate from EGGS – which means it is not easy to finalise selection!

On Tuesday 18th June, at this year's Founders Awards Assembly in the School Hall, we honoured our three new Founders:

**The late Rosemary (Ro) Bellamy** – for Outstanding Service to the Old Girls Association and Epsom Girls Grammar School **Emma Fisk** – for Outstanding Achievement in Engineering

Mary Kisler – for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts

As advised in our May E-Newsletter, we held a private ceremony for the late Ro Bellamy in March, due to her illness. Ro's husband Dick and good friend Gill Trotman represented her at the Founders Awards Assembly, along with family and friends as supporters.

Els Jermyn and Emily Siow from the Gardening Committee read Ro's Citation and spoke of how she inspired them in their gardening pursuits and Sam Jermyn, a former EGGS pupil who founded the gardening club gave Dick the flowers. It was very touching as we remembered Ro and her long association with EGGS.

Emma gave an inspirational speech about her road to civil engineering and her vision for the future of Auckland and listening to Mary's story about her research and curatorial work was enlightening, especially the part about her connection with her EGGS art teacher later in her career.

As Principal Lorraine Pound said in her closing remarks: "The breadth of areas of interest and excellence in the chosen fields is testament to these women's drive and commitment to be active citizens; contributing in a variety of ways to the good of their communities. As we look forward, I would like to affirm that we seek to encourage students to be confident, resilient, equipped with the skills, experiences and qualifications to take the next steps beyond school - ready to do some of the things we have heard about this morning – to try things – to take some risks; to work hard and be committed - to persevere when it can seem tough; to give of their best; to have a sense of purpose that goes beyond self; to seize opportunities; to be considered and also innovative; to enjoy and love what they do." The Assembly was an emotional and heartfelt occasion, followed by a lively morning tea where senior students had the opportunity to talk with Emma and Mary and Ro's family and friends.

Congratulations to all three 2019 recipients – they are Old Girls who have achieved outstanding results in their diverse fields. We are pleased to share the full Citations for Emma and Mary in this July Newsletter. Ro's Citation appeared in our April 2019 Newsletter.



Lynley Sheweiry, Mary Kisler, Dick Bellamy, Emma Fisk and Sally Blyth



OGA Committee members attending the Founders Awards: Alice Raea, Virginia Bishop, Lynley Sheweiry, Sally Blyth, Julie Goodyer & Tric Milner.

#### EMMA FISK: Outstanding Achievement in Engineering (EGGS 1990-1994)

Emma Fisk (née Cosslett) has an impressive background in her chosen field and is an ideal candidate for an Epsom Girls Grammar School Founder's Award. Upon graduating from EGGS in 1994, she was the second recipient of the Kathleen Mandeno Scholarship and went on to gain a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) with First Class Honours from the University of Auckland in 1997. After this she worked as a Graduate Engineer at MCL and a Civil Engineer at GHD, both large construction firms.

She later gained a Masters of Engineering Studies degree in 2001 before spending a period of time overseas in Qatar, also at GHD, and in the UK, working for TPS Consult. Upon her return to New Zealand in 2010, Emma joined Beca as an Associate and gained an MBA from the Chifley Business School in 2015.

Emma's current role at Beca is Technical Director – Civil Engineering. In this role she is working on Supporting Growth Alliance, the Government and Auckland Council's strategic transport planning programme set up to investigate and deliver the transport networks Auckland needs over the next 30 years to accommodate future urban growth. This is something Emma is really passionate about; working to develop transformative infrastructure for Auckland.

As an experienced leader of complex multi-discipline projects, with a track record of creating highperforming teams, driving successful delivery and achieving outstanding project outcomes, Emma has an authentic leadership style and quickly forms close, trust-based relationships with a diverse range of project participants.

Emma is also a member of Beca's Delivery Leadership Team, charged with overseeing technical delivery and innovation. She is a guest lecturer for geometric design at the University of Auckland and is on the assessment panel for the Dean's Leadership Programme.

Emma provides strategic direction through project objectives and drives project momentum by focusing on making key decisions in an inclusive, timely way. She is a valuable member of project leadership teams and strongly believes in creating a constructive, supportive environment in which people can succeed.

A strategic, visual thinker, Emma develops memorable concepts and theories to communicate complex ideas in straightforward ways. She reads extensively to develop her management skills and strategic understanding and has honed her management skills by completing her MBA whilst working on major projects. She regularly presents at conferences and runs training sessions for internal and external groups. Emma is well-connected and influential within Auckland's transport industry with close relationships across many organisations. Recent projects that Emma has been involved with are significant and include:

#### - the Puhoi to Warkworth Motorway, 2015 to 2018

She was the Design Manager for this new 18km motorway connecting Warkworth to the Auckland motorway. She paired developing a high-performance culture founded on clear objectives, role clarity and team wellbeing, with comprehensive processes to enable the timely delivery of a comprehensive suite of design packages. The outcome was an exceptional delivery record, with 100% on time delivery of IFC packages.

#### - the Peka Peka to Otaki Expressway

Emma was Design Manager for this in 2016, driving value for money outcomes.

#### - Te Atatus Interchange

From 2013 to 2014 Emma was responsible for civil design, specifically to widen the existing motorway and upgrade the existing interchange, meeting a challenging construction programme. Working closely with key service providers, Auckland Transport and Cycle Action Auckland brought results, safeguarding future bus exchange options.

#### - the Waterview Connection project 2011 to 2013

A project of great significance to the Auckland region, Emma led the geometric design and was actively involved in multi-modal planning across rail and bus integration. She developed innovative and costsaving solutions to overcome complex problems and, during this project, proved her ability to develop excellent relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders. She participated in public open days and presented at local schools.

Prior to all of this, Emma spent time overseas leading major projects including the infrastructure design and route protection involved with the development of Stansted Airport's second runway in the UK 2004 to 2007. Before this, she spent several years working in Qatar; firstly leading the master-planning and road design process for a fast-growing satellite town outside the capital of Doha (2002-2003) and then as Civil Design Manager for the transformative 2006 Asian Games project in Qatar, working with a multidiscipline team to develop and connect a diverse array of sporting, recreation, education, commercial and cultural facilities for the event (2003-2004). Having started her working life involved with a number of significant transport projects, Emma has developed a range of skills that have set her on the path to her noteworthy success. Her skills include ontime delivery, achieving outcomes, organisational competence, relationship building, communication, presenting, coaching, people development, risk management and commercial and financial management. Able to lead complex technical challenges and provide strong leadership, Emma has a reputation for navigating complex regulatory frameworks, contracts and high-risk environments and achieving high quality results. Her focus on relationships and her strong influencing skills enhance her ability to do this.

It is a great pleasure to honour Emma as a distinguished alumna of Epsom Girls Grammar School and a recipient of a Founders Award for her outstanding achievement in Engineering.

## MARY KISLER: Outstanding Achievement in the Arts (EGGS 1961-1964)

Mary Kisler has an impressive background in her chosen field and is an ideal candidate for an Epsom Girls Grammar School Founder's Award. Mary began working at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki in 1998, and was appointed the Senior Curator, Mackelvie Collection, International Art at the Auckland Art Gallery in 2008. She has curated a wide range of international historical and modern exhibitions at the Gallery, including being responsible for a collection of artworks ranging from the 11th to the mid-20th centuries. The current touring exhibition Frances Hodgkins: European Journeys is the result of an almost decade-long research project that saw Mary retracing Hodgkins' extensive journeys throughout Europe. Mary completed a Teachers College Diploma in 1971 and worked in primary schools through to 1984, including a stint as an art and drama teacher in a Special Needs School in London in the early 1980s and a period teaching drama and special needs at Selwyn College in Auckland.

She gained a BA in Italian and Art History from the University of Auckland in 1990, Certificates in Italian and Art History from the University of Florence in 1992 and an MA (Italian) with first class honours from the University of Auckland in 1994.

Mary has presented many seminars and conference papers, in Auckland, Melbourne and Bath and she has received a number of academic awards including Italian scholarships in 1988 and 1991 and a grant for research in Italy in 1997. This led her on the road to her role as a curator of international

art. In Spring 2016, Mary was the Craig Hugh Smyth Fellow at the Harvard Centre for Renaissance Art in Florence.

In 2012 Mary was temporary Advisory Head of Art at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington under a six-month part-time secondment. Since 2014 she has been researching the importance of place in the oeuvre of Frances Hodgkins and working on the Frances Hodgkins online catalogue raisonné The Complete Frances Hodgkins which will go live on 28th June 2019.

Mary has curated numerous exhibitions showcasing works by significant European and local artists and has had a long association as a lecturer at the University of Auckland, most significantly in the Women's Studies Programme and Italian Department.

With a number of peer-reviewed publications, books and journal articles as well as exhibition catalogues and online publications to her name, Mary has also been a contributing writer to a number of art publications and has had articles and reviews published over many years.

She has published on a wide range of arts topics from Italian Renaissance to modern art, with an emphasis on the work of acclaimed New Zealand artist Frances Hodgkins, in particular, the recent publications Frances Hodgkins: European Journeys, which she edited with Catherine Hammond, and Finding Frances Hodgkins, the story of her own journeys to the places Hodgkins painted.

For sixteen years (2001 to 2017) Mary was involved in monthly art discussions with acclaimed New Zealand interviewer Kim Hill on Radio New Zealand's Saturday Morning programme and has led a number of art tours to Europe and Australia.

Mary has a particular affinity for Frances Hodgkins, and her association with this iconic NZ artist has brought her recognition. Through her research about Frances and her work, Mary feels she has a much greater understanding of aspects of her character, as well as of the way her painting continued to evolve. Mary says that sometimes when you research someone you end up admiring them, but perhaps not really liking them, whereas she feels she would have loved Hodgkins, had she met her, with all her quirks and idiosyncrasies – as have so many researchers who have looked at aspects of her life and work.

As Mary has travelled, with Frances' letters as her companion, she has delighted in her descriptions of what she saw in all the places she travelled to. Hodgkins absorbed the places, objects, sights and sounds and then coalesced this on her canvas and Mary has been taken by Hodgkins sense of humour, empathy with younger artists, writers, composers and other creatives.

Mary's art teacher at EGGS was May Smith (or Mrs Hardcastle as she was known at that time) and Mary believes it was she who first made her aware of Hodgkins, as well as the French painters that Hodgkins so admired. May Smith taught her students how important and revolutionary modernism was and certainly engendered in Mary Kisler a lifelong love of art which has become both her passion and her career.

It is a great pleasure to honour Mary as a distinguished alumna of Epsom Girls Grammar School and a recipient of a Founders Award for her outstanding service to the Arts.

You will find a list of all Founders in the OGA section of the EGGS School website: <a href="www.eggs.school.nz">www.eggs.school.nz</a>
If you have someone in mind you'd like to nominate for a Founders Award, please let us know, we are happy to email the criteria to you.



#### **SCHOOL NEWS**

#### New York, New York!

Students and staff on the Contemporary Art Trip has had a great week in New York, exploring galleries, museums, creating art and seeing the sites.

Their next stop is the Venice Biennale!





#### Le Petit Déjeuner - Miam-miam!

Year 9 French classes are learning about school life and food in France. French breakfast was the topic on Friday when Philippe's Chocolate delivered 65 pains au chocolat and croissants. Students had hot chocolate in bowls to go with the pastries and they ordered from their teacher in French. They said they loved trying something different for breakfast and learning about French culture via their taste buds. The overall feeling – C'est délicieux!



#### LYNLEY SHEWEIRY: Devoted to our Community

Lynley is Co-President of the OGA and has been a community stalwart in more ways than most people realise. She recently finished her term on the EGGS Board of Trustees after nine years of service. It may be the end of one era, but Lynley remains highly involved in her, indeed our, community.

Lynley's dedicated work behind the scenes, in so many realms, has supported the School and the Community in a multitude of ways. Her commitment runs deep, and the acronyms are many. Here, she shares what she's been up to for all these years.

On 28th May this year, I attended my last Board of Trustees meeting as Deputy Chairperson for Epsom Girls Grammar School and received the most beautiful bouquet of flowers and a Long Service Award for 12 years of continuous service across three schools. My first trustee role was at Epsom Normal Primary School (ENPS) from 2007 until 2009 and during that time I was on the Finance and Personnel subcommittees. This role then overlapped with my term on the Board of Trustees at Auckland Normal Intermediate School (ANI) where I was the Deputy Chairperson and also on the Personnel subcommittee. Then, while finishing my term at ANI, I was co-opted onto the Board at EGGS and, two years later, I became an elected trustee serving two consecutive 3-year terms.

Several other roles I have held are:

- Ten years as Chairperson of the ENPS Parent Teacher Association (PTA);
- Chair of ANI's PTA for five years where the focus was around fundraising and supporting the school;
- Member of the EGGS PTA for two years and President for three;
- An active member of the EGGS Art Council since 2014, working with a lovely team and the amazing Anna Richardson who has directed so many fantastic performances.
- From 2009 until 2016 I was a member of the Auckland Grammar School Gala
  Dinner committee which was another wonderful experience. The committee
  always has a strong male component of Old Boys giving, not only their time and
  energy, but also providing a huge pool of contacts for sponsorship and prizes
  and raising money to support the Academic Endowment Fund which provides
  bonuses for AGS teachers.

Board responsibilities at EGGS are many and varied, with multiple subcommittees to join and, during my tenure, I have been on the Curriculum and Enrolment subcommittees and Chairperson of Personnel. Since starting on the EGGS Board in 2012 I have also been the Board representative on the EGGS Foundation Trust, reporting back to the Board each month. Even though I have now stood down, the Foundation team have allowed me to continue as a trustee.



In 2012 I also joined the Capital Campaign Committee that was created to focus on the fundraising effort for the Sports Centre and was led by our then-Chairperson, Peter Thompson. This was the same year that I was invited onto the Centenary Committee and I subsequently enjoyed five years assisting the team in the planning of this major event for EGGS. I was the Chairperson of the Gala Dinner sub-committee and it was an amazing accomplishment seeing everything fall into place on the night.

Even though I am not an actual Old Girl of the School, I was invited to join the OGA Committee in 2014 on account my extensive involvement in so many areas of the School. I was very pleased to accept and enjoy another perspective. At the AGM in June 2015 I became an Honorary Old Girl – below is my quote that appears on the EGGS website, which sums up my feelings about my involvement in so many spheres of EGGS life.

"One of my proudest moments was becoming an Honorary Old Girl at the June 2015 AGM for Services to EGGS. Having been educated in a co-ed school in South Auckland, the biggest difference I see between my daughter's education and my own is the sense of pride and inclusiveness that exists for current and past alumnae. This is a school and a culture to be cherished, so I would encourage all Old Girls to reach out and connect with the fantastic, unique community that is yours." Lynley Sheweiry, Co-President OGA

Following on from this wonderful award I became Co-President with Sally Blyth in 2016 after Kathryn Seagrave relocated to Featherston. I have to say this has been such a fantastic and challenging experience, and Sally is not only an incredible lady to work alongside, she has taught me patience and diplomacy which were definitely areas I needed to improve upon. She's been a huge support, personally and professionally.

My daughter Rachael Banbury joined the OGA as Student Representative when she was at EGGS and, as she now enters her third year of University, she remains on the Committee. I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to work alongside her within the OGA and also the EGGS Arts Council that we both enjoy immensely.

In late 2015 I was invited to sit on the Panel to appoint Across the School Leaders for the government-led initiative, Community of Schools. EGGS sits within the Auckland Central Community of Schools (ACCoS) cluster and nine appointments were made. It was a wonderful experience and a great opportunity to connect with the Principals from the contributing schools. Since the initial appointments, I have been invited back to sit on every interview panel, which I really enjoy, and this is an absolute privilege.

For the past six years I have been involved with my old school, Aorere College, as a Trustee, Secretary and Treasurer of their Foundation Trust. Aorere College is a co-educational, low-decile school in South Auckland and the Foundation aims to support the teaching and learning by offering assistance to the teachers and students in the form of scholarships and resources.

It is lovely to be able to give something back to the school that shaped me and instilled the importance of supporting your peers, teachers and community.

Ed's note: Knowing Lynley and how much time and energy, skills and expertise that she has gifted to EGGS and the other schools she has been involved with for so long, I want to personally salute and acknowledge her selflessness and drive. Yes, it does make a difference. Thank you Lynley, the community is better because of your huge efforts and what that has achieved. It's been fantastic to work with you as my Co-President and keep quietly creating change for good. — Sally

#### **FOCUS ON OLD GIRLS**

#### JAN-MARIE DOOGUE: Appointed a Judge of the High Court (EGGS 1971-1975)

On 8th July 2019, Attorney-General David Parker announced that Justice Doogue has been appointed a Judge of the High Court. After leaving EGGS, Jan-Marie graduated with an LLB from the University of Auckland in 1980 and began her legal career at Auckland law firm Holmden Horrocks in that same year.

In 1983 she joined Cairns Slane in Auckland and became a partner of the firm in 1986, before leaving to join the partnership of Morrison Morpeth in 1990. In 1992 she joined the independent Bar and spent two years practising out of William Martin Chambers in Auckland before her appointment as a District and Family Court Judge in 1994.

Jan-Marie was subsequently designated as a Family Violence Court Judge in 2005, granted a Jury Warrant in 2007, and was appointed an alternate Environment Court Judge in 2011.

The Honourable Justice Doogue was appointed Chief District Court Judge of New Zealand in September 2011, leading a bench of 160 judges.

As Chief District Court Judge, Jan-Marie has received several AIJA Incorporated Awards for Excellence in Judicial Administration. She has served on the Board of Institute of Judicial Studies, the main institution for judicial education in New Zealand since 2011. She also holds current appointments as a Hague Network Judge for New Zealand and as a member of The Hague Expert Group on Cross Border

matters affecting children.

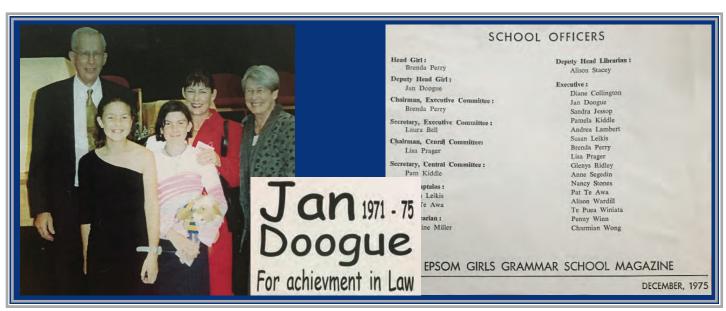
The Honourable Justice Doogue will be sworn-in on 19th August 2019 and will sit in Wellington.

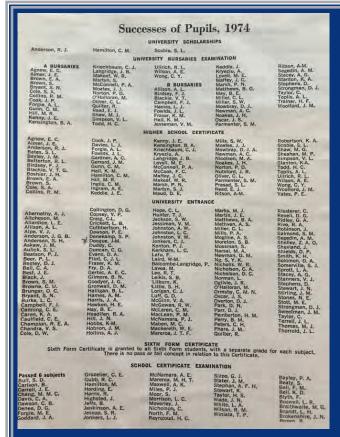
Jan-Marie received an EGGS Founders Award in 2001 and is a truly worthy recipient, particularly given this latest career accolade. The EGGS Old Girls Association congratulates Jan-Marie on

her appointment as Judge of the High Court.



At the same time as Jan-Marie's appointment, we found some information about her in Archives from when she received her Founders Award and are pleased to share a small snapshot of this remarkable Alumna.







L-7R. Kally Coon, leigh Allaration, Alson Homes, Etrabeth Kirkly wendy hard. and row LAR - Good Gulffeld, snoon Jackson, Sophia Mg, Phillippia Birola. Kalhlean Naughton, May Stott, Rebecca Lee, Atlan

Bed 1000 - LOR. - Judith Holson, Ramelo Beatson, Swan Somerville Jay stilling, Denise Ry, Lavo Bell, May Graham, Jan Marie Doogue .

Botton 1000 - LAR - Miss Cooper, Done Collington, Saily Myles. Supan leskis, Gooline Miller, Josephine Moreroa Jone Phore, Robyn watt, Jone Terrell.



### "MY THREE ANGELS" At the beginning of the second term, Epsom

joined Auckland Grammar, under the direction of Adrian Kiernander, to produce "My Three Angels", a light-hearted comedy set in French Guiana at the turn of this century. The play lent itself well to melodramatics and contained many of the stage stereotypes — the ugly, villainous uncle, the pretty, stupid heroine, and the overprotective mother.

The cast included three girls from our school, Luise Brandta Lisa Prager and Jan Doogue. Claire Gruzelier also helped as properties manageress and prompt. We rehearsed for approximately the services of the property of the services of the ageress and prompt. We rehearsed for approximately a month and had ten all-day sessions during the May holidays which enabled us to get to know one another very well, and we all thoroughly enjoyed our three performances. Our thanks go to Miss Redpath, Mrs Green and Mr Kiernander, whose tolerance and patience throughout the production were remarkable.

Jan Doogue, 7C Jan Doogue, 7C

MISS C. M. E. COOPER,

\*Anker, B. A.

\*Anker, B. A.

\*Beatson, P. J.
Bell, L. J.
Brinsley, P. A.
Caron, K. A.
Caulfield, C. E.
Collington, D. G.
Doogue, L.M Doogue, J-M. \*Elliott, C. H. Fry, D. A. Graham, M. L. Hames, A. Hobson, J. M. Jackson, S. Kirkby, E. E. Laird, W-M.

#### PRIZE LIST, 1975

Alison B. Wardill — Milne Cup received on behalf of the Kotahitanga Club for their outstanding performance

Kotahitanga Club for their outstanding performance in Hall
Alison M. Barthow — Certificate for excellence in ChemAlison M. Barthow — Certificate for excellence in ChemEreeman Memorial Prize for Physics in Form 7 — M. E.
Freeman Memorial Prize for Mathematics — Joint
Dux Award with Philippa A. Brinsley
Philippa A. Brinsley — Certificates for excellence in History and Mathematics — English Award — French
Tenda M. Parry — Certificate for excellence in English
Prenda M. Parry — Certificate for excellence in English
Senior Singles Tennis Champion, Cup presented
by Mr. & Mrs Baigent — Senior Doubles Tennis Champion with Charmian Wong — Headmistress's Award
to the Head Gut

#### PHILLIS METI: Three-time World Long Drive Champion (EGGS ???)

A capable sportswoman at School and beyond, Phillis (nickname Philly) is a professional long driver (golf) and a world champion in her chosen sport. She played Netball at EGGS and was Games Captain and, in 2004, she was ASB Sportsperson of the Year. She has also set the record for the three longest drives in the history of women's long drive competition.

Phillis has competed in the World Long Drive (WLD) Championship competition (held in the USA in September each year) six times since 2006. Having taken out the Women's title in 2006 (aged just 19), she won again in 2016 and 2018. This makes Phillis a three-time (and defending) World Champion and world No. 1 in the women's division. In addition to her three wins in the WLD, she also finished 2nd twice and 3rd once. For readers who are into golf, Phillis has achieved these feats using a Tour Edge Exotics XJ1/EX10 driver.

Having been introduced to the sport of golf by her father Raz, Phillis picked up her first club at 7 years old and started playing the game when she was 11. Her parents, who both coached the sport of Waka Ama (Outrigger Paddling), supported her golf career and Raz not only coached and trained her, he was also her No. 1 fan and supporter. Sadly, he passed away a year before she won the 2016 WLD Championship.

Phillis' career to date has been a combination of Long Drive and Ladies Golf tournaments in New Zealand, Australia, China, America and the South Pacific. It has opened many doors for her. Not only has she reached the top of her chosen sport in World Long Drive, she has also represented NZ in the sport of Waka Ama and Athletics. Phillis kicked off her 2019 season with a bang, smashing a 413-yard (377m) drive in the Smash in the Sun finals in Arizona. This winning drive was a new world record for the longest drive ever recorded in by a woman in a World Long Drive competition. Phillis beat her own record of 406 yards (371m) which she set in 2017. She also won the Boardwalk Bash in Atlantic City in June.





With her powerhouse style, Phillis has been clocked with a swing of 120mph (193kph) and a ball speed of 176mph (293kph). This is phenomenal and all down to a perfect combination of talent, technique and great equipment.

You can read more about Phillis and her record-breaking drive here.

https://thegolfwire.com/monster-413-sets-new-world-record/

We wish you all the best Phillis, for future championships and tournaments in the sport you love.



# SHONA MARTYN: Hanging with Elton (EGGS 1970-1974)

Shona grew up in Mt Wellington and attended EGGS as an out of zone student. She was friendly with OGA Committee Margi Leech and they both attended Girls Brigade and Greenlane Presbyterian Church where her journalistic skills were noticed.

Having honed those skills through the years, Shona is now an editor, journalist and book publisher. She is a business leader, influencer and mentor. She is currently Spectrum editor at The Sydney Morning Herald.

On her Linked In page, Shona says she is "committed to the creation of high-quality publishing, journalism and artistic projects that make a difference." She is passionate about work that challenges, entertains and can change lives.

"I am a persuasive communicator and advocate with an eye for the big picture; I am comfortable in driving change."

Shona has extensive experience in book publishing, magazines and newspapers, with a strong base of contacts around the world. She is an accomplished media executive with expertise in Marketing Communications.

She has held a number of senior executive roles spanning global responsibilities in multi-nationals and Trans-Tasman. She is a highly credentialled speaker, industry expert and media spokesperson.

We found a wonderful article written by Shona which appeared in The Sydney Morning Herald on 31st May 2019 – titled "Rocketman and me: my Caribbean life with Elton John", it is Shona's reflection on her time hanging out with Elton during the early 1980s. You can read the story through this link.

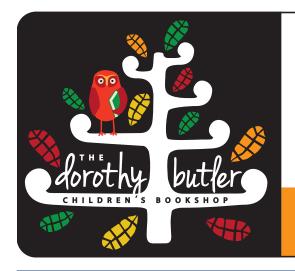
A mango daiquiri brings back Shona Martyn's memories of times spent with Elton John. Photo credit: Dominic Lorrimer (SMH)

It's a great peek into celebrity lifestyles of that era – how fabulous that an EGGS Old Girl got to enjoy such an amazing romp with the iconic Elton.

Enjoy his concert if you're going to see him when he visits NZ!

#### https://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/music/rocketman-and-me-my-caribbean-life-with-elton-john-20190531-p51t3k.html

We all know that Elton's career took off like a rocket, and there are few stars who are as well-known and enduring as him. Meanwhile, Shona's career has burgeoned and brought her recognition in the world of journalism and publishing. And at one point in time, they hung out together on an island in the Caribbean!



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#### **AUCKLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS STUDY TOUR TO EUROPE, 1977/1978**

WORDS: SALLY BLYTH

Whilst in the Archives room recently, I came across the 1978 Yearbook which contains a write-up of the EGGS Study Tour to Europe in 1977/78. I was fortunate to have been on this trip and reading about it all these years later sure got me reminiscing. The write-up is printed below; alas, there is no name to tell us who wrote it.

Whilst educational trips to Europe are now fairly common, back in the 1970s they were most definitely not. First, I'll share a bit of background and some of my own memories about this very special and ground-breaking School trip.

In the mid-70s two EGGS teachers who taught German (Miss Jackie Bryant and Mrs Margaret Cotter) had a far-sighted vision to put together a trip to Europe for students taking German, a subject that was only available from 5th Form (Y11) level in those days.

As a language-lover, I eagerly signed up to study German and, when I learnt of the possibility of a trip to German-speaking countries for German students, it seemed all my Heidi dreams may be fulfilled; I just had to get my parents on board. Thankfully they understood my youthful Europhilia and were supportive of me going. Suddenly, there I was, signed up as an interested party.

A range of activities got into motion to raise funds – from putting on plays in German to selling stuff at the K'Rd carpark flea market at crack of dawn, we all put in huge effort, with great family support. I finished my School C exams and headed off to the other side of the world.

#### Here's a brief overview:

On 9th December 1977, at the end of exams, we flew out of Mangere International Airport (when it was still part of the current domestic terminal) on a PanAm 747 jumbo jet and arrived in LA for the start of our two-month trip. After exploring Disneyland, we flew to Frankfurt and from there we toured around Germany (including East Germany), Austria and Switzerland. We visited Neuschwanstein in the snow; we went to Dacau concentration camp; we went to school in Dusseldorf. We then visited Paris and London before returning home with a few days in Hong Kong en route. We arrived back to the newly opened Auckland International Airport, on 2nd February 1978, with many stories to share and a new level of worldliness.

I found my old Trip Diary and, according to that, the cost of the trip was \$2,303.00 – which covered just about everything including sightseeing and most of our food! My Diary also states that the "extras & gifts" I spent on top of what was pre-paid amounted to \$686.88 – so that's a total cost of \$2,989.88 for two months of fabulous travel. I bought some ice-skates in Munich and a cuckoo clock in the Black Forest.

Here are some quotes and observations from my diary notes that made me smile ...

- "Lufthansa plane really nice much better than PanAm" (I had never flown an international airline at this point!)
- "We drank beer while revolving in a Frankfurt restaurant."
- "Christmas market lovely I bought three flashes" (that's how we used to take photos!)
- "Had a coupon to use at the Mövenpick Restaurant in Frankfurt but only for 5DM I ordered a Banana Split for 6.50DM superb, worth every extra Mark." (I still remember every mouthful!)
- "Our huge bus had a toilet this was OMG-worthy in those days and our driver Max was good fun."
- "It seems there was more Apfelwein being sampled than German being spoken! (Drinking age in Germany: 16)."

We certainly had some very unique experiences on this trip that went way beyond our wildest teenage dreams. It was enlightening and energising – and gave me the travel bug big-time! I wanted to return to London as soon as I could and explore more of Europe and the world. That's exactly what I went on to do!

To this day, I still thank Miss Bryant and Mrs Cotter for getting the trip off the ground, and my parents for enabling me to be part of it. Students today travel all over the world in the name of learning and education, but in the 1970s this was an opportunity of a lifetime.



I also run **BEYOND Personal Travel Companion Service** for anyone who needs help and support to travel. Perfect for older travellers, ideal for anyone not keen or able to travel alone.

Check my new website for more

It has provided everlasting memories and I'm pretty sure it was a game-changer for most of

us in one way or another.

If you were also on this trip, I'm sure you'll smile as you read this write-up on the following page!

www.beyondlimits.co.nz

information:

Neuschwanstein Castle in the snow

#### TRIP TO GERMANY, CHRISTMAS 1977

After endless months of talking, planning, fund-raising, letter-writing, lectures and saving, the trip to Germany actually did come about last Christmas. A group of fifth, sixth and seventh formers from EGGS, Diocesan and Auckland Grammar spent eight weeks away in the German-speaking part of Europe, with brief forays into other cultural centres like Disneyland, Paris and London. There were 16 in the party, led by Mrs Cotter and Miss Bryant, and this proved to be an ideal number. We flew Lufthansa most of the way, and travelled in Europe in our own bus. Accommodation, usually in Youth Hostels, and our bus arrangements were all dealt with most competently by the Council for International Contact in Bonn, whom we can recommend to anyone thinking of planning a similar venture.

There-are advantages and disadvantages to travelling at this time of the year. The days are disappointingly short and tend to be grey. However, the cold was no problem once we learned that we were going to need more layers than we anticipated from inside the warmth of the centrallyheated hostels. It hardly ever rained except in England! And it was the snow and ice that made so many scenes memorable for us - it was real chocolate-box material. We had to wait for the snow, though. Nurnberg, where we spent Christmas, had the warmest winter on record for years. No white Christmas — perhaps that explains the odd small tear that was shed that day . . Wurzburg there was the first skating out-of-doors at night under ice-crusted trees, where Karen glided off like a swan and left the rest in an earthbound, staggering tangle. Progress was shown indeed by the time we reached the Olympic Stadium in Munich — by then everyone could let go of the rails (though some had opted for the swimming pool, from whose glass-enclosed warmth you could watch children skiling and toboganning outside. Now we can picture what it will be like, we feel much keener about the new EGGS pool). And there was the frozen Titisee where Sally went skating in a scene of spectacular grandeur. There was the skiing in Lucerne, where Marion showed us how it should be done and David showed us how it should not, and where some of us tarnely settled for toboggans. There was the amazement of the natives at our mad glee when we found our very first snow in Salzburg, and our lesser enthusiasm the next day when our bus overturned in a blizzard. In Munich one day it was snowing so hard that we were actually relieved to get into the Schatzkammer Museum.

We had our brushes with culture everywhere we went. We were dutiful about the Museums and Art Galleries, pretty lukewarm about the opera but put it down to experience, rather more enthusiastic about trying local colour in the form of Gasthaus and the Bratwurst stand, became positively blase about rococo churches, and were most conscientious about seeking out the bargains in the winter sales.

The aim of the trip was both to see things and meet people. The group spent 10 days billetted out individually with German families in Dusseldorf and attending the Ceciliengymnasium, the local secondary school. We must express our thanks to Herr von Robert, the Headmaster, and Frau Herriger, the Head of the English Department, for their help in this. Inevitably, some pupils felt more at home than others after the initial nervousness — could one call it terror? — but all the German families went to enormous lengths to make their guests welcome. It was during these 10 days that the most German was spoken. A special school meeting was held for the German families to hear a little about New Zealand, and most of our pupils prepared their given topic in perfectly competent German, which was very well received. We also showed the film made around EGGS during the year by the Liberal Studies group. The sight of large numbers of girls in school uniform caused gales of mirth; but still more wonder was shown at the news that boys wear shorts to school and get caned.

The other source of contact with real Germans was Mr Jack Porter of the Newmarket Rotary Club, who spent a great deal of time arranging contacts with Rotarians wherever we went. These people entertained us to a degree beyond anything we could have expected, and were an introduction to German hospitality which has made a lasting impression. In Mainz we were shown around the Kupferberg cellars and treated to a midday snack and champagne — a heady business for one of our first days in Europe. Our whole stay in Wurzburg was supervised by Rotarians, who also treated us to a superb, typically German meal and a concert of the Regensburger Domspatzen. In Numberg we were met and looked after and invited out one evening by a group of children of Rotarians, in Berlin a Rotarian family invited the whole group to their beautiful home to have a meal and meet young people, in Vienna we were invited to Grinzing to a Heuriger, a most gemutlich form of evening meal, characteristic of Vienna, in Heidelberg we were shown round a factory and given lunch and had the little matter of getting a leg x-rayed and put in plaster at the same time . . . it really is difficult to express our gratitude sufficiently to the Dusseldorf families and the Rotarians. They turned what could have been just a trip into what one might more aptly call a visit.

So it can be done. There were times of tension and weariness, of course, as well as the times of fun and discovery, and there were some things we would do differently next time, but co-operation within the group was good and the trip must be regarded a success.

PS: In July/August I am leading a tour group of 18 travellers to Russia and the Baltic States, as well as a Danube Cruise through Austria. We'll cover 11 countries in 32 days and will visit some of the places we went to on the School trip! If you're interested in following our escapades, check my blog: <a href="https://russiabalticdanubetour.blogspot.com/">https://russiabalticdanubetour.blogspot.com/</a>

#### **CONNECTION CORNER**

#### **A Special Anniversary Programme**

Michael Travis, a Grammar Old Boy, contacted the School recently in search of a programme for the AGS/EGGS production of Fiddler on the Roof which was staged back in 1996. Michael met his wife Anna (née Beaumont) when they were both involved in this production as AGS/EGGS students. Anna attended EGGS between 1992 and 1996 and had designed the poster for the play.

Michael was keen to find a copy of the poster/programme to show it to their children. His first port of call at EGGS was Jaclyn Druitt, Head of Drama at EGGS. The request was passed to the Old Girls Association as we've been busy overhauling the Archives over the last couple of months. Luck was on Michael's side ... as Virginia Bishop was wading through some boxes during a working bee, she came across the programme for the show. Eureka! There, in print from more than 20 years ago, were the names of Michael Travis (playing Rabbi), and Anna Beaumont (make-up). The programme was at the bottom of one of the many boxes – it just goes to show the value of good Archives – and the value of approaching us for information!

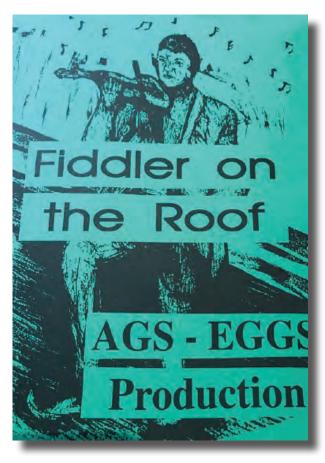


Michael & Anna at the end of production celebration dinner, 1996

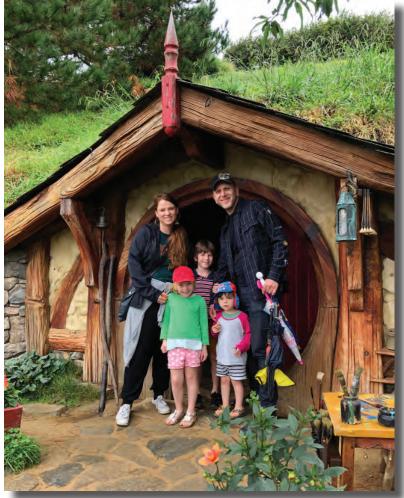
Virginia contacted Michael and excitedly told him of the find – he was amazed

and ecstatic, and popped into the School to collect a copy of the programme to present to his wife for their 23rd Anniversary. Michael and Anna officially started dating on 22nd June 1996 – and the programme was found on 18th June, just in time for a wonderful Anniversary surprise.

Do get in touch if you'd like to trace something special from your School days – we hope we'll be able to help!



The programme that Anna designed



A recent photo of Michael, Anna and their three beautiful children

#### **EPSOM HOUSE NEWS**

Update from Julie Goodyer, EGGS Old Girl, Board of Trustees member, Chair of Epsom House Sub-Committee of the Board and OGA Committee Treasurer.

Epsom House students completed Term 2 on 5 July 2019 and are currently enjoying holidays at home or with their guardians. Several groups have booked to use the Epsom House facilities over the Term 2 holidays.

A highlight of Term 2 was the Epsom House Social held on Friday 28 June with a theme of Good versus Bad which was a huge success. The decorations team made a great job of decorating the dining room and the parents committee helped with supervision. The House Caterers Compass group again put on a delicious supper. This was a big day for the House as many staff and students also took part in the hikoi up Mt Eden at 5 am that morning for Matariki.

Other social events for the students during Term 2 included an outing to Tibbs House for dinner followed by attending the annual EGGS/AGS/St Cuthberts production at Centennial Theatre. Also, a successful "Nana night" and "Hawaiian night" dinner was held.

Planning is now underway for the Epsom House Year Book and the Year 13 Leavers dinner. The Parents Committee are also working on an outdoor landscaping project for the new Manuka Pod.









#### LOST AND FOUND

This section aims to help bring long-lost school friends together or fill missing gaps. If you want to find someone or have information to share, please contact us.

#### **Maggie Zolinsky**

Maggie Zolinsky (known as Margaret Kinnon at EGGS) was at EGGS from 1979 to 1983 and has contacted us, trying to find some other girls who were at EGGS at the same time as her. Maggie left New Zealand in 1984 and hasn't lived here since so has lost touch with old school friends, but very keen to reconnect.

Maggie is looking for **Jeanette Curtis, Judy Anaru, Melissa Gilbert** – and there will be others too, who were part of the friendship circle. If you know Maggie and would like to connect with her, please contact her on <u>zolinskys@sky.com</u>

#### **WONDERING WHAT YOUR OLD SCHOOL FRIENDS ARE UP TO?**

We encourage all Old Girls to seek out former CLASS MATES.

If you'd like some help reconnecting with someone you have lost touch with, let us know. Maiden and married names don't make things simple but if you put something in our Lost & Found section, you may just find that friend! We're happy to publicise details.

#### **FOUNDATION NEWS**

Update from Virginia Bishop, EGGS Old Girl, Board of Trustees member, OGA Committee Secretary and Foundation Trustee

#### **Building a brighter future for Epsom Girls**

The L Block renovation will create positive outcomes for young women, a multi-functional space for connected and collaborative studying and a stronger sense of community.







Work is well under way renovating L Block into a flexible multi-functional learning environment.

Many thanks to our generous donors who have enabled us to raise the funds to extend the flexible learning environment to a multipurpose outdoor space. This space will be for breakout learning, meetings, individual and group work and covered recreational space for lunchtimes.







Here are some pictures taken last week showing many of the interior walls and linings that separated the classrooms and corridors now stripped away.

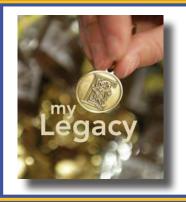
From the outside you can see where there are boarded over openings that will eventually make way for a series of 4 covered deck areas located along the length of the building, facing north and stepping down to the asphalt strip

It is anticpiated that the outdoor area will enhance:

- · encouragement of creative and critical thinking
- optimise learning
- student achievement
- provide access to the winter sun's light and heat
- provides protection from summer heat and sun
- gives shelter from the rain during all seasons

The flexible learning environment creates positive, supportive relationships between students and teachers and forms the basis for our learning. The space will be a vibrant, well connected, physical environment that encourages and supports our students through their EGGS journey.





### **CREATE A LASTING LEGACY**

If you're interested in making a gift to Epsom Girls Grammar School in your will, and leaving a lasting legacy, please Speak in confidence with the Foundation Office by phone 09-970 6753 or by email <a href="mailto:foundation@eggs.school.nz">foundation@eggs.school.nz</a>

Please download our My Legacy booklet for more information.

#### REGIONAL BRANCHES

We have active branches in Franklin and Tauranga. Franklin branch recently held a morning tea early in July and Tauranga branch have an annual lunch planned for October.

If you're interested in activating a branch in your neck of the woods, let us know and we'll help get you started.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

We'd love to expand our international connections so we can gain a better picture of where in the world we all are.

Many Alumnae live overseas and if you are one of them, or know someone who lives in a far flung destination, do let us know details. If you know any Old Girls living overseas who may not currently be in the OGA loop, please let us and/or them know and hopefully we can help generate many connections around the world.



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#### REMEMBERING ALUMNAE

Sadly, we lose Old Girls every year and we aim to acknowledge those who pass away in our Newsletter, and on the website. 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 and offer our sympathy to all those who have lost loved ones over the years. To notify us of the passing of a former student or staff member please email us on <a href="mailto:oga@eggs.school.nz">oga@eggs.school.nz</a> or phone the Development Office on Ph 970 6753. Obituaries will record the name; maiden name; date passed away; years at School; and any other relevant information we are provided with.

#### Passed Away June 2019

Pauline Mary (AP) Boyes - Died 2nd June 2019. Born 7th September 1934. Aunt, great aunt and bible teacher to many.

#### Passed Away May 2019

Valmae Mona Megson (née Wilson) - Died 7th May 2019. 3B 1947. Vice Games Captain 1950, and Arahi House Captain 1958. Appears in 1950 School Magazine as Games Captain and in the First XI Hockey Team.

Amanda Christine Akers (née Gardner) - Died 16th May 2019. Born 19th May 1976. At EGGS 1989-1993: 3Nr 1989, 4Ri 1990, 5Mb 1991, 6N4 1992, 7Bi 1993. Her sister is Melissa Gardner. Amanda went to School with OGA Committee member Annise Raea.

Mary Elizabeth Sommerville (née Kidd) - Died peacefully on Sunday 19th May 2019 at The Palms Retirement Village, Pukekohe, aged 92 years. 3D 1941. Long-serving committee member of the EGGS Franklin Branch. Her sister was Flora McIngyre (nee Kidd) 1927, who served as a nurse on hospital ships in World War II.

Heather Ann Otton (née Pitkethley) - Died 15th May 2019 in Hamilton. Born 31st May 1935. 3C 1949. Her sister is Shirley Kathleen Pitkethley.

Dianne (Diney) Storey (née Davison, formerly Wilson) - Died peacefully at home on Sunday 19th May 2019. Born 26th March 1936. Dianne attended the 70-years-on Reunion Lunch for 1949 third formers, held April 2019.

**Pip (Phillippa Lee) Wentworth (née Richards) - Died 19th May 2019.** Born 5th March 1946. 3AL 1959. Daughter in law of Dorothy May Wentworth (nee Potter) 1929 and sister of Lesley Challis (nee Richards, formerly Haddock) 3AL 1955. OGA Committee member for 75th Jubilee and staff member.

#### Passed Away April 2019

Lyn (Lynette Janice) Shortt, (née Lee) - Died 2nd April 2019. Born 9th April 1948. 3 Modern 1. 1953.

**Barbara Glendys Griffin, (née Sidaway) - Died 16th April 2019.** 3 Modern 3. Her sister is Joy Wallace, née Sidaway. 3 Homecraft 3. 1948. Both sisters have lived a long time on Waiheke Island.

Paula Anne Middleton, (née Fitzpatrick) - Died on 17th April 2019. Unexpectedly. Aged 67 years. 5A General 1967.

**Heather Elizabeth Massicks (née Holmes) - Died approx. 18th April 2019.** 3B Homecraft 1956. Her sister is Moira Dye, née Holmes. 3D 1952.

Rosemary (Ro) Bellamy (née Colgan) - Died 29th April 2019. Born 16th April 1941. Attended EGGS 1954-1958. EGGS Staff member, BOT member, OGA past-President, long-time OGA committee member. 2019 Founders Award recipient. Passionate about the School grounds and gardens.

#### **OGA CENTENARY 2021**

Initial planning is under way for our OGA Centenary in 2021. The feature will be a fabulous Cocktail event – watch this space! We're also planning to hold an Art Show during the celebrations, showcasing works by Alumnae – if you're an artist and would be interested in participating, please contact us so we can measure interest and keep you informed.

If you would like to join the OGA Centenary Sub-Committee, please get in touch!



#### BE A SILVER ROAD CLUB DONOR

A group of Old Girls are now **Silver Road Club Donors**, supporting us with a monthly automatic payment of \$10 to help cover our costs. This is less than a few cups of coffee a week and we would love your support in this way. We are a registered charity and will send you a donation receipt at the end of the year. Please contact us for more information to become a member of the Silver Road Club.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR PRODUCTS/SERVICES IN OUR NEWSLETTER?

If so, please contact us for full details and process. We produce three newsletters per year which are emailed and posted to a large database. This is a great opportunity to profile yourself and your business to a group of wonderful women who may be looking for exactly what you are offering! We're happy to spread your good news along with our own. All content subject to Editor's approval.

#### **ARCHIVES UPDATE**

Virginia Bishop and Lynley Sheweiry have been working steadily to consolidate Archives into two rooms, as the Archivists Office was needed for Counselling Services. The upstairs storage area has been tidied to make room for OGA memorabilia, duplicate sets of school magazines, school lists, uniforms, badges, audio and video tapes, medals, trophies, framed photos, old OGA minutes, newspaper clippings and documentation.

With the space made downstairs, we have been able to accommodate nearly all of the photos in preparation for scanning. A platform to allow the safe storage of our precious photos is under consideration and we aim to proceed as quickly as we can, so that the bulk of our photos are ready for the OGA Centenary in 2021.





### Save The Date - 2019

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