Welcome to the first issue of the Pymbulletin for 2011. This year we celebrate the 95th birthday of the College and like any birthday we have much to celebrate!

What a wonderful start to the year to welcome the Governor to officially open our magnificent new Senior School Centre – Kate Mason Building on 29 January. More than 800 members of our wonderful Pymble community witnessed this auspicious occasion at which Her Excellency, the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO formally opened the centre. The day was a brilliant example of the excellence we associate with Pymble and will be remembered as an important hallmark in the history of the College.

The past 95 years are marked by a common theme of excellence. In 1916 the College gates opened to provide an education for girls that was uncompromised and ninety-five years later we embrace that very same ideology by providing an educational experience that can only be described as exceptional. In this issue of the Pymbulletin you can enjoy reading a brief overview of our 95 year history and view some fabulous photos of bygone eras.

The beginning of 2011 has also sadly been marked by disaster across the globe with the earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan and closer to home, the floods in Queensland. At Pymble students are encouraged to think and act globally and to make a difference to those less fortunate and in need. In just two fundraising initiatives, as reported on page 20, our students have raised nearly $9,000 to help those affected by the massive forces of nature in Queensland, New Zealand and Japan. This is an amazing effort!

Our Junior School EnviroKids girls are celebrating their win in the inaugural Panda Award for their Earth Hour 2011 and sustainability activities at the College. Read how these girls are taking the Pymble teachers and students on a ‘green journey’ on page 10. At Pymble we are passionate about caring for our environment and affirm our commitment to environmental awareness, sustainability, recycling and carbon emission reduction in all activities and in future plans for the College.

I hope you enjoy reading the many stories of excellence at Pymble in this ‘new look’ issue of the Pymbulletin. 2011 promises to be another extremely busy yet exhilarating year – become involved and enjoy celebrating our 95 years of excellence!

Mrs Vicki L Waters
PRINCIPAL
Green’ features

The design of the building affirms the College’s commitment to environmental awareness, sustainability, recycling and carbon emission reduction. Green features of the Centre include mixed mode air-conditioning, low-energy floor heating in main areas, movement/daylight sensor-controlled lights, high performance glazing and high levels of insulation, rainwater harvesting for WC flushing and irrigation and the building has been assessed to achieve 82% savings against baseline energy efficiency requirements of the Building Code of Australia.

The College has partnered with Cisco, a world leader in networking technologies, to showcase the new learning environment as a centre for innovation in education, giving Pymble students access to leading-edge technologies.

Centre named after Kate Mason

The building has been named in honour of Mrs Kate Mason, former Chairman of the College Council (2001 – 2010), College Council member (1998 – 2010) and parent of three former students at the College. Mrs Mason brought to the Council and the College her own particular interest in scholarship and academic excellence.

“My years at Pymble, as parent and then as a Council member, have underlined for me the calibre of the education offered at the College,” said Mrs Kate Mason. “Pymble offers a magnificent array of opportunities for every girl, outstanding teaching and fine facilities, including this outstanding new Centre, in an environment which prizes achievement but encourages respect for all.”
Pymble has a rich tradition of educational excellence and this year the College celebrates 95 years of providing an outstanding education for girls and young women.

The College was founded in 1916 by Dr John Marden, a man of great capacity, drive and forward thinking, who believed that women should be given the best that education had to offer, and encouraged girls to think for themselves and live by the College motto, ‘All’ Ultimo Lavoro, ‘Strive for the Highest’.

All nine principals since Dr Marden have shared his vision to provide an education that is universally acknowledged for its outstanding quality and exceptional opportunities.

Today, under the direction of Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters the College has left its mark in the international educational arena, being acknowledged as one of the top five schools in the world, outside the United Kingdom. As identified in the College’s 2009 – 2012 Strategic Intent, our mission at Pymble is to foster in each student a passion for learning and scholarship, a quiet but unshakeable self-confidence, and the values and skills to make a worthwhile contribution to her community. Five core values – care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility – encapsulate the spirit of the College and provide a strong foundation for dynamic learning.

In ninety-five years, the generations have witnessed enormous educational and technological change. Chalk, blackboards and ink-filled fountain pens have been replaced by Smartboards, laptops and biros. Pymble was one of the first schools to embrace laptop technology and once again in 2011, the College is setting educational standards with the opening of the Senior School Centre – Kate Mason Building, a showcase for innovation in education, with cutting-edge technologies.

On 8 February 1916, 60 girls entered the College gates as students at Pymble. Twenty of these first students boarded in Marden and Lang Houses and girls attended classes along the Colonnade. In 2011, 2132 students are enrolled at Pymble, with 117 of these girls boarding in Marden, Lang and Goodlet Houses. The College is divided into five schools, Preparatory, Junior, Middle, Upper and Senior, each with its own dedicated precinct and the three original spirit Houses of Goodlet, Lang and Marden have been extended to include an additional five Houses, Bennett, Hammond, Ingleholme, Thomas and Wylie providing more leadership opportunities for students across the College.

The past 95 years has seen enormous social change; people have lived through two world wars, a depression, the social upheaval of the 1960s and ’70s, massive unrest in the Middle East, the advent of terrorism and a global financial crisis. The past 95 years has also seen nearly 18,000 students educated at the College, including countless ex-students who have been acknowledged publicly for success in their careers and personal life. Some of these noteworthy students include recent ex-students, Ellyse Perry (2008 - represents Australia in cricket and soccer) and Angela Cummine (1999 – Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University) and from years gone by, Marie Byles (1917 – first female solicitor in NSW, conservationist and feminist), Dame Joan Hammond DBE CMG (1930 – renowned operatic soprano and champion golfer), Molly Dive OAM (1931 – Australian cricketer who played seven women’s test matches), Elizabeth Evatt AC (1950 – first Chief Judge of the Family Law Court of Australia and first female judge of an Australian Federal Court), Isabel McKinney Harrison (1928 - played hockey for Australia, managed the University of Sydney’s Appointments Board and helped establish a women’s residential college) Susan Hannaford (1970 – Australian actress) and Liane Tooth (1983 – gold medalist at the 1988 Olympics).
in education

The College has hosted the visit of many notable people, including Dame Nellie Melba in 1922, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester in 1946, Sir Robert Menzies in 1963, Professor Dame Leonie Kramer DBE in 1983, Dick Smith in 1984, John Howard in 1998, Quentin Bryce AC, Governor General of Australia, in 2009, and in 2011, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of NSW, officially opened the new Senior School Centre.

Throughout the life of the College there has been an ongoing and extensive building program providing students with exceptional facilities. Noteworthy buildings on campus include the new Senior School Centre – Kate Mason Building, Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts, Jeanette Buckham PE Centre, War Memorial Chapel, David Blackwell Music Centre and Conde Library.

Pymble’s ninety-five year history has been marked with excellence. It has gained the reputation as a College offering extraordinary opportunities with outstanding teachers and facilities. As ambassadors of the College, Pymble students have graduated with confidence and maturity to embrace the challenges that lie beyond the College gates. Despite the 95 years that separate the very first students in 1916 to those enrolled at the College in 2011, the attributes and essence of what defines a Pymble girl are the same… they carry with them the virtues of care, courage, respect, integrity and responsibility as they strive for the highest in all endeavours.

Principals of the College

Dr John Marden MA LLD (1916 to March 1920)
Miss G. Gordon Everett MA (1920 to August 1921)
Miss M Bevington BA (Acting)
Miss Nancy Jobson MBE MA (January 1922 to May 1933)
Miss Katie Walker (Acting)
Miss Grace Mackintosh MA (September 1933 to June 1936)
Miss Dorothy I. Knox AM OBE MA FACE
(July 1936 to December 1967)
Miss Jeanette Buckham AM BA DipEd FACE
(January 1968 to March 1989)
Mrs Gillian Moore AO, MA, DipEd, TC, MACE, MACEL
(March 1989 to September 2007)
Mrs Vicki L Waters MSchM BEd DipT MACEL MAICD
(October 2007)
Student leaders

Amanda Yao, Year 11

The Pymble community has welcomed its new Subject Captains for 2011. Subject Captains play an important leadership role at the College, promoting their subjects through fun activities and engaging students to enjoy their learning experience in that subject.

Congratulations to the 2011 Subject Captains: Laura Mackenzie (Agriculture), Jana Birkby and Darpana Hasji (Business Studies), Eleanor Agnew and Liza Wang (Classics), Sophia Marcolongo and Karen Nes (Dance), Rebecca Gulia (Drama), Amanda Woolf (Economics), Amy Cai and Georgina Hall (English), Freya McGahey (Geography), Alexandra Krautil and Joy Jin (History), Philippa Bean (Legal Studies), Isabelle Cherry and Hannah Mugford (Mathematics), Salah Chong and Cristina Carter (Modern Languages), Yvette Dal Pozzo (Music), Sara Boyle (PDHPE), Lillian Zhu (TAS), Zoe Miller Stubbs (Theatre), Kayla Willson and Alanna Irwin (Visual Art).

Pymble embraces tradition of Foundation Day

It was a magnificent display of white hats when students from Kindergarten to Year 12 and staff gathered on the Gloucester Quadrangle in February to celebrate Foundation Day. Each year the Pymble community comes together to reflect on the rich history of the College and embrace the unique and inspiring qualities that make Pymble the outstanding College it is.

This year students and staff celebrated the College’s 95th anniversary. It was the twentieth year that Foundation Day has been acknowledged with a special service since the original Foundation Day service was held when the College opened on 8 February 1916. Foundation Day services commenced again in 1991 to mark the 75th anniversary of the College.

The College welcomed Mrs Sue Everingham (Taylor) as guest speaker at the service. Sue, who graduated from the College in 1977, is the Ex-Students’ Union President and has three daughters at the College.

SRC

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is an active student body representing students across the Secondary School. Membership of the SRC is made up of a group of prefects and five peer-elected representatives from each year group, and is led by Head Prefect, Jessica Drummer. As President of the SRC, Jessica explained, “The students have a strong voice at Pymble; within the SRC there are five sub-committees - Sustainable Environment, International Focus, Communications, Community Service and School Community. We are already working on proposals which have been approved by the School Executive. 2011 will be a great year and I am looking forward to the team working together over the coming months.”

With these leadership roles appointed, Pymble girls can look forward to, and even contribute towards, an exciting year filled with initiatives instigated by their peers.
Outstanding 2010 HSC results for Pymble Ladies’ College

The 2010 Year 12 cohort at Pymble Ladies’ College has achieved impressive results in the Higher School Certificate (HSC) including the College’s first indigenous student, Jessica Ah Chee being accepted into Medicine at the University of New South Wales. Jessica has also been awarded the University’s Balnaves Scholarship. Jessica, from Alice Springs, has had her dream fulfilled, aspiring to become a doctor when she commenced at the College in 2007. As a student at the College, Jessica excelled in many programs at Pymble, including in tennis travelling to represent Australia in a team of five Pymble students at the 2009 World Schools Tennis Championship in Belgium.

“Jessica’s brilliant achievement was just one of many for Pymble students,” said College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “I am thrilled with our 2010 cohort’s impressive HSC results, including sixty percent of our students attaining an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 90 or above. This is an outstanding achievement for a non-selective school.”

“Three Pymble students topped the state in four subjects and Jessica Sun achieved the perfect ATAR of 99.95. Jessica topped the State in Music 2 and Music Extension, Lily Bleach came first in Business Studies and Vivienne Chan topped the State in Italian Beginners.”

An additional ten students placed in the best in subject list across a wide range of courses including Business Studies, Classical Greek Continuers and the Extension course, Earth and Environmental Science, English Advanced, French Continuers, French Extension, Italian Beginners, Latin Extension and Textiles and Design. Fifteen percent of students were named in the All-round Achievers list for achieving a Band 6 result in ten or more units.

On the Sydney Morning Herald Honour Roll, which acknowledges students who earn 90 or above in one or more subjects, 173 Pymble students earned 575 places.

In addition, 2010 graduate Eliza Flint will be studying Biomedical Engineering at Harvard University.

“The excellent 2010 HSC results have been achieved through the application, dedication and hard work of our students and their teachers. Our students are to be congratulated for their outstanding achievements,” said Mrs Waters.

Pymble’s Indigenous Scholarship Program provides leadership and performance scholarships for indigenous girls from remote and regional Australia. This year, there are nine indigenous students realising their potential at the College from across Australia, including the Torres Strait Islands, Cairns, Terrigal, Moree and Darwin.
Subject spotlight – Human Society and Its Environment

Human Society and Its Environment is the Key Learning Area in which students develop knowledge, understanding, skills, and values and attitudes about people and their social and physical environments.

Through a program of learning experiences Preparatory School students develop an understanding of Australia and its people, plus other cultures in the world. They develop skills that enable them to acquire information from different sources, including Information Technology which provides wonderful opportunities for students in this Key Learning Area.

The development of values is an important part of Human Society and Its Environment and the College values are incorporated into the teaching programs. As a school of the Uniting Church in Australia, religious education is also included in the programs.

The Human Society and Its Environment syllabus includes the study of languages other than English and this year the students in the Preparatory School have commenced lessons in Italian to learn about Italy, its language and culture.

Kindergarten celebrates College’s 95th birthday

Celebrating the 95th birthday of Pymble on Foundation Day was an enjoyable introduction to the history of the College for Kindergarten girls. During their first weeks at school, the girls learnt about the College and enjoyed listening to stories about going to school. A tour of the beautiful Memorial Chapel led by College Chaplain, Pastor Greer Dokmanovic, was a highlight of their unit of work, ‘Our School’.

As part of the Human Society and Its Environment syllabus, ‘Our School’ provides the girls with the chance to learn about the many exciting opportunities available at the College for everyone to enjoy.

An old favourite provides a new taste for Kindergarten

Lemonade was the flavour of the day when Kindergarten girls had an exciting time making their very own lemonade as part of their phonics program. The taste of the natural lemon was a new experience for many; however the final flavour met with sounds of approval!
Year 1 girls study our underwater wonderlands

Rivers, rock pools and the Great Barrier Reef were on the radar of Year 1 students when they visited the Sydney Aquarium during Term 1. The excursion provided the opportunity for girls to expand on their knowledge of saltwater and freshwater environments as part of their study unit, 'Under the Sea'.

The girls were also delighted to learn more about our underwater world when underwater camera man, George Evatt, visited the girls. Mr Evatt showed the girls some brilliant underwater images and spoke with the girls about the plants and animals that live in our oceans and the threat of pollution on underwater environments.

The importance of friends and our College values

The importance of friendship and being a good friend was highlighted to Year 1 girls when they discussed what it meant to be a Pymble girl in the subject Human Society and Its Environment. Using the Bounce Back program the topic of ‘Friendship’ was discussed and the importance of observing the College’s five core values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility.

Year 2 discern the differences in wet and dry lands

Year 2 girls produced brilliant projects and news items on Wet and Dry Environments during their literacy time in Project Week in Term 1. Reporting on the Great Sandy Desert and the Daintree Rainforest, the girls’ presentations displayed what they learnt about the differences in wet and dry environments.

Designed to develop lateral thinking skills through Bloom’s Taxonomy, the completed projects were proudly displayed in the Year 2 practical area.

Every drop counts

A visit to Warragamba Dam on 15 March provided a practical demonstration to Year 2 girls on the importance of water conservation. As the Science topic for Term 1, the girls study ‘Water’ in Australia and around the world, water usage and conservation as well as the Water Cycle. At Warragamba Dam the girls participated in an exciting discovery walk and watched an audio visual presentation.

Learning is fun at Pymble

Learning is fun when you are a Year 2 girl at Pymble! The girls participate in many fun and educational programs, including Mathletics, Spellodrome and Kidpix, when they visit the computer room each week to extend their skills in technology and consolidate classroom work. Working on the classroom Smartboards also provides a fun and interesting learning experience for the girls.
Junior swimmers win gold

It was congratulations and celebrations when the Pymble Junior Swim team won a gold medal at the CIS Swimming Championships on 22 March. The girls won their medal for the 4x50 freestyle relay by a huge 10 second margin!

From left, Madeleine Gallagher, Romilly Walker, Isabelle Hayward and Jemima Ostwald-Fitzgerald.

Pymble students win Earth Hour’s Young Panda Award

Year 5 students, Hanan Hassan and Julia Lin, were the recipients of the Young Panda Award at the inaugural WWF Earth Hour Awards at a special ceremony hosted by Jamie Durie at the Museum of Contemporary Art on Saturday 26 March.

Hanan and Julia accepted the award on behalf of the College’s EnviroKids Club, an eco-friendly club for girls in Years 3 to 6. As winners of the Young Panda Award, the girls will be featured in the Nickelodeon 2012 Earth Hour campaign in March next year.

“Our EnviroKids’ triumph of winning the Young Panda Award is an outstanding achievement and one that the College is justifiably proud of,” said College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “Pymble has a commitment to environmental awareness, sustainability, recycling and carbon emission reduction and projects such as those undertaken by EnviroKids support this commitment.”

EnviroKids, first formed at the College in 2009, meets each week to look at environmental issues around the world, within Australia and at the College.

“We see our work in the club as helping our friends and teachers at school by taking them on a ‘green journey’,” said Hanan and Julia. “We are very excited to be a part of EnviroKids as it is a fun way to do practical things that can help and teach all the girls about reducing our carbon footprint and making our school environment a greener place.”

EnviroKids conducted activities for Earth Hour 2011 for the week of 21 March to 25 March including switching off all lights, fans, power points and air conditioning in rooms when not in use; and on 25 March, the girls switched off all lights, computers, laptops, fans etc. for two lessons. Classes were held outside for these two hours and lessons focussed on environmental issues.

Junior swimmers win gold

“A tick for Year 3’s chicks

Amelie Yee and Ella Cassin, 3D

In Term 1, each Year 3 class was given the task of watching three hens eggs hatch to learn about cycles. The class of 3D kept a close watch on the eggs and were very excited when the chicks hatched; we had one grey chick and one black chick and all the other classes had yellow chicks. Each class named their newly hatched chicks. One chick was named Oscar because he was born on the day of the Oscars! We really enjoyed raising our chicks and everyone had an opportunity to hold the chicks.
New Junior School Library is popular with the girls

Ms Lesley Holgersson, Teacher Librarian, Junior School Library

Junior School girls are thrilled with their newly refurbished and renovated library. Girls have been heard commenting how fantastic the new library is and many girls are making the most of the new facilities before school and during their lunch break.

Bright colours, light-filled areas, extended spaces and new resources create an area that is abuzz with activity throughout the school day.

A display of new additions to the library’s extensive collection greets the girls as they enter the library. The newly created fiction area is colourful, welcoming and comfortable, and has already become a favourite with girls and teachers.

The airy, flexible teaching space is well equipped for 21st Century learning and teaching. With easy access to the non-fiction collection, a class set of laptops and interactive whiteboard, the students have become confident accessing and using information found in a variety of formats, both print and digital.

The beautifully refurbished Junior School Library is not just a wonderful resource but also an inviting, accessible space to be used and enjoyed by the whole school community.

Robots take to the dance floor in Year 6

Emily Wearne, Year 6

Year 6 girls from 6D and 6M combined their teamwork and computer programming skills to create a robot which dances and moves on command.

The girls used the Lego Mindstorms NXT Robot using Lego pieces to create their robot. After some disastrous outcomes, the groups managed to create an alien-like robot with sensors. Using the Lego Mindstorms program, the girls were able to send messages to the robot to do amazing things like walk in a square, move forward and reverse. By the end of the unit the robots were programmed to dance!

Robotics is an excellent way to learn new computer programming skills and work co-operatively. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this new take on Science lessons!

International art competition inspires students

Mrs Michele Apter, Art Teacher, Junior School

Year 5 extension art group students used their creative talents to design more than 70 amazing posters to enter in the United Nations’ 2011 International Environment Art Competition. The competition marks the UN’s International Year of the Forest and inspired the girls to design posters to encourage fellow students to be aware of their environment.

The competition has been held since 1991 and has received more than 3 million entries from children across 100 countries.
Debating success for Pymble
Joy Jin, Year 11

The Pymble debating season kicked off to a great start in 2011 with many successes and record numbers of students participating.

The College competes in the Independent Schools' Debating Association (ISDA) competition, one of the largest debating competitions in Sydney, with thirty-two schools debating every Friday night. Pymble has debated schools across Sydney including MLC, Kambala and Ascham this season, discussing topics including ‘That advertising for gambling should be banned from sporting events’ for the Juniors and ‘That we should legalise paid surrogacy’ for the Seniors.

Under the guidance of expert coaches, the co-ordination of Miss Daisy Staniford and the leadership of 2011 Debating Captains Penina Su and Chloe Kim of Year 12, Pymble ISDA Debaters have achieved fantastic results. Every team has won the majority of their debates, with the Senior B, Year 9 and Year 8 teams remaining undefeated during Term 1.

Pymble also entered five teams into the Senior Division of the Macquarie School's Cup, a debating gala day at Macquarie University on 18 February, with Year 11 debaters Philippa Bean, Joy Jin, Nikki Raftopulos and Sarika Suresh achieving fourth place out of thirty teams.

The Pymble debating program continues throughout the year, with the Archdale, SDN and Interhouse debating competitions to look forward to. “I encourage all girls to get involved in the dozens of debating opportunities on offer,” says Debating Captain Penina Su. “Girls do not need to have past experience to be able to enjoy the challenges and fun of debating.”

Pymble wins CICERO competition
Sarika Suresh, Year 11

Pymble classics students in Years 11 and 12 were triumphant at the 2011 CICERO (Certamen in Concordiam Europae Regionumque Orbis) held at the College on 26 March.

CICERO, a competition organised by teachers of classics across several countries for senior students, illustrates the importance of Latin and provides a valid reason for young people to interact with each other across their national boundaries. This is the second year that Pymble has conducted the Australian representation of the competition. Students pitted their wits against classicists from around the world as they completed an unseen translation and a section on the mythical story of Jason and the Argonauts.

The final results were announced at the annual Senior Classics Dinner at Trinity College, with girls attending stepping back in time dressed in costumes of the era. Pymble’s triumph included placing first, second and third in the culture section and second and third places in the Year 11 and the Year 12 translation sections.

Our outstanding results were mirrored by the attitude of our classics students - Discipuli in Italia vos salutant “We learn for life, not for school!”

International writing award won by Pymble student

Pymble Ladies’ College Year 9 student, Angela Choi, has won the international category of the Golden Sponge Stick competition, an international classics writing competition conducted by the Burgess Hill School for Girls in England.

Angela was thrilled to receive the award, which involved her submitting a Roman short story using her knowledge of Latin and incorporating historical or cultural facts as part of her research for the story.

The competition attracted entrants from across the globe with the prize of the coveted Golden Sponge Stick awarded to winners in each category.

Angela’s story titled Almost Identical, depicted the tale of twin girls, cursed to be born in Ancient Rome at a time when twins were a bad omen and girls were not valued. One of the twins is further burdened with a birthmark on her face. When she is wrongfully arrested, serendipity intervenes in the form of her almost identical self!

Pymble Ladies’ College offers Classical Greek and Latin to secondary school students and is the only girls school in Australasia regularly teaching Classical Greek. Students studying Classics participate in many inter-school and international activities, including the CICERO (Certamen in Concordiam Europae Regionumque Orbis) competition, a Latin competition contested by students across the world and a classics tour to Greece and Italy every two or three years.
Careers Expo an outstanding success

Amanda Yao, Year 11

The Pymble 2011 Careers Night held at the College on 28 March was a hive of activity as hundreds of Years 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents consulted tertiary education representatives, career advisors and practitioners.

Representatives from universities across Sydney, including the University of Sydney and University of New South Wales spoke with the students and advised on course details and prerequisites. Smaller tertiary organisations including the Whitehouse Institute of Design and NIDA also had stalls at the evening.

“Careers Night gives so much choice, it allows me to broaden my horizons on tertiary education,” said Year 11 student, Philippa Kensit.

Girls were also given the opportunity to sit down with ex-students and parents, attending as practitioners in their field of business, to discuss career options and the nature of their work.

Students voted the evening an outstanding success and by the end of the night, many girls had become a lot more confident in their choice of course and career for life after Pymble.
The famous Disney story, Beauty and the Beast, was brought to life on the Pymble stage for four performances in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts in March, enthralling the audience with stunning sets, fabulous costumes, wonderful music and brilliant dancing.

The classic tale of the sweet and innocent Belle, who finds herself in an enchanted castle ruled by the quick-tempered and moody Beast, engaged the audiences. Talented Pymble singers, actresses, dancers and musicians from Years 8 to 12 combined with boys from Barker College and Knox Grammar School to showcase their skills as the characters were brought to life in a truly professional production.

Evelyn Wong, Year 11

The show was a huge success, made possible by the Director of Music, Mrs Sabina Turner’s producing skills, the direction of music teacher, Mr Schweinberger and the staff and students in the production crew. “I’m very proud of the cast, their standard of performance was fantastic and every one of them has amazing talent,” said Mrs Turner at the close of the final curtain.
Brontë sisters come to life on stage  
Samantha Bear, Year 10

The fascinating, classic, emotionally-compelling, yet rarely explored story of the three Brontë sisters, *Brontë* by Polly Teale, was performed in the GMCPA in March and April. It was brought to life in a vivid and moving production enacted beautifully by its twelve cast members, some very talented drama students of Years 10, 11 and 12.

The set wonderfully enhanced the storyline, the costumes were beautiful and historically-precise, the script was absorbing, and the acting was absolutely enrapturing; this made it possible to connect with the characters and share their various experiences. The portrayal of the characters moved the audience to tears and laughter, and brought smiles to lips as feelings were evoked by the striking characterisations. The outstanding leads, Clara Strandhoj (Charlotte Brontë), Zoë Miller Stubbs (Emily Brontë), Charlotte Salusinszky (Anne Brontë), Olivia Ronan (their brother, Branwell) and Emily Bird (their father, Patrick) were remarkable and their performances were nothing short of professional.

What was quite a complicated plot, and a seemingly difficult one to play out on stage, was presented very well, with the great use of lighting effectively informing the audience of mood changes and the change of time frame. The characters from the sisters’ novels appeared throughout the play as haunting apparitions, reflecting on the personalities of the women and their life experiences, or lack thereof. The journey through the family’s hardships, triumphs, failures and joys evoked such strong compassion and emotion that the walls of the theatre melted away, and the audience was transported back to the 19th century, becoming an integral part of the play itself.

Pymble wins coveted AMEB Shield  

Pymble Ladies’ College was awarded the acclaimed AMEB Perpetual Schools Shield at the AMEB Diplomats’ Graduation ceremony on Sunday 12 March.

This was a historic moment for the College being the first time that Pymble had won the shield since it was first awarded in 1928 and more significantly to win this year’s award after it had been retained by Sydney Grammar School for the last 18 years.

“This is a great honour for the College,” said Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “Our vision at Pymble is to provide an education universally acknowledged for its outstanding quality and exceptional opportunities. We inspire our students to embrace challenges, to give that little bit extra to fulfil their aspirations and dreams. Our music and speech and drama students have strived for their highest and achieved outstanding performance results.”

The Shield is awarded based on an aggregate score combining the total number of student enrolments and their subsequent results, with diploma awards playing a significant part.
Pymble girls faced two challenging and energetic days when they represented the College at the NSW All Schools Triathlon in early March. The individual competition on the first day showcased the state’s premier triathlon talent. Our Pymble girls did us very proud, swimming, riding and running their way to many personal best results. Special congratulations to Portia Olsen, Isabelle Gray, Sophie Saunders, Charlotte Culver and Jessica Drummer for outstanding results in what was a very physically demanding event. The arrival of day two brought the more fun-filled teams event, in which Pymble was well represented with a total of 14 teams.

Exciting season for Pymble rowers

Lilian Zhu, Year 11

The 2010/2011 season for rowing at Pymble was one of much excitement and enjoyment, mixed with super hard work, and some well-earned success.

In January our rowers headed to camp for some very intensive training and team bonding, having a great time and even climbing to the highest point in Australia! Returning to school meant the start of several regattas on the weekends. The NSW State Championships saw many successes for the girls, and Pymble proudly took out the all round champion title at the IGSSA Regatta. Pymble’s own regatta at Iron Cove was a great day of school spirit and support, with Pymble crews winning the 1st VIII, 2nd VIII, Schoolgirl 4, and several junior and intermediate divisions.

Pymble well represented at NSW All Schools Triathlon

Aleisha Wawn, Year 11

All the Pymble girls showed their strong school spirit by constant encouragement, friendly sportsmanship and very loud cheering! Special mentions must go to the team of Nina Baker, Isabelle Gray and Portia Olsen, who finished 12th in the junior competition, as well as the team of Emma Morgan, Charlotte Culver and Caitlin McCartney who finished 10th in the intermediate competition. Emma should also be congratulated for having the fastest intermediate swim time of the day, a fantastic achievement!

Philippa Kensit of Year 11 summarised the day excellently: “The triathlon was a really fun day and a great showcase of true Pymble spirit.”

Twenty-three girls represented Pymble at the National Championships in Adelaide on 11 and 13 March. Great successes included the 1st VIII placing second and the Under 19 VIII placing third in their respective divisions, a huge achievement.

The entire Pymble rowing squad, from Juniors to the Seniors, families, supporters and friends attended the Schoolgirl Head of the River in Penrith ready for a very exciting event. It was a brilliant fine day of school support, and all the girls fought their hardest to earn their places on the podium. Well done to all the girls! Crews that placed at Head of the River were the Junior 6th Quad, Senior 1st Quad, Senior 3rd VIII, Senior 2nd VIII and the Senior 1st VIII.
Impressive tennis by Pymble at Tildesley

Jessica Baker, Year 11

Pymble shone at the 2011 Tildesley Tennis Shield, held at Pennant Hills Park from 23 to 25 March. The team, consisting of 52 girls from Years 7 to 12, were all extremely excited and enthusiastic, contributing significantly to the effervescent and resplendent atmosphere of the Tournament.

All girls played great tennis and Pymble had some remarkable achievements, with Alexandra Taylor and Imogen Furniss reaching the semi-finals of the Doubles and Ella Merritt of Year 11 reaching the quarter finals of the Singles. The most popular Pymble performance of the Tournament most definitely came from Danielle Wagland of Year 10, who reached the final of the Singles draw, only to be beaten by her opponent from Meriden 7-8 in a tie-breaker.

All girls played extremely well, with Pymble finishing ninth overall. This is an amazing achievement especially as this year our team had two extra players! (In Tildesley this is a disadvantage). All girls were thrilled by this result, after putting in such effort to fitness and on court sessions.
Year 11 learning and leadership camp

Bethany McGauley, Year 11

Year 11 students attended a three-day camp in February which provided activities and lectures to help develop their understanding of leadership and responsibility to assist in their last two years of school.

Based at Collaroy, the girls enjoyed numerous activities including abseiling and canoeing. The days were organised into three sections packed with activities and lectures from guest speakers, organisations and teachers. “Not only did we learn important skills for all aspects of life, we grew as a year group bringing us all closer together,” said Bethany McGauley.

On returning to College, the camp experience was extended with further activities and seminars providing valuable life skills, including public speaking, essay writing and yoga. The consensus of Year 11 girls was that the camp was extremely beneficial and a great introduction to the last two years of school.

Impact of humans observed during Earth and Environmental Science excursion

Philippa Bean, Year 11

An interest in the dynamic world we live in and the processes which shape it was shared by 25 Year 11 Earth and Environmental Science students when they explored the Terrigal and Wamberal Lagoon area on an Earth and Environmental Science excursion in Term 1.

The task for the day was to identify and assess whether human activities had an impact on the local environment, specifically looking at the effect on water sources, flora and fauna. Visiting various sites in the area, the girls observed the impact made by pollution, land clearing, recreational activities and artificial structures on the natural environment.

Micha Birkby from Year 11 commented on the excursion saying, “I found it an extremely enjoyable day, learning about a new environment. We also conducted a number of experiments looking at water and soil quality in the region, which we later completed in the science laboratory back at school.”
Experiences of a lifetime!

Evangeline Murdoch, Sarika Suresh and Cristina Carter, Year 11

Ask any girl who went on a language or cultural exchange last year and their response will always be the same: "It was the opportunity of a lifetime!"

Cultural and language exchanges give students the opportunity to broaden their language and culture skills by immersing them in a country on the other side of the world. Although it is sometimes difficult in the beginning, the girls soon learn to thrive in their respective schools nurturing a close relationship with their host sisters.

Pymble has established cultural exchange opportunities with schools in Argentina, Canada, England, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and Scotland for girls in Years 8, 9 and 10. Language exchange opportunities are available for girls in Years 10 and 11 in France, Germany and Japan.

Girls on exchange garner an insight into different education systems, ways of learning and international culture, giving them the ability to apply these insights into their learning when back at Pymble. Exchanges also highlight the differences between diverse cultures and many girls who have been on exchange programs have said their experiences overseas showed them how lucky they were to be at Pymble, missing the vast opportunities available at the College, especially the sporting and co-curricular activities.

Students commonly report back after their exchange that the experience gave them amazing opportunities to make lifelong friends and they became more independent. Being taken totally out of their comfort zones, thrown into another person's world, in another country, speaking a different language, eating different food, living with another family, the girls agree the exchange program is truly life-changing.

After visiting Munster Germany in 2010, with four other Pymble girls, Georgia Pretty of Year 11 described her exchange experience as “indescribable, the people you meet, the things you learn, the sense of maturity and independence you obtain is unbelievable; perhaps one of the best experiences I will have in my life will be my seven weeks on exchange, it changed my life”.

Biology students discover small things in big ecosystem

Evelyn Wong, Year 11

Year 11 Biology students explored a whole new aquatic world at the Long Reef rock platform, at Collaroy on Sydney’s Northern Beaches, in March to learn about the local ecosystem.

As the girls learnt skills to investigate the distribution and abundance of animals along the vast flat rock platforms and in the many rock pools, they discovered the lives of quaint little animals, such as the Knobbly Wink, and how they live, which the girls previously would have considered as useless little black bumps.

The day's adventure also included measuring pH levels, salt concentration and temperature of the aquatic environment. Eager to discover more, they ventured through the rock pools, capturing fascinating marine animals to observe and later getting the chance to feel and hold these creatures, including sea slugs, sea urchins and a slimy baby octopus.
community service

‘Shake ‘n’ Bake’ helps quake victims

Junior and Secondary schools students participated in a ‘Shake ‘n’ Bake for the Quakes’ day on 7 April raising $4,283.95 to help those affected by the earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan.

Dressed in the national colours of Japan and New Zealand, the College was a sea of black, white and red as girls showed their support by purchasing a milkshake and cookies on the day.

“As citizens of a global community we encourage our students to look beyond the College gates and actively support those in need through community service programs and fund raising initiatives, such as the ‘Shake ‘n’ Bake for the Quakes’ day,” said Pymble Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “This was a magnificent effort and one that supports our College values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility.”

What a ZumbAchievement!

Cristina Carter, Year 11

The compassionate nature and energy of Pymble girls was evident at the student run fund-raising initiative, Zum-benefit on 24 February, which raised $4,570.65 to help those affected by the Queensland floods.

Students from Years 7 to 12 arrived at the gym clad in lycra from head to toe for an energetic evening of Zumba.

Under the guidance of a Zumba teacher, the girls danced the night away. In the words of Year 11 student Isabelle Cherry, “it was a great charity event, the spirit was contagious and mixed with aerobic moves, Pymble created a night that was truly zumbtastic”.

Women’s rights presentation

Years 8, 9 and 10 students were privileged to be addressed by international guest speaker and author, Manal Omar on 14 March. Manal, who advocates for women’s rights, is the Regional Program Manager for the Middle East for Oxfam – Great Britain and has worked with Women for Women International as Regional Co-ordinator in Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan.

Manal spoke to the students about engaging with issues affecting women in our world. She encouraged them to consider how one person can make a difference by acting in ways that support others. She focused her speech on the cultural challenges impacting women and the way Pymble girls can directly connect with women through letter writing and advocacy for women’s issues.

Year 11 girls inspired at International Women’s Day Breakfast

Eve Liu, Year 11

Human rights activist, judge and writer from Botswana, Unity Dow, was the guest speaker at the International Women’s Day Breakfast at the Sydney Convention Centre on 8 March, attended by Pymble students from Years 9, 10 and 11, and staff including the Deputy Principal, Mrs Julie Shaw.

The girls were inspired by Unity’s charismatic qualities and passion driven words as she spoke of the struggles she faced between Western and traditional values and her unending determination and strong backbone required to ultimately win her court case against the Botswana Government regarding the legal nationality of her children.

The girls were most impressed and commented that listening to Unity Dow speak created an unspoken union within the centre, and offered valuable insight into the lives of women across the world.

“As an all-girls school, it is important that our students are aware of the difficulties and traumas experienced by women across the globe and that they have the opportunity to engage with women such as Unity Dow,” said College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters.
High Tea at Goodlet House

Lucy Harris and Lydia Sykes, Year 11

On a hot summer’s day in February, boarders in Goodlet House welcomed their Years 10 and 11 teachers for an afternoon of delicious treats and fine conversation.

We had been looking forward to the tea, as it was our first opportunity to show the outside world our new home. Sharing tea and goodies on the beautiful old tile verandah, we chatted with our teachers before taking them on a tour of the Boarding House.

From the tea we gained closeness as a boarding house and also had the opportunity to introduce our teachers to our Goodlet staff, who are always on call with a smile and helping hand to help us through our day.

Accommodation in the College’s three Boarding Houses - Goodlet, Marden and Lang - is structured to facilitate the unique needs of girls at different year levels. Boarders in Years 7, 8 and 9 reside in Marden House. Those in Years 10 and 11 live in Goodlet House whilst Year 12 girls live in Lang House where they are provided the resources and support required by students in their final year of secondary schooling.

Boarders challenged on rock climbing adventure

Keneshia Chapman, Year 10

Boarders from Goodlet House conquered any fears they may have had of heights on an evening of rock climbing in Term 1. We were challenged to develop confidence and trust in our supporting partner during the activities.

Learning to have people trust you was an amazing feeling. Knowing that you are the person supporting somebody in the air, and that they trust you to hold them there, and keep them safe was frightening for the first time. The first climb that I did was the scariest of the night, but when the instructor told us to let go and trust the people below to hold us in the air, my trust for my partner expanded so much. It was such a rewarding moment to know that I was okay, even though I was dangling in the air.

The girls agreed that the most rewarding and fulfilling moment of the night was conquering the climb up and over a series of suspended logs.

The rock-climbing event built up our confidence and helped us to conquer our fears. It was the best experience that you could have as a team; building trust with the people who support you.

Trivia night a fun night for all

Alicia Minter-Hunt, Year 10

Year 10 Boarders at Pymble conducted an inter-school trivia night inviting boarders from Ravenswood, Knox, Abbotsleigh, Riverview and Scots to join them in an evening of fun and competition.

The masquerade theme for the evening saw contestants arriving in magnificent masks to compete in the many rounds of questions and quizzes. The ‘Dance Off’ which required one person from each table to come up and dance against people from other tables, was a popular event. The trivia night was a major success and everyone there had an amazing time.
PPA Icebreaker 2011

The newly formed Pymble Parent Association (previously known as the Family Group) hosted the College’s annual welcome event, the Icebreaker, on a lovely balmy Friday evening in February. As always, the Icebreaker was very well attended, and parents and staff had the opportunity to mix and mingle on the Gloucester Quadrangle.

The Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, and Chairman of Council, Mr Braith Williams welcomed the parents and invited participation in school activities. A big thank you to Mr Marcus Stafford and the Jazz Ensemble for the lovely entertainment, our wonderful Year 12 prefects who were wait-staff for the evening, the Property Department for their assistance, Alliance Catering for the delicious food, Marketing for all the help they so unstintingly give the PPA and to our amazing convenors, Mrs Eileen Reeve and Mrs Wendy Dreyfus for pulling everything together seamlessly!

Preparatory School Parents’ Group

It was a busy start to 2011 for the newly formed PSPG. The Orientation Day Morning Tea was a perfect start to the school year as the new girls and their families arrived for their first day. The year group morning teas followed in the early weeks of term. Parents very much enjoyed catching up with the teachers in an informal setting with a cup of tea.

On Shrove Tuesday the Preparatory School enjoyed Pancake Day, also raising much needed funds for UnitingCare from the sale of pancakes!

The annual Family Picnic on Kelso Field was a wonderful way to end the term’s social activities. The hula hoop competition and the parent relay, were clearly the crowd’s favourites.

A huge thank you to all those parents involved in the organisation of such great events. They are a wonderful way to meet new friends in which we all have so much in common.
Junior School Parents’ Group

Year 6 Father Daughter Dinner – a sparkling night
The Year 6 Father Daughter Dinner held on 4 March was a glittering occasion, with fathers and daughters dressing in sparkling costumes to support the ‘Sparkle and Shine’ theme for the evening. A great time was had by all with the girls dancing up a storm with their dads on the dance floor.

‘Hollywood Nights’ at Year 5 Father Daughter Dinner
The red carpet was rolled out for our VIP guests at the Year 5 Father Daughter Dinner. The girls all looked gorgeous, oh so glamorous and the dads didn’t disappoint either in their Hollywood inspired outfits!

Camp out on Kelso a fun event for all!
The annual JSPG Camp Out on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 March was a memorable experience enjoyed by all the brave campers on the Kelso Field. Nearly 300 campers enjoyed the fun and games and managed to consume 460 sausages, 280 steaks and 22 dozen eggs! The threat of rain didn’t dampen the activities and young ones thoroughly enjoyed the infamous torch walk!

After such a fantastic event, our campers are all looking forward to the 2012 annual Camp Out!
President’s Report

2011 is indeed a notable year for Pymble Ladies’ College as it is the 95th anniversary of the founding of the College. In more recent years this occasion has been celebrated by Foundation Day being held as close as possible to mark the actual date of the opening which was on 8 February 1916. The history of the College has of course been faithfully recorded in the volumes written by Margaret Coleman, This is Pymble College, The Heart of the College and Dorothy Knox Remembered... a woman of faith and determination.

By definition, the Ex-Students have been an integral part of the history of the College over the past 95 years. The Ex-Students’ body was formed in 1929 coinciding with PLC Croydon and PLC Pymble each having their own College Councils and each school establishing its separate Ex-Students’ Union. I cannot help but feel a sense of responsibility to continue the traditions of the College and of the ex-students when our histories are so closely aligned.

I was particularly thrilled this year to be invited to speak at the Foundation Day Service held on the Gloucester Quadrangle on 17 February. The most remarkable part of the day for me was the sea of white hats upon those beautiful children’s heads rising and falling as my tales of the College’s past caught their attention. What I know to be true is that the College, and every student, teacher and parent who has been involved in its wonderful and exciting history, has so much to be proud of.

Mothers and Grandmothers Morning Tea
On 4 March we hosted our annual morning tea for the mothers and grandmothers of girls at the College. Thank you to our Secretary, Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987), for making her home available for this special event. The Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, was able to join us and we all enjoyed a lovely morning tea with ladies who have appreciated the experience of being students themselves and who are now continuing the tradition through their daughters. I hope that all mothers and grandmothers make a note in their diaries for next year to join us for this special event.

Cocktails in the City
On 22 February, 25 ex-students met for cocktails at the Verandah Bar in the city. Thank you to our Vice President, Linda Lamberton (Satchwell, 1976), for organising this event. It was really great to catch up with women who are actively engaged in a broad range of occupations, and who still recognise and remember fondly their days at Pymble. We hope to organise more networking events for women of all ages and backgrounds in the coming months.

Keeping in Touch
You will see a Flyer inserted in this edition of the Pymble bulletin. I strongly encourage you, as an ex-student of the College, to keep in touch with all that is happening in and around the College through the Ex-Students. You have the opportunity to become a Life Member of the Ex-Students’ Union and support and share in its future.

I also encourage those of you who are already members to let us know your current contact details. We are sending more and more of our updates and event notifications by email so please send us your latest (preferably most permanent) email address so we can keep in touch with you!

To all girls who have left the College in more recent years – we particularly want to know where you are now! We often don’t get your latest email address, so please, let us know where you are and what you are up to!

Upcoming Celebrations
2011 marks the 95th Anniversary of the College and to celebrate this remarkable achievement, the ESU will be hosting events for Pymble girls of all ages and eras. You are invited to come together and share some of the memories and traditions which have united us for nearly a century.

Commemoration Day Service – Sunday 31 July 2011 at 10.30 am
The traditional Commemoration Day Service will be held in the College Chapel and surrounds on Sunday 31 July. All ex-students are invited to participate in this annual gathering of the clan which features the Ex-Students Choir and an inspirational address by a noteworthy ex-student.

‘Diamonds and Rubies Lunch’ – Sunday 31 July 2011
They say ‘diamonds are a girl’s best friend’ and Pymble girls of all ages and eras love to sparkle at lunch. So put on your ‘ruby red slippers’ and ‘twinkle those toes’ down the Yellow Brick Road (the Sufferance Path) to a very special ‘Diamonds and Rubies’ 95th Anniversary Lunch. A special treat for guests will be tours of the state-of-the-art Senior School Centre which was officially opened by Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of NSW on Saturday 29 January 2011.

The lunch will commence after the traditional Commemoration Day Service on Sunday 31 July 2011. We will be sending invitations out closer to the date with details of the time, place and cost of this lunch. Remember... save the date, grab the girls and put on those sparklers for a terrific ‘girls lunch’!

Further details contact, ESU on esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au

Three Generations High Tea – assistance please
On Saturday 22 October, 2011 the ESU will be hosting a High Tea to celebrate three generations or more of Pymble girls. However to make the event a success, we need your assistance – we need information about these special ‘girls’ including their names (and maiden names), alumnae dates, stories and photographs.

If you would like to share information with us, please contact
Katrina Collier (Richardson, 1988) katrina.collier@googlemail.com or Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987) kathnacororan@yahoo.com or you can send information to our postal address at PLC ESU, P.O. Box 15, Pymble NSW 2073.

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

Black Watch Abroad
The Black Watch ties travel far and wide. If you are living or visiting overseas, why not make contact?

USA: Susan Talbot (Thompson, 1953) E: susantalbot@usa.net
UK: Fiona Schreuder (Hayman, 1986) E: fionaschreuder@hotmail.com
Katrina Collier (Richardson, 1988) E: katrina.collier@googlemail.com
Middle East: Judy Dreverman (Lambie, 1976) E: drevo29@hotmail.com
Hong Kong: Carmen Wong E: ckwong@hotmail.com

Black Watch Ties Ex-Students’ Union Inc.
Reunion reports

Ingleholme Reunion for the class 1962-68

Forty-two years is a long time not to have seen class mates when you are only 53 years old. On Sunday 7 November a memorable reunion lunch was held at the home of Louise Bain (Studdy) for the girls who had been part of this Ingleholme class that operated for only 12 years, closing three years after these girls “graduated” to the Pymble Secondary School.

Nineteen girls and one teacher, Miss Terry (now Caroline Thornton) assembled to share wonderful memories of their time in the grand old McIvorath home, circa 1895 where the gardens were magnificent and set in acres of land. Helen Mackay collated a booklet of all the memoirs that girls had sent in.

Some of the memories shared included making pretty cubbies using the beautiful Wysteria in the summer houses, the glorious spacious gardens where we played horses and Peter Pan and the maypole dancing. Everyone remembered their years at Ingleholme as a happy time and one that gave them a solid foundation for the future. It was a wonderful event and we look forward to another reunion already planned for 2012.

Louise Bain (Studdy, 1974) and Helen Mackay (1974)

Ex-Students getaway reunion

In October 2010 fourteen ex-students who left in 1957, most of whom were boarders, gathered for a fun filled few days in the idyllic setting at the Crowne Plaza in the Hunter Valley. Ex-students came from far and wide – Robina West (Surrey, England), Tricia Miles (Canberra), Cate Moxham (Nyangah), Annie Irving (Warran), Muff Mettleton (Narrabri), Ros O’Neill (Moree), Jenny Williams (Forbes), Judy van Wensveen (Port Macquarie), Jenny Prince Co-organiser (Tea Gardens), Gai Myne Co-organiser (Central Coast), and Margaret Walker, Marg Scott, Dal Bicknell and Jacko Harding all from Sydney.

On arrival everyone gathered to catch up on many years of not seeing each other. The reminiscing continued over dinner at a local restaurant. You can imagine the chatter and laughter! The next day we enjoyed time at the picturesque Hunter Valley Gardens before meeting at a Gallery for lunch and champagne tasting which put everyone in a jovial mood for the formal reunion evening at the Hotel. It is not a celebration without a cake; ours depicted a photo of the School gates and of course was trimmed with black watch tartan ribbon. Next morning, sadly, it was time to say “Au Revoir”!

It was amazing that after just a short time together, the years just melted away and everyone just picked up from where they left off from the last get together.

Jenny Prince (Cox, 1957)

Upcoming Reunions - 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Saturday 5 November 2011 Tours of the College at 11.30am followed by lunch at 12.30pm in the David Macklarne Centre, Pymble</td>
<td>Barbara Wood (De Groot) E: <a href="mailto:groota@primus.com.au">groota@primus.com.au</a> Betsey Whitfield (Brain) E: <a href="mailto:rogbetsw@bigpond.net.au">rogbetsw@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Saturday 29 October 2011 Luncheon at 12 noon, venue to be advised with invitation</td>
<td>Anne Stephen (Pridde) E: stephenbpbigpond.net.au Margaret Mullen (Langsworthy) E: <a href="mailto:margmullen@yahoo.com.au">margmullen@yahoo.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Saturday 12 November 2011 Luncheon at 12 noon, David Macklarne Centre</td>
<td>Barbara-Gai Herden (McLellan) E: <a href="mailto:303herden@gmail.com">303herden@gmail.com</a> Merran Davidson E: <a href="mailto:merrandavidson@hotmail.com">merrandavidson@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Date and Venue TBA</td>
<td>Wendy Dreyfus (Sherman) E: <a href="mailto:dreyfus@pobox.com">dreyfus@pobox.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Saturday 1 October 2011 Hugo’s Lounge, Bayswater Road, Kings Cross from 8.00pm</td>
<td>Mia Beattie (Faen) E: <a href="mailto:sammi88@people.net.au">sammi88@people.net.au</a> Danielle Edwards (House) E: <a href="mailto:deaned73@optusnet.com.au">deaned73@optusnet.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Year Reunion</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Join Pymble class of 2006 Facebook group for upcoming details</td>
<td>Amy Marks (Seton) E: <a href="mailto:amymarks26@gmail.com">amymarks26@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingleholme Kindergarten</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>A 50 year Ingleholme Kindergarten Reunion (The Class of 1961) is being organised for Sunday 16 October 2011 with lunch at Wahroonga followed by a tour of Ingleholme.</td>
<td>Sally Gulson (Sherman) P: 02 9489 5575 or E: <a href="mailto:fgulson@bigpond.net.au">fgulson@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Engagements

• Brianna Roach (2004) to Dean Edwards, their wedding is on 30 December 2011.

Marriages

• Libby Chambers (1994) and Shane Woods are thrilled to be husband and wife, tying the knot in Noosa on 9 October 2010.

• Sarah Grellman (2000) married Robert Holmes on 17 April 2010 at St Stephen’s Anglican Church, Willoughby. This was followed by the reception at The Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli. Sarah’s bridesmaids were Victoria Holmes, Stephanie McFadden and Abby Symes who are also all 2000 Pymble leavers.

• Nicole Hodgkinson (2006) recently married Miguel Pandal.

• Claire Salter (2001) and Matthew Donald were married in the College Chapel on 24 September, 2010. Claire was attended by Janie Goodyer (2001), Katrina Goodyer (1998), and Fiona Scognamiglio (Ellis-Jones 2001).


Births

• Belinda Boot (Thornton, 1996) and husband Nicolas are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Willem Thornton, on 13 October 2010, a little brother for three-year-old Olivia.

• Emily Burnett (Phippard) and husband Guy are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Molly Catherine, on 10 April 2010.

• Lucy Cooper (McWilliam, 1994) and husband Michael are excited to announce the arrival of Samuel James on 20 September 2010. Sam is a brother for three-year-old Phoebe.

• Caroline Egan (Bacon, 1994) and husband Andrew are delighted to announce the birth of Edward Robert, on 27 November 2010. A little brother for Charlie.

• Lynnette Khong (1995) and her husband Ashley D’Cruz welcomed their first child, Matthew Jun Zaheer, into the world on 1 July 2010 in San Francisco.

• Susan Lakeman (Cook, 1995) and husband Andy are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, Lucy Elizabeth, on 16 November, 2009 at Paddington, London, UK. Susan and Andy have been living in West Hampstead, London for several years.

• Susan Livingstone (Gill, 1993) and husband, Paul, are delighted to announce the birth of their son, William Flynn Gill Livingstone, on 15 November 2010. William is a brother for Thomas and Harry.

• Emma May (Browne, 1998) and husband Travis are proud and excited to announce the birth of their little boy, Archie Hugh, on 30 September 2010.

• Pennie Pomroy (Graham, 1997) and husband Ben are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Jemima Robyn Pomroy on 7 November, 2010.

• Kate Stevens (Appleby, 1989) and husband Mark are delighted to announce the birth of their second son, Charlie James, born on 20 February, 2011. A little brother for two-year-old Cooper.

• Alexandra Walker (Rose, 1995) and husband Nathan are delighted to announce the arrival of Nicholas Mackenzie on 20 December 2010 in Singapore. A little brother for Catherine (4 years) and Emily (2 years).

Vale

• Margaret Burstal (Ring, 1952) passed away after a long battle with cancer. She will be sadly missed by husband Jim and children Richard, John and Sue.
• Lesley Francis Hordern (Spooner, 1944) was at Pymble from 1938 (5th Grade) to 1941 (Year 8). She then transferred to PLC Orange for safety during WW2. Lesley was the first daughter, after three sons of Eric Spooner and his wife, Mary Berry. She had a lifelong love of classical music, literature and gardening, wrote books and did perfect needlework. She married Marsden Horden (a descendant of the Horden retail family and the convict era Reverend Samuel Marsden) in 1953. Lesley completed a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Sydney and in the 1960s she gained a Diploma of Librarianship from the University of NSW. She wrote three books in her lifetime, *Children of One Family* (which covers the first century of the Horden family), *Monuments and Memorials and The Man Who Designed a Bathing Costume*. Lesley died on 6 January 2011. She is survived by her husband Marsden, children Rosemary and Nicholas and grandchildren Alexandra, Edward, Richard and Charles.

• Mary Concord Hunter (McDonald, 1944) passed away on 7 September 2010. Home in Moree must have seemed a long way away as Mary travelled to Pymble to begin boarding in Marden House in 1940, but she always looked back on her school days with great affection and returned numerous times for special occasions. After leaving school, Mary nursed at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and there met Dr Bruce Hunter. They married in 1952 and shortly afterward moved to Taree to establish a General Practice. Mary was very involved with the surgery and the community. She served several terms on the local council and was involved in the establishment of an art collection and an art gallery for the town. Mary was awarded a British Empire Medal for her community work. When my husband joined the practice in 1974, Mary especially welcomed me as a fellow *Pymble* girl. Mary is survived by her sons, Robert and Andrew and four grandchildren.

  *Diana Rose (Ferguson, 1963)*

• Sarah Caroline Kong (Allen, 1990) always looked at the positive side of life. The second-born child of John Allen and Sandra (Carroll), Sarah was born in Sydney and grew up in Gosford. Sarah also leaves her loving grandmother Jean (Marnie) Carroll. Sarah completed her nursing degree at the University of Sydney and went on to work at St Vincent’s Hospital, Darlinghurst, where her greatest strength was in caring for others. She was always grateful of her own situation and insisted on looking after everyone else. Although never having any children of her own, her friends’ children, godchildren, nieces and nephew would quickly become favourites. A true and natural friend of many gifts, Sarah cultivated harmony amongst her family and friends. She touched so many lives and taught all how to enjoy life. She has left a legacy that will affect many forever. She leaves behind her loving husband Kelvin and her adoring cats Zigby and Coco. Sarah died on 3 April, 2011.

**Afternoon tea for some special Ex-Students**

Four delightful ex-students met in the Dorothy Knox Sitting Room for a scrumptious afternoon tea and a trip down memory lane on Tuesday 30 November 2010. These very special ladies attended the College in its early days and were thrilled to be taken on a tour of the campus and share stories of days at *Pymble* in the 1920s. Miss Hazel Perdrigia (1928), Mrs Mary Crouch (Slater, 1931), Miss Bertie Lloyd (1928) and Mrs Myrtle McCredie (Bertram, 1923) were thrilled to meet the Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters, Council Chairman, Mrs Kate Mason, ESU Secretary, Mrs Katrina Corcoran, Mrs Mary Smith and ESU Scholarship winners, Philippa Bean and Emily Jackson.

**Certificate of Commendation**

On 8 December 2010 Mia Leszynski (2008) was presented the Royal Life Saving Society’s Certificate of Commendation for her assistance in the rescue of Madison Goodrick at Wahroonga on 27 April 2009. To honour this, the patron of the Royal Life Saving Society, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales, hosted the Presentation Ceremony at Government House.

**Harriet Harding**

Harriet Harding (2006) won the 2010 Jann Rutherford Memorial Award, an award established for young female jazz musicians at the beginning of their professional careers. With co-leader bassist Jessica Dunn she has set up Sirens Big Band, a band of 17 of Sydney’s most talented young female instrumentalists weaving lilting African, Middle Eastern and Latin rhythms together with instrumental jazz. Harriet’s exploration of music has lead her on a diverse journey so far including performing in reggae clubs in Peru, playing percussion with the Sydney Youth Orchestra, tenor sax for Orquesta Kashe, soprano sax with Pow Pow Shizaam and a residency at the Tokyo Hotel’s Home Bar. Harriet is also the founder and leader of the Newtown Community Choir.

**A win for Smriti Arora**

Congratulations to Smriti Arora (2007) who was a member of the University of NSW Law Faculty Mooting Team which won the Australia wide competition.
95 years of excellence in education

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