Striving for the highest
As the year draws to a close it is with great pride that I can reflect on 2011 as a year of considerable success for Pymble. Staff, students, parents, Council members and special guests celebrated our student’s success at magnificent end of year awards ceremonies which featured special guests Bernard Salt at the Secondary School Speech Night and past student Ellyse Perry at the Junior School Speech Day.

This issue of the Pymbulletin showcases our stories of success, from the sporting field where our students have been crowned the NSW champions in basketball to our Year 10 students claiming the award of the NSW Best Illustration Secondary School category of Write-a-Book-in-a-Day competition.

Even our 2011 Garden Party was our biggest and best on record! Students have shone in their community service responsibilities with some remarkable fund raising efforts achieved, including more than $12,000 raised by a group of four girls who cycled for 300 kilometres from Pymble to Crookwell to raise money for children in Cambodia. In 2011, a total of $101,000 was raised for charity, a remarkable achievement.

This semester we have farewelled our 2011 Year 12 cohort and welcomed Year 12 2012 with a special Student leaders Induction Ceremony. Our student leaders take pride in their leadership duties and are fine role models to all Pymble students to live the College motto and strive for the highest in all endeavours.

Students have captivated audiences in brilliant productions of The Crucible, Bite Sized Pieces and Messiah and our Parent Groups have once again had an eventful and successful end of year.

In October we welcomed Reverend Lorenzo Rodriguez Torres to share the role of College Chaplain with our current Chaplain, Pastor Greer Dokmanovic. The profile on Reverend Rodriguez Torres on page 5 confirms he is enjoying his role at Pymble.

2011 has also been a memorable year in the history of the College. Celebrating 95 years is quite an achievement in the education arena and I look forward to celebrating future successes at Pymble in years to come.

Mrs Vicki L Waters
PRINCIPAL
Fond memories for Head Prefect

Jessica Drummer, Head Prefect

I will be forever grateful for my past nine years here at Pymble Ladies’ College, for the support and wisdom I have received from the passionate staff, for the strong friendships I have formed and for the unlimited sporting, cultural and academic opportunities offered to all Pymble girls.

As I move on to another chapter in my life I will always hold dear the friendships of fellow students and staff, the wins and losses on the sporting fields, the College values and the wonderful feeling of community and enthusiasm present when you walk around the beautiful College grounds. As Pymble girls we are today, Pymble girls we will always be.
2012 Student Leaders induction ceremony

The 2012 Student Leaders were inducted at a special ceremony held in the Jeanette Buckham Physical Education Centre on Wednesday 19 October.

At the service attended by the College community, including Council members, staff and parents, each girl was presented to the Secondary School and bestowed with their badges.

Nikki Raftopulos, Head Prefect for 2012, was presented with the Head Prefect’s bible, a tradition which has been practised since 1997 with every Head Prefect since this time signing and handing down the special bible to their successor.

The students were presented with their Charge of Duties and asked to carry out their duties as student leaders of the College with dignity, responsibility and humility.

The College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, called upon the students of Year 12 to “set a high example for all others to follow and to support one another and encourage all within the College to strive for the highest in every area of endeavour.”

College Prefects 2012
Head Prefect
Nikki Raftopulos
Deputy Head Prefect
Suzannah Bownes
Boarding Head Prefect
Philippa Kensit
Boarding Deputy Head Prefect
Zoe Warden
Captain of Community Service
Jacqueline King
Deputy Captain of Community Service
Cristina Carter
Captain of Music and The Arts
Rebecca Gulia
Deputy Captain of Music and The Arts
Hannah Gwatkin
Captain of Sport
Lilian Zhu
Deputy Captain of Sport
Grace Ellis

House Captains 2012
Bennett House Captains
Sarika Suresh and Amanda Woolf
Goodlet House Captains
Philippa Bean and Aleisha Wawn
Hammond House Captains
Mette Jorgensen and Grace Rowe
Ingleholme House Captains
Jana Birkby and Clara Strandhoj
Lang House Captains
Freya McGahey and Rachael Soutar
Marden House Captains
Eleanor Agnew and Georgia Pretty
Thomas House Captains
Isabelle Cherry and Karen Nes
Wylie House Captains
Lillian Fenwicke and Nicole Zhou

Student Representative Council
Miranda Aitken, Ellen Dobrijievic, Evelyn Foster, Matilda Howard, Joy Jin, Chelsea Shear, Isabella Walker, Madeline Wilson and Amanda Yao

Preparatory School Liaison
Alanna Irwin, Eliza Taylor and Madeleine Thornton

Junior School Liaison
Alexandra Krautli, Sophia Marcolongo and Georgia Pryce

Middle School Liaison
April Evans, Josie McCutcheon, Evangeline Murdoch and Kayla Wilson

Upper School Liaison
Micha Birkby, Lara Boyle, Kate Heal and Lisa Wang

Senior School Liaison
Julia Walsh and Alice Wells

Boarding Prefects 2012
Marden House
Irene Cigna
Community Service
Rachel Lin
Sport
Ella Merritt
BRC and The Arts
Georgia Muir
New Chaplain joins the College community

Clara Strandhoj, Year 11

The College community has warmly welcomed Reverend Lorenzo Rodriguez Torres who commenced at the College in October to share the role of College Chaplain with the current Chaplain, Pastor Greer Dokmanovic.

Born in France and raised by Spanish parents, Reverend Lorenzo Rodriguez Torres has certainly found a place in the multi-cultural, multi-faith environment at Pymble.

Previously working in the Gordon Uniting Church, ‘Rev Lorenzo’, as he has affectionately been nicknamed, has also had experience working with different religions. “Regardless of deities or scriptures everyone believes in similar things,” said Reverend Rodriguez Torres.

Glancing around at a Junior School Assembly, and seeing the gathering of students from different backgrounds, Reverend Rodriguez Torres said it reflected “the embodiment of world peace”, a testament to his positive first impression of the College.

With three sons, he is enjoying working with girls, commenting on how much energy the students have. “There’s a different rhythm here,” said Reverend Rodriguez Torres, as the jazz band strikes up from beneath his office. The Religious education department, situated at the top of the music building, works to the beat of the surrounding rooms, something the Reverend is really enjoying.

Reverend Rodriguez Torres is eager to get to know the girls and their families, a challenge he has already begun at numerous assemblies and College events.

Pymble commemorates Remembrance Day

Joy Jin, Year 11

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 2011 the College held a Remembrance Day service, commemorating the 93rd anniversary of the 1918 Armistice which declared the end of World War I.

Students and staff were extremely fortunate to be joined by guest speaker, acclaimed journalist and author Peter FitzSimons AM, a former Wallabies player and media personality, who presented a moving speech to students about the importance of remembering the efforts of soldiers who gave their lives for Australia and to reflect on the horrors of war.

Led by History Captains Alexandra Krautil and Joy Jin, students joined in one minute silence to reflect upon and remember the men and women who have contributed to the war efforts in not only World War I, but other military conflicts throughout Australian history.

Mr FitzSimons’ visit was made possible by the Ex-Students’ Union which provided a grant for him to address the service and to also work with Year 10 History and English students and Year 12 Extension History and Extension English students. He also chatted informally with the girls at a special lunch in the Conde Library. Mr FitzSimons is the author of numerous books, including Kokoda and Tobruk.
Semester 2 has been an exciting and busy time for the Preparatory School as the staff continued to provide the best possible education through the nurturing of each student’s innate abilities and cultivating their intellectual, social, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual development.

The Preparatory School curriculum extends the girls’ natural curiosity fostering an inquiry approach to ensure a life-long love of learning. Pymble’s five core values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility, are embedded in every aspect of the curriculum to provide high-quality learning. Girls are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves and others by showing care and respect and developing a lifelong concern for one another. The girls learn to take responsibility for the way their behaviour affects others and the positive impact this has both here at the College and at home with family and friends.

The caring and experienced Preparatory School staff continue to engage in professional development opportunities to ensure they remain up to date in the latest teaching practices and technologies.

Spring has sprung

Spring arrived in Kindergarten with the blooming of our daffodils inspiring some beautiful artwork from the girls that brightened up their classrooms. Our swimming program resumed, just in time for the burst of warmer weather, preparing the girls for our much anticipated Preparatory School Swimming Carnival. This semester the girls have also been investigating the five senses as part of our Science and Technology unit. As we approach Christmas the girls have enjoyed a variety of Bible stories learning about festive celebrations from around the world. A number of new songs and dances were also learned for the College Christmas Carols Night which were warmly received.

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Why should we recycle? How does waste affect our environment? What can I do to help save our planet?

These and many more were just some of the thought provoking questions that Year 1 pondered as part of their Term 3 Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) topic ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle’. To do our part in helping to protect our precious environment, Year 1 spent a fun-filled Enviro Day building a new worm farm, eating rubbish free lunches and playing all sorts of exciting games that the Junior School EnviroKids so kindly made for the girls out of recycled materials. This wonderful experience led the way for a visit from Nicole, a volunteer from the organisation ‘Reverse Garbage’ who visited Year 1 with boxes of recycled materials that the girls spent a fun morning using to create their very own moving toys. As part of their investigation into ‘Living Things,’ the girls also decided to test just how green their thumbs were by planting a Year 1 vegetable garden. After a few weeks of tender love and care, the girls spent an exciting afternoon harvesting their garden and enjoying a deliciously healthy salad snack.
Dances, art and storytelling...

The HSIE topic immersed the Year 2 girls in Indigenous culture during Term 3. They were treated to a special visit from the performance group “IndigDance” where the girls spent a morning celebrating and learning about Aboriginal and Torres Straight Island cultures. The students participated in traditional dance classes, art and storytelling activities and enjoyed a performance of Indigenous dances and songs.

International food expo

The Year 2 girls have been engaged in inquiry units in both Science and HSIE. The science topic for Term 3 involved learning about healthy food. The girls discovered which foods provide energy, which is used to build and repair their bodies, which help the body ward off disease and which foods should be consumed in moderation. This fascinating topic culminated in an International Food Expo, where the girls were able to sample healthy foods from around the world. The Year 2 Practical Area looked and smelt like an International Food Market and a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all. It was interesting to see how adventurous the girls were in their selection of new foods that they had never tried before. The gourmands of the future!

A visit to the Art Gallery of NSW provided the girls with a firsthand opportunity to view and appreciate some of the original artworks of several Australian artists, such as Tom Roberts, Margaret Preston and William Dobell along with works from other notables artists such as Jackson Pollock and Pablo Picasso highlighting their use of drip techniques, cubism and abstract portraiture. Year 2 learned about form, medium, technique and style, and even created their own landscapes, still life artworks and portraits. Inspiration for their own artwork was gained by studying the creations and processes of other artists.

A circus of fun at the Preparatory School concert

The Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts was transformed into the main ring inside a huge circus tent from which the sights and sounds of hundreds of performing bugs could be seen performing their tricks as part of Blossom’s Fabulous Flea Circus at the Preparatory School Concert, The Wugliest Bug in November.
Visit by the Cerebral Palsy Alliance

Emma Cree and Jemma Charlin, Year 4

Year 4 was visited by Sam and Carina and their carers, Jenny and Garry, from the Cerebral Palsy Alliance during Term 4. We learnt about disabilities that some people have to face and how those people get on with their daily lives. Both Sam (who went to Pymble Ladies’ College Junior School) and Carina have cerebral palsy and it affects them in different ways. We were fascinated and amazed by their stories and inspired by the workbooks entitled Just Like You.

To experience what it may be like to have a disability we had to write with our non-dominant hand and communicate using sign language. It was fun for us but also hard to imagine doing it constantly. We were so lucky that we met these wonderful people and will always remember what we learnt from them.

Getaway visits Pymble

Ella Carnegie and Sydney Yoo, Year 3

Year 3 girls had the opportunity to meet the television show Getaway presenter Catriona Rowntree and producer John Walsh in Term 4. As we are learning about Christmas around the world, they gave us an exciting talk on how to present a travel show. After we watched two special video messages recorded especially for us by Jason Dundas (also from the show) and Catriona while they were on location filming one of their shows, they helped us become travel reporters. They showed us different and interesting ways to present a country or location to an audience and how to make a presentation interesting and exciting for the viewer.

After asking many questions and hearing about the many adventures Catriona Rowntree and John Walsh had experienced while filming Getaway, we were ready to research our own countries and make our own Getaway videos. We had such a memorable visit from Catriona and John - definitely one we will remember!

Excursion to Council Chambers

Zara Sved, Year 4

As part of our studies on Local Government Year 4 was given the opportunity to visit the Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers on 31 October. We travelled by train from Pymble to Gordon and walked to the Council Chambers where we learned how the Mayor and Councillors are elected and what roles they play within the community. We then held our own council meeting and debated the possibility of demolishing a local car park!

Chemistry lesson for Year 4

Katherine Green, Year 4

For Science Week, Year 4 went to the Secondary School Science Lab. We watched as the teacher shook a bottle of liquid. At first, we saw that the liquid inside was see-through, but when she shook it, it turned blue!

Next we went to the special desks. We saw all of the amazing equipment and then we spied the goggles. The teacher told us to put on the goggles to protect our eyes.

Then we started the experiments. They were dancing worms, tie-dyed milk, candle in a jar and Oobleck. I loved the tie-dyed milk. First you put milk into the container, next you put in the colour with the milk. Then you dipped a toothpick into detergent and just put the toothpick in the milk and all the colours spread away from the detergent on the toothpick. This is because they do not mix together.

I was so thankful for going to the Science Lab. I had a fantastic time!
Apology In the October issue of the Pymbulletin, the author credit of the story regarding the Young Care Foundation was incorrect. Arabella Hamilton of Year 5 was the correct author of the story.

Ellyse Perry at Junior School Speech Day

Elite sportswoman and Pymble ex-student, Ellyse Perry, was the guest speaker at the Junior School Speech Day held in the Jeanette Buckham Physical Education Centre on 30 November.

“It was an honour and privilege to welcome Ellyse to Pymble,” said College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. Ellyse, who graduated from Pymble in 2008, is the youngest person to represent Australia in cricket and at just 16 years of age, she was the first Australian woman to represent her country in both cricket and football. In her final year at the College, Ellyse held the roles of Captain of Athletics, Captain of Cricket, Captain of Football, Sports Captain and Prefect. What an inspiration Ellyse was!

5M’s Rainforest Investigations

Jazmine Liubinskas, Year 5

Year 5 studied the subject ‘Rainforests’ for Human Society and Its Environment during Term 4. We all thoroughly enjoyed this experience and we had many excellent ideas to share and build upon. One of our many fun tasks was to compile a detailed spreadsheet highlighting our parents’ companies’ initiatives and strategies used to reduce the carbon footprint.

The project involved constructing a display of food containers, wrappers, packets and objects found in our houses that were Rainforest Alliance accredited. Students also reported on initiatives that their parents had done at home and at work that were eco-friendly. Some items that 5M presented included a poster displaying pictures of many different brands that were eco-friendly and Rainforest Alliance accredited, a PowerPoint explaining the difference between hardwoods and softwoods and the benefits of each and a PowerPoint about what is done by a girl’s parents to minimise their carbon footprint.

It was interesting to brainstorm and discover the different methods companies use to save rainforests, or strive to achieve that goal.

The Treasure Within

The GMCPA became the setting for swash buckling adventures when the Year 6 musical, The Treasure Within, entertained audiences in September. Every girl in Year 6 had the opportunity to portray an interesting character, whilst experiencing the process of performing a musical.

Apology In the October issue of the Pymbulletin, the author credit of the story regarding the Young Care Foundation was incorrect. Arabella Hamilton of Year 5 was the correct author of the story.
Pymble students ride 300km for charity

A visit to the Sunshine House orphanage in Cambodia inspired Pymble students to cycle from Pymble to Crookwell, 300km south of Sydney from 26 to 28 November and raise $12,000 for the orphanage.

Year 11 students, Philippa Kensit and Laura Mackenzie, visited Vietnam and Cambodia in 2010 on a school tour which included working with the children and helping with maintenance duties at the orphanage. “I decided to do something mentally and physically stimulating to make a difference to the lives of these children,” said Philippa, a boarder at Pymble, whose family lives in Crookwell.

Philippa and Laura recruited the commitment of fellow Year 11 students, Aleisha Wawn and Phoebe Donovan and teacher Miss Erin Crawford to join them on the bike ride challenge. Southbound Adventures assisted the Pymble crew, ensuring optimal road safety procedures and management of the ride.

“The ride was one of the greatest experiences we have ever had,” said Aleisha. “It was both mentally and physically challenging, however knowing that the funds raised from the ride would benefit the children in Cambodia made it all worthwhile.”

A special welcome ceremony attended by staff and students from Pymble and the local community was held at St Michael’s Primary School, Crookwell on 28 November to congratulate the girls on their ride and raise awareness of children in Cambodia.

The Sunshine House Orphanage is run by Awareness Cambodia, an Australian overseas not-for-profit aid organisation. The money raised will go directly to Awareness Cambodia and its programs to support the children and young people in Cambodia who have been primarily affected by HIV/AIDS.

Bandana Day helps CanTeen

Amanda Yao, Year 11

A group of Year 11 students from Thomas House assisted in CanTeen’s Bandana Day effort travelling to Camperdown on 24 October to help pack bandanas in boxes for distribution in preparation for National Bandana Day on 28 October.

Bandanas sold at Pymble were worn by many students in a variety of fashion trends all raising awareness and money for CanTeen. A total of $1,299.60 was raised by Pymble for the charity.

“Helping at CanTeen was an incredibly humbling experience, and embraced the sense of community that thrives in the organisation,” said Karen Nes, a co-captain of Thomas House.

CanTeen supports young people aged 12 to 24 who are living with cancer. The first National Bandanna Day was held in 1994. Since then, it has grown to become one of the biggest not-for-profit fundraising and awareness raising events in Australia. Every year, almost one million CanTeen bandannas are sold around the country.

CanTeen was the charity selected by Thomas House to support in 2011.

Pymble supports Pink Ribbon Day

Bethany McGauley, Year 11

Throughout the month of October Pymble girls were encouraged to wear pink and donate to the Cancer Council through Pink Ribbon Day. Held on 24 October, pink broaches were worn by students across the College in support of those suffering from breast cancer. In the lead up to Pink Ribbon Day, Year 12 Wylie House students sold pins, pens, teddies, key chains and other merchandise items to raise funds in support of the charity.

Wylie House nominated the Cancer Council Pink Ribbon Day as its charity initiative for 2011 with the hope of raising awareness and funds to help in the early prevention and patient support programs conducted by the Cancer Council throughout Australia.

Pymble raised a generous donation of $1,261.60, a tremendous effort.

History lecture raises money for Sunshine House

James Harpur, a published author and authority on the history of Vietnam and Cambodia, presented a lecture on The Conflict in Indochina to Year 12 Modern History students on 13 September. This is an annual lecture also used as an opportunity for Year 12 Modern History students to raise money for the Sunshine House Orphanage in Cambodia. This year students raised $900 for the orphanage through the sale of tickets to attend the lecture.
Jacaranda Day Service supports the Exodus Foundation

Evangeline Murdoch, Year 11

Despite the inclement weather, the spirit of Jacaranda Day remained strong when it was celebrated on Thursday 17 November in the Jeanette Buckham Physical Education Centre. Baskets filled with food surrounded a Christmas tree and presents were donated by girls in the Preparatory School.

The 2011 service was conducted by the Preparatory School and featured the College’s inaugural Community Service Captains of 2009, Natasha Freeman and Katherine Nguyen as guest speakers. Natasha and Katherine spoke to the girls about the importance of preparing oneself for life’s challenges and to take a ‘leap of faith’ to meet those challenges.

The beautiful voices of the Preparatory School Choir provided a delightful musical interlude during the service before the final item sung by all girls in the Preparatory School, a delightful song composed by Preparatory School Music teacher, Ms Amanda Stelcova, Jacaranda Blue.

To conclude the service, two Preparatory School students placed a gift under the tree, symbolising the importance of the service and the act of giving to those in need. The Jacaranda spirit was felt throughout the day, as the students wore purple ribbons and the staff dressed in purple.

Food baskets and gifts donated by students across the College for the Jacaranda Day Service were sent to the Exodus Foundation to help those in need during Christmas.

Pymble screams for ice-cream!

Philippa Bean, Year 11

The spirit Houses at Pymble are a source of boundless amounts of team spirit and competition and they are also responsible for individual charities and fundraising efforts for their chosen charity each year.

The ingenuity of Bennett House Captains for 2012, Amanda Woolf and Sarika Suresh was clearly demonstrated through their unprecedented idea of an ice cream stall to raise funds for Youth Off The Streets.

Girls flocked to the stall enticed by the opportunity to indulge in a variety of combinations such as Year 11 student, Sarah Foster, who selected rainbow ice cream with chocolate sauce and sprinkles.

The event was well received and enjoyed by Pymble students and staff. Funds raised by Bennett House’s ice-cream day totalled $560 and will go towards helping Youth Off The Streets provide opportunities to homeless and disadvantaged youth who face abuse and neglect, allowing them to realise their full potential.

Prestigious Guides award

Year 12 students, Shauna Winchester and Emily Jackson were presented with the Queen’s Guide Award at Government House by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO on 12 November.

This is highest award in the Guiding community and represents commitment to service, leadership, the outdoors and the community.
Write-a-Book-in-a-Day

Pymble was triumphant in the 2011 Write-a-Book-in-a-Day competition when the state and national awards announced in early November that the College’s Year 10 team won the NSW Best Illustrations Secondary School category for its book, *Falling through the Lens* and the Year 9 team placed second in the Secondary Schools NSW category for its book, *Water for Wombats*.

Write-a-Book-in-a-Day is a literary and fundraising initiative of the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers Centre and Princess Margaret Hospital WA Foundation with proceeds supporting Westmead Children’s Hospital Oncology Ward.

The competition, conducted in October which attracted more than 70 teams, required students to write and illustrate a book in one day based on a set of criteria.

The Year 10 team, Aditi Aiyer, Ann Ding, Cindy Feng, Maggie Kerr, Chloe Kim, Mehar Pathak, Julie Wong, Rebekah Wright, Chantelle Yeung and Elissa Zhang were required to weave a story about an archaeologist, beef stroganoff and arson!

The Year 9 team, Gemma Smith, Phoebe Lind, Sarah-Jane Lowe, Helen Zhang, Joyce Yu, Devna Luthra, Sunny Lei, Charlotte Woodland, Stephanie Stuart and Penelope Mugford used the parameters of a princess, waiter, wombat, disco and water restriction to create a story about a girl and a waiter who go on an impromptu quest to save the wombats at Cradle Mountain from extinction.

Author reveals insight into the past

*Jamie Sripunporn and Emily McBurney, Year 11*

Renowned Australian author Anna Funder spoke to Year 11 Extension English and History students about her first, award-winning nonfiction text *Stasiland: Stories from behind the Berlin Wall* on Monday 7 November. Her inspiring words enlightened both teachers and students as she shared her experiences and knowledge of East Berlin towards the end of the Cold War.

Students gained an insight into the lives of people who lived under the German Democratic Republic at that time, showing the impact that this regime had on these people’s lives. Anna’s book and her speech reflected the importance of recording memory and preserving history and its implications, in order to help current and future generations face the difficult questions of the past. Anna Funder also is the author of *All That I Am*. 
Pymble girls shine in Festival of Speech

Sarika Suresh, Year 11

Pymble has once again received outstanding results at the annual AHIGS Festival of Speech, claiming third place in the Senior Division and third place overall. Public speaking, debating, drama and other speaking events at the festival provided girls with an opportunity to present in a public forum, with critical thinking and delivery techniques showcased in every section.

Competing against 28 other independent schools across NSW, Pymble girls attained amazing results, including the Current Affairs team of Joy Jin, Ankita Kapoor and Sarika Suresh of Year 11, who received second place in a close final against PLC Sydney. Cynthia Jeong and Christine Wang, attained third and fifth place in their respective sections of Senior Readings and Senior Poetry.

All girls displayed great passion, enthusiasm and talent, and must be applauded for their contribution to Pymble’s overall resounding success at the festival.

Bernard Salt at Secondary School Speech Night

Pymble’s end of year awards ceremonies are a celebration of excellence and significant achievements in the College year. The 2011 Secondary School Speech Night held in the Jeanette Buckham Physical Education Centre on Friday 25 November was a grand event featuring leading business advisor, author, media commentator and KPMG Partner, Bernard Salt, as the guest speaker.

“Bernard Salt’s speech on future trends provided an inspiration to students from Years 7 to 12,” said Mrs Vicki Waters, Principal.

The Chair of College Council, Mr Braith Williams and Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, also addressed the students and guests at the ceremony. Prizes and awards were presented to students in recognition of their achievements throughout the year and musical items were provided by the School Choir, Pymble Chorale and Symphony Orchestra.

Mr Salt has established an international reputation as a trend forecaster for business and government and is a leading media commentator and regular columnist for The Australian. He is the author of best-selling books, The Big Tilt, Man Drought, The Big Picture and The Big Shift.
The drama students’ performance of Arthur Miller’s classic play, The Crucible, was a superb production which saw the audience captivated by the convincing characters assumed by the cast and the general excitement of the plot.

Performed in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts in October, the use of an audiovisual device in opening the play provided another dimension through which the audience could observe the professional nature of the cast’s performance and presented a highly unique interpretation of the original text.

The film in the opening scene of the play also established an authentic atmosphere for the setting of the Salem community in the late 1600s. The set itself was finely constructed, and truly complemented the wonderful acting the girls displayed; the combination of the two elements made the performance highly engaging and memorable for the audience.

The girls’ ability to embody their specific character and perform their parts with such conviction is testament to the flourishing acting talent of the drama students. Clara Strandhoj of Year 11, who played Reverend Hale in the production said, “Working on a production as renowned and challenging as The Crucible was a phenomenal experience; the cast truly feels we had found something special together, and we were very excited to put on Arthur Miller’s classic!”

All girls involved are to be congratulated for their remarkable performance; the immense effort which the cast and crew contributed to the production was clearly shown. Special mention must go to Alanna Irwin (Abigail Williams), Emily Bird (Reverend Parris), Zoë Miller Stubbs (John Proctor), Clara Strandhoj (Reverend Hale), Nicola Bowman (Elizabeth Proctor) and Miranda Aitken (Deputy Governor Danforth).

Pymble’s production of Miller’s The Crucible was highly enjoyable not only for the girls involved in the performance itself, but also for the audience who were fortunate enough to receive an insight into the inspiring talent of the drama students.
**Bite Sized Pieces a grand performance**

*Cerise Kofoed, Year 10*

*Bite Sized Pieces*, a showcase of outstanding drama performances by students in Years 9 to 11 held in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts on 14 September was an evening to remember.

Year 9 students explored the angst felt by parents and teenagers in growing up and adolescence by performing excerpts from Manuel Aston’s *Fossils*. Year 10 students explored Australian realism in Michael Gow’s *Away* as well as a range of group devised works. The negative effects of bullying and body image expectations as inspired by Brazilian theatre director, Augusto Boal was reflected in the dramatic works by Year 10 students. Year 11 drama students explored ‘absurdism’ as well as the place of women in society and religion in their self-devised works.

*Bite Sized Pieces* was an outstanding night at the theatre and a true testament to the skills of Pymble drama students. The performances were highly effective, exploring a range of theatrical styles all with their distinct ideas and characters and the pieces, while small and bite sized, were packed full of entertainment.

**Pymble and Knox present Messiah**

Handel’s magnificent oratorio *Messiah*, a joint collaboration between Pymble Ladies’ College and Knox Grammar School saw more than 130 students and ex-students perform in the Great Hall at Knox on Sunday 27 November and in the War Memorial Chapel at Pymble on Thursday 1 December.

More than 70 Pymble students joined 60 Knox students and ex-students to perform many of the great arias and choruses of this much-loved Christmas oratorio. Students rehearsed for six months and the production was a year in the planning.

“It is thrilling to witness the students so engaged in this magnificent music,” said Pymble Ladies’ College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “Presenting such a historic production is enriched by the combined performances of students from Knox Grammar School and Pymble Ladies’ College.”

Joint directors of the project, Mrs Sabina Turner, Director of Music at Pymble Ladies’ College and Ms Erszi Marosszeky, Director of Knox Gallery Choir, said the depth of talent was quite amazing and it was inspiring to see the students working together so creatively to present such a fabulous production.

The choir of more than 100 students and soloists was beautifully supported by a student Chamber Orchestra to recreate an enchanting rendition of Handel’s *Messiah* which delighted the audiences.

**Artistic talents on show in cake decorating**

A collection of 84 beautifully decorated cakes by Year 9 Food Technology students was showcased in a special display in the TAS building on 24 November. ‘Celebration Cakes’ is included in the Food Technology unit, Food for Special Occasions. The students spent six lessons making fruit cakes and decorating their cakes.

Also on display were gingerbread houses made by Year 10 Food Technology students, ‘Quilts for a Cause’ – quilts made by Year 10 Textiles Technology students to be given to people in need and amazing quilted book covers made by Year 9 Textiles Technology students.
A French impression for students
Amanda Yao, Year 11
A group of excited French students took the train to the city to attend a day of French culture at Alliance Française on 20 September. After a French-themed lunch of baguettes, hot chocolate and some classic French food in the Alliance Française café, the students were treated to classes on the historical and practical perspectives of the French revolution. “It was like taking a little trip to France,” said French student Clara Strandhoj. “We were immersed in the language, which was the best way to learn”.

Amazing experiences on China tour
Alanna Irwin, Year 11
Students from Years 10 and 11 set off to China during the spring holiday break for two weeks on a cultural school tour. It was a fantastic experience encompassing some amazing sight-seeing and educational experiences. Our adventures ranged from riding large camel caravans in the Gobi Desert to the peaceful heights of the Langzhou ‘Dragon’s back’ rice terraces.

The trip enabled us to extend ourselves educationally, culturally and personally as I can now say that I have officially climbed the Great Wall of China! We visited the farthest reaches of the Tibetan plateau, sharing Yak yoghurt with rosy-cheeked farmers in a warm, little hut. Visiting the beautiful Summer Palace and watching a magnificent light show of hundreds of illuminated performers, whose costumes were fashioned with light bulbs was an unforgettable experience. We explored the city of Xi’an and saw the amazing site of the Terracotta Warriors. We’ve seen the sunsets, the cotton farms, the temples, the cutest babies carted through the Hutongs of Beijing in rickshaws and became accustomed to the standard ‘Lazy Susans’ during lunch. We’ve tasted the good, the bad and the delicious and we’ll be itching to return to this wonderful country.

Cooking with the professionals
Evelyn Wong, Year 11
Year 11 hospitality students were thrilled when they had the opportunity to work with professional chefs in a commercial kitchen, preparing and serving quality food in September.

Students worked under the guidance of qualified and helpful chefs in award-winning restaurants, including Blackbird Café, Avondale Golf Club, Aqua Dining, Tablespoons, High Street Bistro and Aria Restaurant.

Assisting with tasks around the kitchen, students developed new skills and experienced a whole different side to restaurant dining. Working in a commercial kitchen allowed the students to experience the diligent atmosphere of the kitchen, the workflow of the kitchen and how commercial equipment is used on a day to day basis. As well as working first-hand in a commercial kitchen, the skilled chefs provided the students with an insight on what a career in the culinary arts is like and how to pursue cooking as a career.

After a week working under the guidance of the professional chefs, Lucy Messara said: “It was an amazing experience and I’ve definitely learnt so much from being in the workplace and learning from the professionals themselves.” Students reflected that they had benefited from the great opportunity and significantly developed their hospitality skills learning about working as a chef at well-known, quality restaurants.

Chomsky presentation
Stephanie Tanna, Year 10
A group of Year 10 students was privileged to attend a speech by Professor Noam Chomsky, the winner of the 2011 Sydney Peace Prize, at Sydney Opera House on 3 November.

Professor Noam Chomsky is a distinguished American linguist, social scientist and human rights campaigner. His presentation, titled Problems of Knowledge and Freedom, was conducted in an interview like format, with questions that were emailed in by viewers.

Professor Chomsky reflected on his beliefs relating to linguistics, global politics, human rights, responses to climate change and the nature of democracy. His thoughts on Obama’s presidency and the Arab-Israeli conflict were most interesting.

The Sydney Peace Prize is awarded to individuals or organisations in recognition of their contributions to global peace including improvements in personal security and steps towards eradicating poverty, and other forms of structural violence and whose work illustrates the philosophy and principles of nonviolence.
Students study ecosystem in Nelson Bay

Bethany McGauley, Year 11

An excursion to Samurai Beach at Nelson Bay in late November provided Year 11 geography students with the opportunity to further understand the mechanisms of ecotourism and how as a society we interact with our environment. The trip was part of an assessment task based on research completed during fieldwork over the two day camp. Samurai Beach Resort was a perfect place to undertake the HSC fieldwork as it exhibited multiple ecotourism aspects.

Students spent copious amounts of time studying the local environment and how tourism impacts the environment and also found time to go dolphin watching and use the resort’s brilliant facilities. The two day camp provided a fun and educational experience for all.

Flowers for the Queen

Year 9 student, Eliza Ronan, was one of four choristers from the Australian Girls Choir to present a posie of flowers to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at the Prime minister’s Reception for Queen Elizabeth II in the Great Hall at Parliament House in Canberra on Friday 21 October.

Eliza was introduced to the Queen by the Prime Minister of Australia, The Honourable Julia Gillard MP, after the choir performed ‘God Save The Queen’ and ‘Advance Australia Fair’ with the Australian Military Band.

The event was attended by a number of key political, business, entertainment and sporting leaders.

Classics Camp promotes Latin

Dr Emily Matters, Head of Classics

The 2011 Classics Camp, an annual event conducted since 1976 by the Classical Languages Teachers Association, attracted 150 Year 8 students from 15 schools, including 18 students from Pymble. Held at the Elanora Conference Centre on the weekend of 9 to 11 September, students participated in a range of fun activities including a gladiatorial re-enactment, bushwalking, art and design, Latin lotto, playacting, sports and a Latin trivia quiz.

Latin students said they enjoyed the activities and the friendships they formed with Latin students from so many different schools.

Australian Business Week

Roll call and school uniforms were replaced by corporate dress and trade displays for Year 10 students from 15 to 22 November as they learnt about the intricacies of running a business during Australian Business Week (ABW).

With the assistance of mentors and advice gained from key presentations by practicing experts in their fields, the students learnt about the fundamentals of producing a company report, making a video commercial, marketing, conducting meetings and setting up a trade display. The culmination of the week was the final judging of the students’ work with the team of students known as ‘Lusso Hotels’ claiming first prize in the ABW awards.
Pymble took home the overall Champion School trophy for the 7th consecutive year, winning by over 20 points, at the 40th Annual IGSSA Gymnastics Carnival held at the State Sports Centre, Homebush on 28 October.

The team of Artistic and Rhythmic gymnasts led by captains Lara Smal and Lilian Zhu, was armed with a great sense of spirit, enthusiasm and support for each other. Level 1-6 Artistic teams and Level 4-10 Rhythmic Individuals and Category 2 and 5 groups competed well, being awarded second and third respectively in the separate divisions. The girls were cheered on by the College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, teachers, members of the Prefect Body and the entire Year 7 grade, spectators at the event.

Swimming Carnival

The Secondary School interhouse Swimming Carnival was held at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre, Homebush on Monday 21 November. It was a fantastic day with great participation and House spirit. Dressed in a fabulous display of House colours, girls cheered on their team mates from the pool sidelines. There were some outstanding results from the carnival, including eight records broken in freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and individual medley events in the 13 years, 15 years, 16 years, 17 years, senior and open divisions.
The Pymble Snow Sports team has enjoyed its most successful season ever. The Northern NSW Regional Championships were once again dominated by Pymble skiers and snow boarders of all levels. Forty-six Pymble competitors from Years 1 to 12 competed throughout the week at Perisher in a variety of events including Moguls, Skier X, Alpine, Snowboard X and Snowboard GS.

In 2011, the Snow Sports Training and Race Camp was introduced to the Snow Sports Program. Over the ‘Pymble Long Weekend’, Miss Craig, Mr Kindred, Miss Bennett and Miss Purcell accompanied 18 enthusiastic racers down to Perisher to undergo five days of intensive training and racing. One of the camp highlights was the Cross Country Skiing component. Girls were taught to Cross Country ski and then they all competed in the NSW Interschools Cross Country Championships; as a result, Pymble was awarded the Secondary Champion School for 2011. This event led into the State Championships where a total of 34 Pymble girls from Years 1 to 12 competed against the best in the state. These Championships were once again held in Perisher and once again Pymble showed its strength in all areas of Snow Sports. Pymble was placed fourth in the Primary category behind Jindabyne Central school, Newport Public and Ascham. Pymble was also placed fourth in the secondary category behind Snowy Mountains Grammar, SCECGS Redlands and PLC Sydney. This is a great achievement considering that we are the first school to place that does not have a winter campus. As a result, 22 Pymble girls qualified for the National Championships in Falls Creek. National Snow Sports in Fall Creek was a special week for all involved. Every single Division 1 team that Pymble Ladies’ College entered ended up on the Podium. The College was placed fourth in the overall point score for secondary girls – this was impressive considering that only Victorian schools were ahead of us.

Snow Sports success
Miss Katie Craig, Snow Sports Co-ordinator

The Pymble Firsts Basketball Team won the NSW Champion Cup on 12 September, giving them the honour of being the best school team in the State.

The road to the NSW Champion Cup began for Pymble when they emerged champions at the 2011 NSWCIS tournament. This earned the girls with the opportunity to play the top schools from the Combined Catholic Colleges and the Combined High Schools in the prestigious Champion Cup.

The first game was against Westfields Sports High School. These girls train together every day as a team and have several state representatives in the team. Without a doubt the girls were nervous, but in a hard fought game they won by one basket in the closing seconds of the game. The final was against the other morning winner, St John College from Coffs Harbour. Again there were many players with big reputations to face but the Pymble girls led by tenacious captain Chloe Dalton came out on fire, claiming the title of State Champions 2011!
Boarders celebrate Rite of Passage

Meg Ryan and Gabi Browning, Year 9

The Boarders’ Rite of Passage ceremony was held on 18 November to celebrate the Year 9 and incoming Year 12 boarders’ move to the senior boarding houses of Goodlet and Lang.

The ceremony was attended by the Pymble boarding community, including the Director of Boarding, Mrs Deanne Elliot, Boarding House Supervisors, staff and boarders. Special guests included the College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, Deputy Principal, Mrs Julie Shaw, Head of Upper School, Mr Phil O’Regan, and Deputy Head of Upper School, Mrs Sue Knox, Pymble Chaplains, Pastor Greer Dokmanovic and Reverend Lorenzo Rodriguez Torres, and Miss Katie Howie and parents.

A highlight of the ceremony was the walk by Years 12 and 9 boarders to their new boarding houses, accompanied by the sounds of bagpiper Mr Mark Campbell. During the ceremony, led by Head Boarding Prefects for 2012 Philippa Kensit and Zoe Warden, Miss Howie presented an inspirational speech reflecting on her life as a boarder at Pymble and her journey since, finally returning full circle to Pymble as a Physical Education teacher.

In recognition of their progress from dependence to independence in the Boarding Houses, the girls received Celebration Day Certificates and their new Goodlet and Lang pennants. The event concluded with the girls running through a guard of honour formed by all their fellow boarders.

Pymble represented at Independent Schools’ Show in London

Pymble Ladies’ College was named one of the top five boarding schools in the world outside the United Kingdom in 2009 and as a result the College was once again invited to attend the Independent Schools Show (ISS) at Battersea Evolution in Battersea Park, London on 5 and 6 November 2011.

Representing the College at the show were the Director of Boarding, Mrs Deanne Elliott, and Promotions and Events Assistant, Mrs Margaret Craig.

The Independent Schools Show featured 140 of the best independent schools from across the United Kingdom and is a popular event for parents who are considering schooling options for their children. This is the third year that Pymble has exhibited, and interest and subsequent enquiries continue to grow following each visit.
The Pymble 2011 Garden Party was a magnificent day enjoyed by thousands of visitors to the College. Under brilliant blue skies College staff, students, ex-students, parents, members of the Pymble community and visitors enjoyed a fun day.

This year’s Garden Party was hailed our biggest and best so far, with $54,766 raised from the event. Proceeds from the Garden Party will be used towards the College’s centenary celebrations.

The Garden Party is a great Pymble tradition which first started as an annual event on 20 October 1956, 40 years after the College first opened. Prior to this the College held a Grand Fete in 1925 with proceeds supporting the swimming pool and in 1938 the Maypole Fair was conducted with funds raised supporting the Chapel fund.

In 1961 a notice promoting the Garden Party emphasised the importance of maintaining links with the Pymble community stating:

‘Our prime object is to bring together all past and present members and friends of the School. Ex-students will find this a good opportunity for meeting with one another and with new families. Members of the public are cordially invited. The second object is to provide entertainment for guests and an opportunity to augment the building fund. The School will be open for inspection and for special Form activities. Stalls will be held on the principles of an American Tea. Friends are asked to bring gifts for as wide a variety of stalls as possible.’

Fifty years later, the Pymble Garden Party still provides a good opportunity to see friends and meet new families and with more than 80 stalls at this year’s event, the Garden Party was a fabulous day enjoyed by all.
Melbourne Cup Luncheon

The 2011 Pymble Melbourne Cup Luncheon was a fabulous day enjoyed by more than 120 members of the Pymble community. Proceeds raised from the event supported the Pymble Indigenous Scholarship Program.

The College is very fortunate to have international tennis legend, Evonne Goolagong Cawley AO MBE as the Patron of the Pymble Indigenous Scholarship Program. Evonne was the guest speaker at the luncheon and spoke of her life journey and the opportunity she had to come to Sydney with the support of her community and how that changed her world.

The Indigenous Scholarship Program, which commenced in 2007, provides leadership and performance scholarships for indigenous students from remote and regional Australia. There are currently nine indigenous scholars realising their potential at the College.

Preparatory School Parent Group

Kylie Macdonald, PSPG Group Leader

A huge vote of thanks to all the parents who volunteered for the many Preparatory School Parent Group (PSPG) events this year.

It has been a wonderfully busy year including Cupcake Day, Father Daughter Dinner, Jeans for Genes Day Barbecue, refreshment stalls at the sports carnivals, morning teas, Garden Party and a family picnic. None of which could be possible without the dedication and time of the wonderful volunteers. Our daughters’ faces light up when they see their parents at the College helping out.

On behalf of the PSPG, I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday period. It has been a pleasure working alongside you all this year.

College Carols Night

Cerise Kofoid, Year 10

The Pymble Parent Association hosted a delicious barbecue at the annual College Carols Night on 29 November. It was a wonderful evening with the spirit of Christmas enjoyed by all.
Middle School Parent Group
Kerri Panos, MSPG Group Leader

Year 8 Father Daughter Breakfast
Year 8 girls and their dads enjoyed a delicious breakfast together in the foyer of the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts on 9 September.

Gingerbread House Making
Sticky fingers along with loads of lollies to use or be eaten were just part of the fun at the Middle School Parent Group (MSPG) Gingerbread House Making Evening on Thursday 11 November. There were so many beautiful Gingerbread Houses created on the night! 146 mothers, fathers and daughters attended the evening, creating their very own personal masterpiece. Thank you to everyone who attended and took part so enthusiastically in this event.

Junior School Parent Group
Gill Angus, JSPG Group Leader

The Junior School Parent Group (JSPG) conducted numerous events over the past months, including the ever-popular Fathers’ Day Stall, which was a huge success with all but a few items selling out on the first day.

The JSPG ran a Christmas Gift Stall for the Junior School girls on 22 November. Funds raised from the stall supported the Exodus Foundation.

Year 5 parents baked and decorated more than 50 dozen beautifully decorated Christmas cupcakes for sale at the Year 5 cupcake stall early in Term 4. Some of the proceeds from this event were donated to Westmead Children’s Hospital.

On Thursday 24 November Year 6 parents gathered at the David Macfarlane Centre for the end of Junior School Cocktail Party whilst their daughters attended a disco in the John Reid Hall, to mark the end of their Junior School years. It was a lovely evening despite the inclement weather and provided a lovely opportunity to catch up with old friends before the Christmas break.
President’s Report

2011 was a significant year marking the 95th anniversary of the founding of the College by Dr Marden on 8 February 1916. Ex-students have been an integral part of the history of the College over the last 95 years and it goes without saying that the College, and every student, teacher and parent who has been involved in this wonderful and exciting history, has much to be proud of. As formal representatives of former students, we have a responsibility not only to continue the traditions of the College, but to also work in partnership with the College to maximise the value of our connections and networks to make a relevant and valuable contribution to its future success.

Our year has been filled with celebrations not only of the 95th anniversary of the College, but with many other events to reunite past students with each other, bring past and present students together and to work with the College to contribute to the review of its strategic objectives as 2020 approaches.

During 2011 the Ex-Students’ Union (ESU) again funded the ESU Artist in Residence Program, made a financial contribution to the Senior School Centre - Kate Mason Building, continued its financial sponsorship of the Pymble Indigenous Scholarship Program, sponsored an Ex-Students’ Union hockey team, continued to sponsor an Ex-Students’ Union Scholarship, proudly featured the Ex-Students’ Union Choir at the annual Commemoration Day Chapel Service and at the College Carols Night, hosted a ‘Three-or-more Generations High Tea’ and worked with the Marketing and Communications Department at the College to assist with organising ten reunions during the year.

I thank each and every member of the ESU Committee for their dedication and enthusiasm in making all of this possible. My thanks also to the College, Mrs Vicki Waters and the Marketing and Communications team for their continued support.

Annual General Meeting

At the 82nd Ex-Students’ Union Annual General Meeting held on Friday 28 October 2011, the following members were elected as Office Bearers and Committee Members:

- Sue Everingham (Taylor, 1977) President
- Gill Ross-Edwards (Clarke, 1976) Vice President
- Sabah Hussein (2004) Treasurer
- Pauline Jackson (Turner, 1980) Assistant Treasurer
- Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987) Secretary
- Kristen Faahan-Smith (Wood, 1987) Assistant Secretary
- Wendy Dreyfus (Sherman, 1976)
- Angela Bean (Gapes, 1975)
- Edwina Fawcett (Seaton, 1986)
- Amelia Jacka (Thomas, 1996)
- Sheridan McMahon (Cox, 1990)
- Annie Corbett (1992)
- Ann Wright (Palmer, 1978)

We were delighted to welcome Sabah, Amelia, Sheridan and Annie to the Committee and farewell with a vote of sincere thanks Linda Lamberton (Satchwell, 1976), Christine Shute, Julie Opie (Doig, 1988), Fiona Thompson (1986) and Cath Parker (1986).

The President’s Report is prepared and read at each AGM. In preparing the report I review and report on all of the activities of the ESU over the past 12 months. As in previous years, you can find this Report on the College website under the Ex-Students’ Union tab. I invite you to read it and let me know of any questions or comments you may have about how we are doing.

The 2012 ESU AGM will be held on Thursday 25 October at 6.30pm in the Senior School Centre - Kate Mason Building. We will be providing a supper afterwards and all ex-students are welcome. Mark this date in your diary!

Calendar for 2012

Our big event for 2012 is our Art Show to be held from 18 to 20 May 2012 at the Lavendar Bay Gallery. We have had an overwhelming response to our request for expressions of interest so this is a must see event in your 2012 calendar.

We will also be hosting our ever popular Cocktail Party during Term 1 for the 2009/2010 leavers. Girls – check the College website regularly for information.

We also want to encourage more ex-students to come together in sport and music. We will again be proudly sponsoring our Ex-Students’ Union Hockey team and would love to hear from you if you are interested in joining this team. Or if you are interested in joining the Ex-Students’ Union Netball team, or in rowing on a Sunday morning with our small but dedicated group of ex-student rowers at Leichhardt Rowing Shed, let us know. We can also point you in the direction of our Ex-Students’ Union Choir if that is your passion. To find out more – just email us at esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au

All’ Ultimo Lavoro

Sue Everingham (Taylor, 1977) President
Pymble Ladies’ College Ex-Students’ Union Inc
esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au or PO Box 15, Pymble NSW 2073

ESU Art Show
18 – 20 May 2012
Lavender Bay Gallery, 25 Walker Street, North Sydney

ESU AGM 2012
Thursday 25 October 2012 at 6.30pm
Senior School Centre - Kate Mason Building
Three-or-more Generations High Tea

The ESU hosted a High Tea at the College on 22 October 2011 inviting all family members who are part of three or more generations of Pymble girls. The event was held on a beautiful afternoon in the Kate Mason Building – Senior School Centre and attended by more than 100 past, current and future Pymble girls. The ESU was thrilled to see the range of generations who attended, even down to girls yet to start at Pymble. Many wonderful stories and memories were exchanged, friendships rekindled and excitement from girls yet to attend Pymble. The ESU was honoured to welcome College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters and Chair of College Council, Mr Braith Williams to the High Tea.

Upcoming Reunions - 2012

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<td>Katrina Corcoran E: <a href="mailto:katrinacorcoran@yahoo.com">katrinacorcoran@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Sue Macdonald (Sevier) E: <a href="mailto:suemacdon@yahoo.com.au">suemacdon@yahoo.com.au</a></td>
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<td>Jean Single P: 07 3357 4752 E: <a href="mailto:js755420@bigpond.net.au">js755420@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
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<td>65 Year Reunion</td>
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<td>Jeanette Rickard (Mackenzie) P: 02 9144 1185 Barbara Knox (Blackwell) P: 02 9496 2528</td>
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Reunion reports

50th Ingleholme Kindergarten Reunion

A wonderful group of 20 friends enjoyed a very chatty lunch on Sunday 16 October at the home of Sally Gulson (Sherman, 1973) to celebrate 50 years since we all first met in Kindergarten at Ingleholme in 1961. There were screams of delight and recognition with many not having seen each other for more than 40 years! They had travelled (and Skyped) from overseas and interstate, however, the years fell away as we reminisced about Miss Pettit, Miss Terry, Mrs Strong, Mrs Crystal, our ‘fairy gardens’, the giant stride, lunch under the wisteria, satchels and friendships forged over vegemite sandwiches.

Our sincere thanks to the owners of Ingleholme who graciously and very generously opened their home and gardens for us to stroll at our leisure. As we lined the timber stairs in the front hall remembering morning assembly there, we laughed and joyfully sang the school song, “This is Pymble College, which we hold so dear…” Those little girls have travelled many different paths over the years, but we have been fortunate to hold in our hearts a connection founded in our early years at Ingleholme.

Photos can be seen at http://ingleholme50yearsinsinkindy1961.shutterfly.com/

Sally Gulson (Sherman, 1973)
35 Year Reunion

The 35 Year ‘Coral’ Reunion held in October was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all.

It was great to see so many people and to chat with them. As usual, the years just melted away, as we caught up with each other’s news and reminisced together. There’s something very special about being with peers from school - we’ll always share that particular bond.

Sally Carratt (Kelso, 1976)

30 Year Reunion

On the evening of Saturday 17 September 2011, The Chelsea Hotel, Chatswood was the meeting place for the Class of 1981 30 Year Reunion. A total of 55 very excited girls attended.

Thirty years of ‘water under the bridge’ was reduced to expressive hugs, shrieks of surprise and exclamations of ‘Oh My Goodness, you haven’t changed a bit...’ with a very relaxed night of catching up had by all.

It was lovely to see girls who had not been able to attend the previous ten and 20 Year reunions and especially gratifying to be able to catch up with those who had travelled from overseas, interstate and from country New South Wales.

Once all reunion costs had been covered, the Reunion Committee was able to present the Garvan Institute with a small donation on behalf of the Pymble 1981 School Leavers.

Thank you to all those girls who attended the reunion. The next ten years will fly by, so keep a lookout in the Pymbulletin for the 40 Year Reunion in 2021.

The 1981 Reunion Committee

5 Year Reunion

Pictured at the Pymble 5 Year Reunion are from left: Amy Dreverman, Anna Bray, Amelia McCarthy and Meredith Gikes.

Announcements

Engagements

- Sasha Bodero-Smith (2003) to James Greenwood

Marriages

- Rosalyn Lai (1997) married Eugene Ho on 7 May 2011 at the Everglades Gardens in Leura. Several Pymble girls attended the wedding held on a glorious Autumn day in the Blue Mountains.


Births

- Georgina Birrell (Stanistreet, 1998) and husband David Birrell are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter Madeleine Gina Birrell born on 22 September 2011.
- Sarah Claremont (McKaughan, 1987) and husband Peter are delighted to announce the birth of their second son Sebastian John on 6 July 2011, a brother for Harrison.
- Amy Currey (Kelo, 1997) and husband Jason are excited to announce the birth of their first child, a beautiful daughter, Amelia Grace on 30 June 2011.
- Christine Fainga’anuku (Grover, 1997) and husband Ofa are delighted to announce the birth of their second child, Elizabeth Alisi, on 7 April, a beautiful little sister for Sally.
- Cathie Hall (Shillito, 1998) and husband Brian joyfully welcomed Archer Charles on 29 March, 2011 a greatly loved little brother for Findlay.
- Jane Morgan (Johnson, 1987) and husband Stephen are delighted to announce the birth of their fourth child, Imogen Cate Morgan on 12 October 2011. A little sister for Jessica, Connor and Niamh.
- Nicole Redmond (Lee, 1995) and husband Colin are delighted to announce the birth of Lachlan Colin on 13 October 2011. Big brother Jamie could not be prouder!
- Prue Ritchie (Roberts, 1997) and husband Ben are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Alexandra Poppy, on 10 December 2010. A precious sister for proud brother Campbell age two.
Vale

- Barbara Joan Barnes (Lamrock, 1950) died tragically on 18 September. Her daughters Jenny and Linden were Pymble girls and granddaughter Stephanie Barnes was also at Pymble and is at university studying Medicine.

Barbara had close connections with the College and attended the 2011 Pymble Hockey Breakfast just two days before she died. Barbara, together with members of the 1949/1950 Pymble Hockey team attended the breakfast to acknowledge the presentation of the inaugural Dorothy Widdis (Ranken, 1950) Cup.

Her funeral was held at Pymble Uniting Church.

- Kirsty Hamilton (1986) passed away on 23 October having had ongoing health problems since leaving school. Kirsty grew up in Illabo, NSW and was Head Boarder of her year. She was dearly loved by her friends and family and will be greatly missed. Many of her Pymble friends attended the funeral and memorial service held near her family home.

Kirsty had a natural talent in relating to children and fulfilled her dream of teaching when she completed a Diploma of Education (Early Childhood) after leaving Pymble. Kirsty taught in Goulburn, was married, and then moved to Forbes where her son Jackson was born. She later lived in Dubbo before settling in Wagga Wagga close to her family home. Kirsty loved country life and involved herself in many areas of community work including working with the Assistance Dog Program, having a district leadership role with Weight Watchers and working with Terence Ryan Hearing Aids with a view to becoming a qualified audiometrist.

On 28 October 2011 the Pymble 1986 leavers held a 25 Year Reunion which was also, coincidently, the day of Kirsty’s funeral. It was a lovely and fitting opportunity to remember her and celebrate a wonderful life.

Kirsty is survived by her son Jackson, her parents, Ros and Jock Hamilton and brothers, Craig and Matthew.

- Wilda (Willie) Iona Lambie (1947) sadly died on 12 October 2011. Her funeral was held at All Saints’ Anglican Church in Tumut on 17 October.

News

Lauren Robertson (Ewing, 1994) was recently in Beijing to compete in the ITU World Triathlon Championships where she became a World Champion as a result of winning two gold medals for Australia, one in the aquathlon and the second in the Olympic distance triathlon in her 35-39 year age group. In 2009 Lauren won gold and silver at the world championships held on the Gold Coast. After tallying three world titles and one silver medal in the past two years, she has also recently won the 2011 Gunnedah Sports Person of the Year and the Gunnedah Female Sportsperson of the Year, a great excitement for her! Lauren currently lives in Gunnedah and is the General Manager of Ewing Real Estate. Triathlons are her hobby!

Isabelle Whitehead (2007) completed Honours in her science degree at the University of Sydney and was awarded the University Medal in Geography.

Inaugural Dorothy Widdis (Ranken) Trophy

Australian cricketer Lisa Sthalekar was the guest speaker at the Annual Hockey/Netball breakfast held at the College in September. This year saw the introduction of a new trophy, the Dorothy Widdis (Ranken) trophy which was donated by Mr Bob Ranken in memory of his wife. Present at the Breakfast were Bob Ranken and family and seven members of the 1949/1950 First XI Hockey Team, Miriam Fowler and Judith Wall (Thompson), Mary Cadwallader (Lane) (who presented the trophy to inaugural winner), Judith Langsworth (Tierney), Barbara Lamrock (Barnes) (now deceased), Peggy Fordham (Hayman) and Dorothy Cathels (Oag). A number of Dorothy’s boarding friends also attended the breakfast including Barbara Mackay (Robertson), Jane Hood (Raffin), Joan Warburton (Lumdsdaine), Beth Tierney (Kannegieter) and Joan Westerholm.

Dorothy Widdis (Ranken) commenced at Pymble Ladies’ College as a five year old in 1939. She was a great athlete and at the age of twelve when she started playing hockey, she quickly progressed through the Junior Teams to the Senior Seconds in 1948, then the Senior Firsts in 1949, and Captain of the Senior Firsts in 1950. She was also wicketkeeper of the First XI Cricket team, a House Prefect and School Prefect. Dorothy was a boarder in Marden House and had there been such an award as the ‘Best and Fairest Boarder Hockey Player’ she would have been a recipient. Mary Lane spoke at the breakfast about Dorothy’s contribution to Pymble Ladies’ College and presented the trophy to Lucy Harris from Orange the first ever recipient of the Dorothy Widdis (Ranken) Trophy for the Best and Fairest Boarder Hockey Player.

Pymble ex-student, Marina Lauer (2007), has been awarded a Union Blue for 2011, the highest award given to current students at the University of Sydney by the University of Sydney Union (USU). Marina received her award ‘for her outstanding contribution to the life and culture of the University of Sydney Union and the University community’. The Awards Committee was particularly impressed with Marina’s ‘demonstrated leadership and commitment to the benefit of others in the USU’. Marina is also a previous recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2009, an award which carried with it a $1,000 cash prize.
The 1920s was a significant decade in the life of the College. Despite the retirement of the beloved founding Principal of the College, Dr John Marden, in 1920, the decade commenced with much anticipation and enthusiasm; anticipation of a world no longer scarred by the Great War and enthusiasm to see the College develop and consolidate its position as a premier place of learning.

Under the leadership of Miss Gordon Everett (1920-1921), Miss M Bevington (Acting) and Miss Nancy Jobson (1922-1933), enrolments grew steadily throughout the 1920s. The decade was marked by important building works to accommodate this growth, including the construction of a new Boarding House, hospital and swimming pool. A visit from Dame Nellie Melba in 1922 brought great joy to the students at Pymble and when electricity came to the College in 1925 one can imagine the enormous difference this made to College life. Girls enjoyed many outings including trips to Manly Beach as well as a great variety of educational and sporting activities on offer at College.

The pictorial record of the 1920s held in the College Archives reflects a time of great joy, energy and enthusiasm as well as optimism for a bright future.