



# Epsom Girls Grammar School Old Girls Association (Inc)



## E-Newsletter

May 2019

Dear Alumnae

April was a busy month with our Morning Tea and Reunion Luncheon and June is another busy month ahead with our AGM (10th June) and Founders Awards Assembly – by which time, hard as it is to believe, the year will be almost half over.

We work hard to keep our database up to date but, with so many members, things can slip through the cracks. If you change your contact details at any time, please be sure to let us know. If you have news or info to share, do let us know!

See you at the AGM!

*Per Angusta Ad Augusta*

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



*Tric Milner, Lorraine Pound, Julie Goodyer, Ro Bellamy, Donna Corse-Scott,  
Sally Blyth, Virginia Bishop & Lynley Sheweiry*

A number of Committee members attended Ro's funeral on 3rd May and at our May Committee meeting, we saluted Ro and all she has done for the OGA and the School over so many years. We will all miss her very much and are so very glad we were able to honour her with a Founders Award at the special ceremony at her home last month, before she passed away.

RIP Ro.

### Ro Bellamy

The OGA Committee lost one of its long-time members and Past President, Ro Bellamy, on 29th April 2019. Ro was not only a student and a teacher at EGGs, she remained involved in so many other ways throughout her whole life. Our community has lost a vibrant, passionate and special lady who had a twinkle in her eye, an endearing smile and a long and rich connection to the School, past and present. Ro leaves behind a wonderful legacy, especially in relation to the School gardens, and people from many eras of EGGs life will always remember her with fondness.



### Good Bye Rosemary

*A personal tribute to Ro, written by Donna Corse-Scott (past OGA Committee member)*

Recently a beautiful earth mother went home to rest. You might say cut short in her prime, with many energetic projects still on the go. Rosemary was an intelligent woman, who devoted her life to people, gardens and science. A eulogy delivered by one of our less recent school head mistresses (Gae Griffiths) defined our Ro as the 'quintessential EGGs girl' meaning she was resourceful, sporting, supportive, questioning, empathetic, a wonderful teacher, mentor and inspiring for many of those around her.

From a young age Ro was a sensitive, justice-seeking sibling for her sister and brother, and a loyal daughter to her loving parents. She became an honest, deeply sincere and loving wife, who created a sanctuary of love and hope for her family.

Ro dedicated her life to learning as much as she could about natural biology and sharing that knowledge with any and all whose attention she could hold.

Having spent much of her adult life teaching high school biology, Ro commenced her masters at age 60 and went on to take up a new career teaching in the Science faculty at The University of Auckland.



This was when I happened to reconnect with her, my old high school biology teacher; she was by now firmly ensconced at Auckland Uni. Ro quickly became a wonderful source of encouragement and support for our family and me. I had been engaged in earning my BSc while raising my family and licking my wounds from a disappointing marriage outcome. Ro's empathy and sincere desire for me to succeed and pass the finish line after 14 years of part-time undergraduate study still brings me to deep sorrowful outbreaks of grief at knowing she is gone, and the tears roll down my cheeks as I write this.

When we got together recently for what was, I now realise, our final goodbye, she emphatically endorsed my tentative confession that I had been provisionally accepted to start a masters in education this July. Additionally, upon hearing our news for a new garden, she added instructions for how best to proceed! I find this to be a great source of comfort now that she is gone. For, as we sat throughout her wonderful and memorable funeral, I realised that I had, and always will, aspire to be like Ro.

Rosemary died 29th April 2019, aged 78 years and 13 days.

## Annual Morning Tea & 1949/1959 Reunion Luncheon

Our Annual Morning Tea held in the hostel on 10th April was, as always, a warm and uplifting occasion. Old Girls from all eras attended and enjoyed catching up with classmates, our Principal Lorraine Pound, Deputy Principal Tric Milner and several members of the OGA committee.

Afterwards, we held a Reunion Lunch for those who started third form in 1949 and 1959 – it was well-attended, and many memories and laughs were shared.

For the first time in many years we had a lovely gentleman attend the Reunion Luncheon. Stephen Levett drove his mum June Levett, née Sellars, all the way from Warkworth so she could attend the event and he was a wonderful additional guest. We would like to encourage any sons, husbands or significant others to attend next year, especially if you have the most important duty of transporting a special Old Girl to the event. Instead of going and doing something to fill in the time, come and meet us!



*June Levett née Sellars and her son  
Stephen Levett*





**Attendees:**

Ann Miller née Robertson (1949)  
 Annette Nathalie Cook née de Montalk (1953-1956)  
 Barbara Wedde née Kellett (1949-1954)  
 Catherine Allbury (2009-2013)  
 Clare Sutton née Lillie (1951-1953)  
 Dawn Diane McCrae née Hare (1958-1961)  
 Dene Young née Tisdall (1949-1951)  
 Dianne Storey née Davison (1949)  
 Dora Green (1966-1969)  
 Ehlin Young née Hing (1949-1952)  
 Elizabeth Francis née Porritt (1949-1953)  
 Elwyn Munroe née Waine (1950-1951)  
 Gay Bates née Taylor (1958-1959)  
 Gay Roberts née Baigent (1952-1956)  
 Gwynne Urquhart (1941-1945)  
 Heather J Reynolds née Thompson (1959-1962)  
 Helen Hagen née Chesterman (1951-1954)  
 Isabella Tedcastle née Redmond (1952-1955)  
 Janice Chandler née Townsend (1951-1954)

Jenny Rawlings née Grant (1965-1969)  
 Judy Robinson (1962-1966)  
 Julie Goodyer (1971-1975)  
 June Levet née Sellers (1949)  
 Katharine Collins née Rutherford (1986-1990)  
 Lesley Murgatroyd née Brash (1959-1962)  
 Lois J Robinson (1959-1962)  
 Lois Miller née Fenton (1949)  
 Lorraine Pound - Principal  
 Lynley Sheweiry - Co-President  
 Margaret Kirby née Chambers  
 Mary Dunkley née Taylor (1952-1953)  
 Michelle Allbury (2009-2013)  
 Robyn Bridgeman née Michaels (1949-1952)  
 Romola Ashby née Grant (1949)  
 Rosemary Brock née Thorpe (1949-1952)  
 Stephen Levet - June Levett's son  
 Tric Milner - Deputy Principal  
 Virginia Bishop née Bryant (1983-1985)



*1949 and 1959 Reunion Luncheon Guests*



*Katharine Collins*



*Alwyn Munroe & Patricia Maud*



*Virginia Bishop*



*Gay Roberts, Lorraine Pound, Tric Milner & Di Mabin*



*Jenny Rawlings, Lynley Sheweiry & Katharine Collins*

### Homestay Families Required for Term 3

We –The International Department- are approaching you today because you are part of this incredible family which we are all proud to belong to called Epsom Girls Grammar School, and because your past student life here can make the experience of an International student truly exceptional.

Alumnae such as yourself, add an incredible personal element to the way new International students can “learn to live our school”. By hosting an international student you would enjoy sharing your experience and being part of the learning journey our international students embark on.

The International Students starting in Term 3 are here for long and short term, come from Asia and Europe and require Homestay accommodation for which NZ \$295.00 per week is paid to cover full board and internet. If you have a spare room and live within close distance to Epsom Girls Grammar School we would look forward to hearing from you.

Please call Jo Bostock or Florence Huang on 970 6757 for further information or email [accommodation@eggs.school.nz](mailto:accommodation@eggs.school.nz)

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Greetings friends, and thank you for the invitation to the Annual Morning Tea. I regret that I shall not be attending – old age now keeps me close to home (on the North Shore).

The relationship with EGGS never fades of course – the leadership, the teaching and the friends one has made – stay with one, and with special affection. I was very happy to be in Auckland for the 100th Anniversary Celebrations and taking part in a class gathering was extra special!

Re classmates – those of my era living today in Auckland like to meet up for an annual luncheon, and happily there can be regular contact in between.

Thanks for your special work – and the news you send us. Warmly appreciated!

*Nancy Mullins (nee Hart) EGGS 1952-57*

### OGA AGM

We hope you will join us for our 99th AGM on Monday 10th June at 7pm. We are thrilled that the EGGS Board of Trustees' Chairman, Chris Isles, will be attending – a great opportunity for you to meet him and for him to get to know some of our members.

In addition to formal business and acknowledging new Honorary Members, there will be time for mixing and mingling over drinks and nibbles. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Erratum:** The article about Vivienne Crawshaw in our April 2019 Newsletter stated she was admitted to the Bar in 1977 – this should be 1987! Many apologies to Vivienne.

### Save the Date - 2019

AGM .....	Monday 10th June
Founders Assembly .....	Tuesday 18th June
Graduation Dinner .....	Tuesday 3rd December
OGA CENTENARY YEAR 100th Celebration .....	Friday 26th/Saturday 27th March 2021 (tbc)