Community spirit at Pymble
Welcome to our October issue of the Pymbulletin. This issue features several articles on serving in our community and the incredible efforts by students embracing the spirit of service and commitment, and the opportunity to make a positive contribution to society.

Our whole of College Pastoral Care Program addresses the social, emotional and spiritual needs of students, reinforcing social responsibility and ethical decision-making. 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 student fundraising initiatives.

This year our community is supporting the Multiple Sclerosis Society as its whole of College charity and within just a few weeks of this announcement our community rallied together for the MS Fun Run and Walk, with some fabulous results which you can read about on page 8. It was a tremendous effort and a fine example of our community coming together to support a worthy cause.

Our students are passionate about their community responsibility and have conducted numerous events to support charities, including a knit-in for ‘Wrap with Love’, a Mad Hatters Tea Party to celebrate Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea, collecting for the Salvation Army’s Red Shield Appeal and assisting at the Exodus Foundation’s Loaves and Fishes restaurant.

Our students strive for the highest across all endeavours, from their involvement in fabulous drama productions including the Wizard of Oz and The Decade Club to showcasing their creative talents on the catwalk at the Textiles on Parade and in the HSC Visual Arts exhibition.

We are very fortunate to have a committed College community, which supports our values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility both within and beyond the College gates. Our community recently came together for our annual Garden Party held on Saturday 17 September. The day was an outstanding success, enjoyed by thousands of visitors and made possible by the tireless work of our dedicated community of parents, staff, students and ex-students. Photos of this wonderful day will be published in the December issue of the Pymbulletin.

2011 has been an exceptional year so far and I am sure you will be inspired as you read the many stories of the outstanding efforts of our students as they embrace the school motto to strive for the highest, All’ Ultimo Lavoro.

Mrs Vicki L Waters
PRINCIPAL
BER Program enhances learning experience for Junior School students

A new covered outdoor learning area with rubber flooring and a specialist dance studio are two features of works completed under the Federal Government’s funded Building the Education Revolution (BER) Program in the Junior School at Pymble, officially opened on Friday 3 June.

“The covered outdoor learning area has significantly enhanced the continuity of the learning experience for our Junior School students,” said Mrs Vicki Waters, College Principal. “Extensions and refurbishments completed under the program have provided improved teaching and learning facilities for students and teachers and have allowed more flexible groupings for key learning areas.”

“Our Junior School students are thrilled with their extended and refurbished library. Bright colours, light-filled dedicated reading areas and an IT section combined with the extended floor space that is now three times the original area provides students with an ideal resource centre.”

Other works completed under the BER Program include an upgrade of the Junior School’s main courtyard featuring a mini amphitheatre, terraced areas and a new soft play surface; a new staff development area, kitchen facility and additional meeting and seminar rooms; refurbishments in the Junior School’s John Reid Hall; refurbishment of toilet facilities and improved wheelchair access to the Junior School’s buildings.

Mrs Vicki Waters officially opened the new facilities under the BER Program on behalf of Senator Chris Evans, Leader of the Government in the Senate and minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations.

Special guests who attended the opening included Councillor Ian Cross, Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Council, Mr Braith Williams, Chair of the College Council and Mrs Carol Bowern, Head of Junior School.

Principals at Pymble Ladies’ College – Apology

In the May 2011 issue of the Pymbulletin, past Principal Mrs Gillian Moore’s postnominals were incorrect. Mrs Moore is an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO). The correct details are shown in the list below.

Principals of Pymble Ladies’ 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 to present)
Our Preparatory School focuses on fostering caring relationships between the girls and their peers and teachers, and amongst parents, staff and the wider community. Within the Preparatory School a sense of safety and belonging is created for the girls, enabling them to challenge themselves to promote true learning for life. The Pymble core values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility rest on the understanding that our girls have basic psychological needs for safety, belonging, competence and autonomy. These in turn provide a strong foundation for the high quality learning that takes place in our school.

Chicks, Banjo the dog and a visit to the farm for Kindergarten

The hatching of twelve fluffy chicks after watching the precious eggs in an incubator for a week kept Kindergarten girls busy during Term 2. As part of their Science and HSIE topics the girls learnt about “The Farm and Meeting Needs”.

The girls also warmly welcomed Bryce and his beautiful dog Banjo to Kindergarten and learned about how to be safe around dogs with the highlight of the day being able to pat the ever patient Banjo!

A visit to Calmsley Hill Farm was a wonderful excursion during Kindergarten’s busy and exciting Term 2. Milking Isabelle the cow and having a ride on the farm tractor were voted the favourite activities for the day.
Weird and wonderful Australian animals

Year 1 girls created some amazing ‘Australian’ animals by combining the features of their favourite furry friends after learning about Australian animals. A visit to Featherdale Wildlife Park gave the girls an opportunity to see and touch a variety of Australian animals and learn about their adaptations and habitats. This wonderful experience was further enhanced by a visit from Linda, a Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Services (WIRES) volunteer, who spoke to the girls about her work with native animals. As part of the Year 1 Community Service Program, each girl made a small donation to support WIRES in its vital work.

In Term 2, Year 1 girls were educated by first hand experiences and advice about safety, health and wellbeing from a doctor, dentist and volunteer lifeguard as part of their topic on ‘People Who Help Us’ in Human Society and Its Environment.

Performing Arts in Preparatory School

Performing Arts plays an important role at Pymble and in the Preparatory School girls thoroughly enjoy participating in the program. 

During Term 2 the Preparatory girls were thrilled with a performance by Zeeko, a trio consisting of three musicians who perform in a variety of styles on a multitude of different instruments. Zeeko is part of the Musica Viva in Schools Program and plays original compositions which feature musical instruments created from items found in our natural and man-made environments.

Kindergarten also undertook a unit of work entitled ‘Colour’, Year 1 was captivated by the world of fairy tales and Year 2 drummed and danced away with ‘Living with the Rhythm’ as part of their Performing Arts Program.

The Preparatory School Choir was fortunate enough to participate in a workshop given by Miss Allison Harrigan, a professional choral conductor specialising in training young voices, who is the Sydney Children’s Choir Director of Education. Allison worked with the choir on their singing technique in a fun and highly effective way and introduced them to some interesting new choral repertoire for children by Australian composers.

Preparatory girls show support for others

The Preparatory School community is always very generous when it comes to contributing to various charities supported by the College. As well as the Pymble MS Magic Mile 2011, the Preparatory School conducted a mufti day for Multiple Sclerosis at the end of Term 2. Bear Cottage is always a favourite charity for the Preparatory School with proceeds from the Easter raffle supporting the charity.

Year 2 learn about family and leadership

Information reports, life cycles, diagrams and creative design activities focusing on mini beasts have kept Year 2 girls busy during Term 2. An excursion to the Wildflower Gardens in St Ives provided the girls with hands on experiences foraging on the forest floor for mini beasts and other curious creatures.

The girls also studied ‘Families’ in Human Society and Its Environment, looking at the relationships between family members and the roles of a family. Developing family trees and presenting information about their family background, including the language/s spoken at home, religion/s, traditions, practices, customs, celebrations and stories, provided some interesting items for news in Year 2.

The Year 2 girls have also had a taste of leadership. As the oldest students in Preparatory School, the girls are given leadership responsibilities such as being Kindergarten Reading Helpers, classroom assistants, basket and message girls as well as travel book distributors and are encouraged to work more independently and take more responsibility for their learning and behaviour.
Teddy bear dress up day assists Bear Cottage
Madeleine Jang and Isobelle Koerner, Year 6

Junior School girls dressed up their favourite teddy bear for a special day of fun and raised $1,006.75 for Bear Cottage. The event was inspired by Claudia Wheatley, 5S and involved each girl bringing a gold coin and their teddy bear dressed in a costume of choice to be judged on the day. All the girls were very excited as the prize was a jar of Caramello Koalas to be shared among the class with the winning bear. It was an exciting event, thoroughly enjoyed by all, especially girls in 6W, the winning class!

Old phone collection helps Indigenous school in Northern Territory
Ellen Papadimitriou, Year 6

Junior School girls collected old mobile phones in Term 2 as a Student Representative Council initiative to help support the Gapuwiyak Indigenous School in the Northern Territory. The collected phones were sent to the You Can Schools Program, organised by Sony, which provided equipment (in exchange for the phones) to the Northern Territory school.

Biggest Morning Tea
Paige Jackson and Mackenzie Cooper - Year 4 SRC reps.

In Term 2, the whole school got together for a huge morning tea on the Main Oval. Everyone brought in a gold coin and could wear a crazy ‘Madhatter’ hat. All the money was sent to the Cancer Council and we all had a beautiful time.
Books come to life in Junior School
Riya Bhambari and Scarlet Lindsay, Year 5

Junior School students and staff embarked on an amazing journey to a world where the pages of their favourite books were brought to life when they celebrated Book Day on 2 August. Teachers and students dressed in costume portraying much loved characters, such as the Cat in the Hat and Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum, along with the magic of characters from *Harry Potter*. Funds raised from the day supported St Lucy’s School, a Kindergarten to Year 6 school for disabled children.

Cupcake day for breast cancer
Monique Muskens and Natalie Taylor, Year 5

It was a case of cupcakes galore when Junior School girls brought in cupcakes to sell and raise money in support of breast cancer early in Term 2. With just about every girl bringing cupcakes to sell, there were plenty of cupcakes for girls and teachers to enjoy. We had a great morning tea and raised a lot of money.

Mufti day for Young Care Foundation
Monique Muskens and Natalie Taylor, Year 5

Junior School girls wore mufti on 16 June and brought in a gold coin donation to raise money for the Young Care Foundation. It was a fabulous turn out as most of the girls were wearing the colours of red, black and white. The Junior School raised around $600.00 in support of this very worthy foundation.

A step into the past
Molly Evans and Bronwyn Brereton, Year 4

Year 4 went on a fantastic excursion to Elizabeth Farm and Old Government House in Term 2. On arrival, we were transformed into 1828 convicts who had just stepped off a ship. Dressed in aprons and bonnets, we did convict chores such as making the bed, setting the table and baking scones. On completion of our chores we received our Tickets of Leave and travelled to Old Government House. As we arrived, we heard a blaring alarm bell ring and that’s when we met our worst nightmare - a very strict 1828 school teacher who taught us about the colony in New Holland.

Year 4 cupcake day
Nicola Boyce and Zahra Bilal, Year 4

In Term 1, Year 4 hosted a Cupcake Day. The girls and parents of Year 4 baked and iced and we had a spectacular spread of colourful cupcakes. Our feast was fit for a queen and every single cake was scrumptious! It was an enormous success and we raised $1,324.00 in total. The girls voted to sponsor a dugong at the Sydney Aquarium for one year as we had been learning about ‘The Living Sea’ and had visited the Aquarium on our excursion. The dugong is an endangered species. We had enough funds left to send to Japan for the earthquake victims. We all had so much fun!

Gummy bear guessing competition
Monique Muskens and Natalie Taylor, Year 5

With a large jar of gummy bears and a pad of tickets, two Year 6 girls set up a guessing competition in the Junior School playground in Term 2 to raise money for Westmead Children’s Hospital. Girls queued up to guess how many gummy bears were in the jar, with the final outcome of two winners splitting the prized contents of the jar and a total of $101.40 raised for the hospital.
community service

At Pymble students are instilled with an awareness of social justice and actively support charities throughout the year. Five core values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility encapsulate the spirit of the College and underpin the ethos of the Community Service Program.

Students are empowered to strive for excellence, but are also motivated to be equally committed to service, contributing back to the community.

Community Service Programs at Pymble are not restricted to fund raising activities for charity. The College seeks to foster a culture of service and a sense of community responsibility and encourages students to be actively involved in valuable service programs.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their ideas and for the development of a culture of respect for others. This inspires a more genuine connection and sense of ownership of the students’ chosen charity and builds a stronger understanding of disadvantage and need.

Every week the girls are involved in activities to support others – whether it be in the community or creating resources or raising funds. By giving, they gain so much in return.

Pymble community tops in MS Australia event

Aleisha Wawn, Year 11

In 2011, Pymble committed to supporting Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Australia as its whole of College charity. The first event to occur following Pymble’s pledge of support was the MS Walk and Fun Run held in Sydney on Sunday 5 June. With just three weeks to prepare, the College entered the largest number of competitors from any organisation in NSW and also raised the most funds for the event with $24,838.00 pledged by the College community.

More than 200 students, staff and family members entered the event, exceeding all expectations. The College community raised funds through special events including an initiative by Year 12 students, Grab A Bun For The Fun Run, a barbecue, drink and finger bun stall which proved a great success in raising funds and developing an excellent sense of team spirit.

Pymble students, Miranda Middleton, Phoebe Winch and Mary Kerr, also left their mark on the day, winning the open, under 17 and under 13 categories respectively. A representative of MS Australia presented the category winners at a presentation in a College Assembly on 19 July and spoke with the girls about living with MS.

Funds raised for MS Australia support important and potentially life-changing research in helping to find a cure for a disease which seriously affects an estimated 18,000 Australians.
Wrap with Love
Matilda Howard, Year 11

Years 11 and 12 students were joined by their mums and grandmothers in their Pastoral Care time immersed in balls of wool and clicking knitting needles to knit squares for the annual charity initiative, ‘Wrap with Love’.

For many girls this was their first time knitting and after the initial few squares, which had more holes than Swiss cheese, many girls were transformed into compulsive knitters – choosing knitting instead of maths homework! Parents, teachers, neighbours and grandparents all took up the challenge with many attending the Knit In at school. Students continued knitting their squares throughout Terms 2 and 3 knitting more than 30 blankets for people who would otherwise be facing the battle against the cold alone.

A group of five students and two teachers attended the ‘Knit In’ at Hornsby Library to hand-over Pymble’s contribution to this year’s drive for ‘Wrap with Love’. After two hours of sewing up blankets and testing knitting prowess in speed and blindfolded knitting competitions it was wonderful to spend time with the wider community of knitters and to present the 1,162 squares from Pymble.

‘Wrap with Love’ is a prime example of the students’ sense of community responsibility and is just one of the many service initiatives they are passionate about.

Wrap with Love is an Australian initiative which commenced in 1992 to help warm as many people as possible by providing warm wraps to ward off hyperthermia. Over the past 19 years more than 255,000 wraps have been distributed to people in 75 countries.

Mad Hatters Tea Party
Evangeline Murdoch, Year 11

The Main Oval was a sea of blue and yellow in May as students and staff from the whole College gathered for a ‘Mad Hatters Tea Party’ to show their support for the Cancer Council’s 2011 Australia’s Biggest morning Tea. Dressed in their ‘maddest’ hats girls brought plates of scrumptious food to school to share with their friends, while the judges made their way around the oval choosing who they deemed had the best hats. Winners were chosen from each of the different schools at the conclusion of the event. Music helped to create an entertaining atmosphere and the presence of all the girls and their teachers emphasised the community spirit of the day.

Congratulations must be given to the girls from Interact who helped organise the event which raised $3,462.40 to support the Cancer Council’s work in research, education and prevention of the disease.

Pymble girls support the Salvation Army
Cristina Carter, Year 11

Year 11 students were enthusiastic to support the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal when Majors Rowena and Dean Smith visited the College on 13 May to call for volunteers for the ‘2011 doorknock’.

Representing the Turramurra zone of the Salvation Army, Major Smith said Pymble is always very supportive of the Red Shield Appeal and they were impressed with the girls and their enthusiasm to think beyond themselves. The call for volunteers was moving and resulted in many Year 11 girls walking the streets of Turramurra on 29 May collecting buckets full of donations! Nicola Bowman and I were also given the opportunity to visit the Salvation Army’s OASIS Youth Support Centre for homeless Youth in Surry Hills. Meeting a number of young people who had been affected by homelessness was an indescribable experience and our eyes and hearts opened as the residents bravely shared the tough journeys they had endured. The incredible care of the Salvation Army stood out as the OASIS Centre staff spoke to us with truly immeasurable compassion.
Trivia night supports MS

Virginia Wang and Karmen Fong, Year 12

Pink, green, and silver streamers flowed across the atrium of the Senior School Centre, eagerly awaiting the arrival of 240 Year 12 students as they prepared for the ultimate test of their general knowledge, Trivia Night 2011, an event held in May which raised $3,001.40 in support of MS Australia.

With the theme ‘Blast from the Past’ girls donned roller skates, big hair and colourful tights to compete in ten testing rounds of trivia. In keeping with Pymble tradition, two teachers were invited to join each team to offer their expertise and knowledge. As each round of trivia was tallied, squeals of delight and excitement could be heard from each team as their point score rose.

The best dressed student was awarded to Rock Star Barbie (Joanna Pan), Mr Krautil scooped up best dressed teacher as the infamous Frankenstein and by unanimous vote, the best dressed table went to ‘Madeline and Friends’. The highest point score prize was won by ‘Black Sheep’ (Olivia Ronan, Olivia Chang, Cecilia Chang, Isabelle Galet-Lalande, Charlotte Salusinszky, Alice Han, Lauren Koch and Mr Antonio).

Outreach restaurant and St. Edmund’s School

Year 9 students committed to assisting at the Exodus Foundation’s ‘Loaves and Fishes’ outreach restaurant each month. A number of students in Years 9 and 10 have linked up with St. Edmund’s, a school which caters for students with intellectual disabilities, for a co-school musical concert and to assist with the school’s athletics carnival.

Assistance in Cambodia and India

Each year students travel to Cambodia to help at an orphanage. Their work involves anything from assisting with lessons to planting banana trees, and cleaning and helping with the children. A similar program has been conducted in India, with students working at a school in the foothills of the Himalayas at a village called Shegali. The girls stayed in a local house and worked at the school during the day, playing with the children and teaching them English. They also painted, laid floorboards and helped with general renovations around the school building.

Big sister program gets big results

Bethany McGauley, Year 11

Year 11 students linked up with students in Year 7 during Term 2 under a new initiative, the Big Sister Program, which gives students in the two year groups the opportunity to meet different people, gain a different perspective about life and school and access to support. Year 11 students were partnered with Year 7 girls during Pastoral Care time and what started as a simple name randomly selected and exchanged to each girl, soon turned into a letter and then fortnightly discussions.

Students reported back that everybody benefited from the program and learnt something from talking to someone from a separate year group, about a wide range of topics from exams, to Justin Bieber’s new hair cut and TV shows.

Picture books promote College values

Amanda Yao, Year 11

The Pymble Princess and Toby the Turtle were just two special picture books prepared by Year 11 students as part of their Pastoral Care time. Students created beautiful illustrated stories based on the College’s values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility to share with girls in the Preparatory School.

These self-made books were personally read to the Preparatory girls by the Year 11s, who, with their leadership, set a great example to the younger Pymble girls.

Balmoral Burn

Each year the College enters a number of teams in the Balmoral Burn which raises funds for the Humpty Dumpty Foundation. In 2011, 16 teams of Pymble students entered the race with some outstanding results and raised $3,000.

Paper cranes for messages of hope

Amanda Yao, Year 11

Pastoral Care every morning is always busy – whether girls are in chapel, assemblies or involved in charity and service initiatives. During Term 2 in Senior School girls folded paper cranes containing messages of hope and support for Cranes for Hope, a project supporting victims of the Japanese tsunami.
International success for Pymble rowers

Freya McGahey, Year 11

It was cheers all round when the Pymble rowing team won the School Girl 8 and the School Girl Coxed 4 at the Brentwood Regatta, the biggest regatta in the Pacific North West, held at Brentwood College at Mill Bay, Victoria, Canada in April.

The annual event which is in its 41st year attracted more than 1600 athletes and coaches from across Canada and the United States, provided the Pymble crew with the opportunity to compete at an international level of rowing with outstanding results. The girls also enjoyed immersing themselves in the picturesque scenery of Vancouver Island and Canadian hospitality.

The second leg of the Canada/USA Rowing Tour was held in Seattle in early May, where the Pymble rowers competed in the prestigious Windermere Cup at the University of Washington. This year’s event featured more than 700 athletes ranging in age from 14 to 70. This particular regatta gave the girls a taste of some of the opportunities that exist overseas in the large USA colleges and universities. The Pymble crews fought it out with the other rowers until the finish coming away with an impressive third place in the eight and a fourth place in Quad.

Fencing - state league championships

Pymble’s first Junior School fencing team, Scarlet Lindsay, Amy Kaleski, Freya Clarke and Caitlyn Trussell, competed in the NSW State League Fencing Championships in August and placed second overall. The team participated in a number of competitive bouts, displaying their skill in the sport, which qualified them to compete in the State Final in September.

The girls were victorious at the finals and claimed the title of State Fencing School League Champions.

Pymble girls dazzle at national championships

Lilian Zhu, Rhythmic Gymnastics Captain 2011, Year 11

Five talented Pymble gymnasts qualified at State competitions throughout the year to represent NSW at the Australian National Rhythmic Championships, held during the July school holidays in Perth, Western Australia. The girls from Years 6 to 11, Amie Long, Amellia Tamanaha, Alexandra Dixon, Emma Long and Lilian Zhu, performed exceptionally well and dazzled audiences with some wonderful results including a silver medal in Level 7 and first and third place in Level 9 of the National All Round Competition.

Pymble offers rhythmic gymnastics as a co-curricular program for students from Kindergarten, and competitive classes from levels one to ten. It is coached after school on campus and is a popular sport, combining flexibility, agility, co-ordination and grace.

The College has a talented team of rhythmic gymnasts and for the past decade, Pymble has been triumphant as the winning school at the annual IGSSA Gymnastics event.
International author speaks to Middle School girls

Shelley Cheng, Year 8

California based international author, Lauren Kate, was a star attraction when she visited Pymble to speak with students from the Middle School in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts on 2 August. Lauren’s visit was the result of a writing competition won by Year 8 student Shelley Cheng. In less than 50 words, Shelley convinced the judges that Lauren should visit Pymble to speak with the students in Years 7 and 8.

The Middle School girls were enthralled as Lauren spoke of her experiences as a writer and the passion she has for her characters. Lauren’s Fallen series, paranormal angel romances, has claimed a worldwide following of teenage girls and young adults.

During her visit, students had the opportunity to meet Lauren and were thrilled to have their own copies of her books from the series autographed by their much loved author.

Vietnam Veterans share war experiences with students

Caitlin Clark, Year 10

Years 9 and 10 students learnt about life on the battle fields as experienced by Australian soldiers when five Vietnam veterans visited the College on 7 June.

Conscription orders, ration kits, grenade launchers, uniforms and weaponry were the focus of interest as students observed displays in a bus decked out with military memorabilia from the Vietnam War.

Listening to stories by the Vietnam veterans, the students gained a first hand insight into the ravages of war and life in a war zone.

The veterans were extremely open and honest, telling heart-wrenching stories of their return from service hidden in the cloak of darkness, the treatment they received back home and the affect the war had on their families and marriages years after the fighting had ended. While these experiences were confronting, the knowledge students gained about the war was priceless. Their recollections were not all of the hardships they faced, with some of the men speaking about stories of love, humour and the sense of mateship among those who served in the war.

The veterans’ stories and experiences gave students a greater understanding of the Vietnam War and the training and jobs within the army, as well as showing the emotional and social pressures which they had encountered.
International scholarship award

Year 12 Pymble student, Lisa Gao, has been awarded a prestigious American Classical League Scholarship for university study in Latin or Greek at the university of her choice across the globe. Year 12 student, Virginia Wang was also recognised and placed on the reserve list for the scholarship.

“This is a great honour for Pymble,” said College Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters. “More than 130,000 students worldwide sit for the exams as set by the American Classical League and for one of our students to be awarded and a second student to be acknowledged is outstanding.”

Lisa is the only non-American winner of the 21 scholarships awarded, which provides $1,000 a year towards her study in Latin or Greek. Lisa has nominated to study Latin at the University of Sydney.

The American Classical League was formed in 1919 to promote the study of classical languages.

“Studying the classics is so rewarding,” said Lisa. “It helps you appreciate the English language and literature and also helps in studying English at school. Latin is not a dead language, the voices of writers from a different place and era transcends time and their stories are still significant today.”

In 2008, three Pymble students received the scholarship, and one of these students, Rachel White is still a recipient of the award in her third year of study at the University of Sydney.

Spotlight on Agriculture

Evangeline Murdoch, Year 11

Agriculture is offered to students at Pymble from Years 9 to 12, and with the growing demand for agriculture students and agronomists within Australia, it is becoming an increasingly popular subject at Pymble.

Studying agriculture provides students with the opportunity to interact with a farm environment through involvement in the College’s Ag Plot, where production of vegetables and rearing of animals is closely monitored and studied by the girls.

This year the Year 11 agriculture students conducted an ‘Egg Hunt’ during Easter giving Middle School students an opportunity to see the Ag Plot, learn a little about the animals that live there and what plants are grown in the area, before choosing subjects for Year 9.

The study of agriculture at Pymble goes beyond the College gates, with students travelling to rural areas to gain a hands on experience of agriculture as an industry. Excursions to the Elizabeth Macarthur Agriculture Institute run by the University of Sydney at Camden in Terms 1 and 2 provided students with the opportunity to see the new Automatic Milking System (AMS) Robot in use. Year 12 students travelled to the Country Valley Milk Processing Farm at Picton, to observe a complete dairy farming enterprise in motion and the impact that modern technologies, consumer demand and government regulations has on a farm corporation.

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Pymble girls work with world renowned musician

Joy Jin, Year 11

Pymble’s talented concert bands and guest musician Mark Walton OAM performed in a concert, Wind in the Reeds in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts on 7 May. The concert was the culmination of Pymble’s Artist in Residence Week, sponsored by the Ex-Students’ Union.

Walton, a world renowned virtuoso clarinettist and saxophonist, worked with Pymble musicians during the week through workshops and private tutorials. He joined the ensembles, including the Middle School and Senior School Concert Bands, Stage Band, Tour Band and Clarinet Ensemble, as well as talented soloists from the Secondary School on stage in an exciting night of jazz and outstanding music.

All proceeds from the evening went to assist the rebuilding of the Christchurch School of Music, which was completely destroyed in the recent New Zealand earthquakes.

Pymble’s parade of talent

Lilian Zhu, Year 11, Technology and Applied Studies Subject Captain 2011

Textiles and Design Technology students showcased their work and flair for fashion at the College’s annual Textiles on Parade, held in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts on 28 and 29 July. Higher School Certificate students opened the night with an exhibition of their major works, with a beautiful presentation in the foyer complete with canapés prepared by Year 11 Hospitality students. Special guest Edwina McCann, editor of Harper’s Bazaar, congratulated the girls on their great achievements and spoke about life in the world of high fashion. Girls from Years 8 to 11 went on to impress the sold-out audience of friends, family and staff with a range of beautiful and eclectic garments, produced by the students in their practical unit.

Awards were presented by The Wharehouse School of Design, Tessuti Fabrics and the TAS Department, acknowledging the extraordinary work and achievements by talented students.

Textiles Technology is part of the early secondary, compulsory Design and Technology Course, as an elective in Years 9 and 10, and as a comprehensive two unit course for Preliminary Year 11 and the Higher School Certificate. After school co-curricular dress-making is also available for Secondary School students.
Drama has audience in hysterics

Hannah Gwatkin, Year 11

An exciting, fun and romantic play of friendship and love that left the audience in hysterics, The Decade Club, was performed by the Year 11 Drama class in early June. With the entire cast and crew made up of Year 11 students, The Decade Club presented an exciting opportunity for the students to gain new insight into the arduous and complex task of conducting a professional production in only five weeks. With a less-than-friendly welcome from the show’s grumpy waitress, directors Nicola Bowman and Clara Strandhoj chose to arrange the set in a café-style atmosphere, the audience sitting on the stage itself for the first Act, with bean bags for the braver audience members. Surprisingly, the audience returned to a completely restructured set. Resembling the bow of a ship, the heart-warming story culminated with the final reunion of the six friends, forty years after the initiation of The Decade Club.

The acting was truly sensational, the six friends played by Miranda Altken, Emily Bird, Alanna Bowman, Lily Dobson, Alanna Irwin and Georgia Nicholas, and the music, organised by Alexandra Morgan, made you bop around in your seat.

Wizard of Oz delights audience

Clara Strandhoj, Year 11

The Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts played host to a dozen or so munchkins, an evil witch and a whole team of flying monkeys, in the Drama Ensemble’s production of The Wizard of Oz from 11 to 13 August.

The show was a great success, using a range of effects, from depicting a mighty hurricane to making an image of the ‘powerful Wizard of Oz’ come to life with some clever ‘theatre magic’ that delighted audiences.

The classic tale of Dorothy and her faithful dog Toto, who suddenly find themselves in a land far over the rainbow, was performed and staged beautifully by the entire cast and crew. The Drama Ensemble gives girls in Years 7 and 8 a wonderful opportunity to participate in a professional production, and for many of the girls it was their first time acting onstage. All students gave enthusiastic and fun performances, including Lucinda Smith-Stevens as Dorothy, Madeline Tanna as Scarecrow, Isabella Wagshall as Tinman, Josella Bray as Lion, Christina North as the Wicked Witch, Pascale Kahn as Glinda and Annabelle Rosewarne as the loyal Toto.

Visiting chef cooks up a storm

Miss Heather Cusiter, Assistant Head of TAS Department

Nhut Huynh, a Vietnamese chef, author of Little Vietnam and the College’s first ‘Visiting Chef’ for 2011, prepared four sumptuous dishes which guests were invited to sample at a special event held in the Hospitality area on 25 August.

The next visiting chef event will be held on 3 November and will feature Jeff Turnbull, owner and executive chef of High Street Bistro Willoughby. The Visiting Chef Program is an initiative of the Technology and Applied Studies Department at Pymble, which was first conducted in 2010.

Pymble girls in Theatresports challenge

Abbey Woodbury, Year 10

Theatresports is a very challenging competition, where one minute you can be on a safari in the jungle, and the next you are on Mars running away from aliens.

More than 120 schools from all over Sydney and regional NSW compete in the All Schools Theatresports Challenge, and this year for the first time on 10 May, Pymble entered eight students in two teams – Intermediate and Senior.

Georgia Fallon, Abbey Woodbury, Genevieve Graham and Jessica Long from Pymble’s Intermediate Theatresports Team competed at St Andrews Cathedral School, and after a difficult two hours, they placed second and made it to the Semi-Finals, held on 23 May.

The Senior Team, Caitlin Haigh, Rebecca Gulia, Alanna Irwin and Eleanor Agnew, competed at Shore School on 18 May and performed outstandingly, with many hilarious and memorable moments.
Pymble students meet Prime Minister on urban challenge

A group of Pymble Ladies’ College Year 9 students had a surprise meeting with the Prime Minister of Australia, The Honorable Julia Gillard MP, during their urban challenge across Sydney in June. The students were completing a challenge outside the Overseas Passenger Terminal at Circular Quay when they were greeted by the Prime Minister. The girls were most impressed to meet the Prime Minister who wished them luck on their urban challenge.

The urban challenge was a four day program specially designed for Year 9 students with a strong emphasis on collaborative investigation, experiential learning, the promotion of independence and responsibility in learning.

Competing in a range of projects, activities and challenges, 230 students in 18 teams made their way across Sydney to complete their challenges. The program was principally led by students, who held portfolios in each group including a team leader, treasurer, journalist, blogger, photographer and navigator.

“Enhancing the learning experiences of students with programs such as the Urban Challenge helps to build relationships, initiative, perseverance, adaptability, responsibility and an awareness of others,” said Mrs Vicki Waters, College Principal. “We entrust our students to tackle real life challenges while supporting our College values of care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility.”

Legal Studies students witness court in action

Philippa Bean, Year 11

Year 11 Legal Studies students were fascinated with the rigorous arguments put forward by barristers including cases concerning assaults, drug abuse and other criminal offences, when they attended the Downing Centre Local Court, Sydney during an excursion in Term 3.

The excursion provided students with the opportunity to extend their knowledge and gain a higher understanding of how our legal system actually works.

The girls also had an informative tour of the Police and Justice Museum in Sydney’s, Circular Quay where they were guided through an authentic old courthouse which is no longer in use and educated on the history of crime in Sydney’s bustling streets. The tours offered information on the changing concept of punishment and also a look at past investigations which have captured Australia’s attention over the years.

The day made for a fantastic educational opportunity to gain further insight into the workings of our own legal system and gave significant encouragement to the students considering the legal profession as a future career.
Students aspire to business leadership

Cristina Carter, Year 11

Feeling as if we had been thrown into the future, fellow Year 11 student, Mahalia Dainty and I walked excitedly into the gates of the University of Sydney all ready to learn about Business and explore the campus. We had been selected by the university to represent Pymble and shared the experience of the ‘Sydney University Aspiring Business Leaders Day’ with 48 other Years 11 and 12 students from all over New South Wales.

The day began early with a greeting from Professor Tyrone Carlin, the Acting Dean and was followed by inspiring and interactive presentations regarding Corporate Reputation from Ms Sandra Seni-Alday, Discipline of International Business, Mr William Harvey, Discipline of Work and Organisational Studies and finally Associate Professor Catherine Sutton-Brady, Discipline of Marketing.

The presenters spoke with passion and enthusiasm, inspiring us to make the most of our next journey in education. The day concluded with a group activity with students split into groups and given two hours to research, create and present a new business campaign for a particular business. Associate Dean Philip Seltsikas said: “Our Aspiring Business Leaders Program is a great opportunity for top students to sample university life” and Mahalia and I were very proud to represent Pymble at such an enriching day at the University of Sydney.

New York art course inspires Head of Visual Arts

The 2012 Pymble Parent Association Professional Development Grant was awarded to Ms Colleen Fry, Head of Visual Arts at Pymble. Ms Fry used the grant to attend a course in New York during the mid-year break titled, Connecting Collections: Integrating Modern and Contemporary Art into the Classroom, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, The Whitney Museum of American Art and the Guggenheim Museum. The focus of the course was the implementation of enquiry based learning, critical thinking and cross-curriculum learning. Ms Fry has returned to Pymble inspired after working with the educators of the four major art international museums.

Geography students explore Sydney

Bethany McGauley, Year 11

Year 11 Geography students tested their research skills when they travelled to Balmain and Pyrmont for an in-depth study of inner suburban Sydney as part of a senior geography project in May.

Equipped with cameras, maps, survey forms and notebooks, the students walked the suburban streets engaging people in conversations about the region and receiving some useful responses, which became vital in understanding geographic aspects of the area. After completing numerous surveys, taking photos, collecting data and mapping references students compiled accurate geographic reports.

Students voted the excursion a huge success and with the information and data collected they prepared an enlightening presentation on the area.

Model United Nations Assembly

Sarika Suresh, Year 11

Six Pymble students spent the weekend of 4 and 5 June in heated debates over topics including the United Nation’s veto power and disposal of chemical waste as participants in the Rotary International Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA), hosted at Ravenswood School for Girls.

MUNA challenges young people to respect and tolerate differences of race, religion and nationalism while retaining their individualism and the best of their national traditions.

The two teams of Year 11 students were sponsored by Ku-ring-gai Rotary Club and were among 147 student delegates from 40 schools who gathered as global citizens to represent a country from the United Nations General Assembly to debate on matters of world political and social concern.

Pymble was represented by Sarika Suresh, Nikki Raftopoulos and Philippa Bean acting as the country of Serbia, and Ankita Kapoor, Lucy Zhang and Maxine Malaney representing Denmark. The teams had great fun dressing up in their country’s national dress and carrying their country’s flag with pride.

The weekend provided the opportunity for students to consider a change of perspective and social context beyond Australia and gain deeper understanding of the proceedings of the United Nations.
PSPG Jeans for Genes

On a gorgeous winter’s day in August the Preparatory School Parent Group prepared for the Jeans for Genes Day barbecue.

As the hard working dads cooked 250 sausages the mums prepared for the hungry girls to arrive at 12.30pm. How could you not have a wonderful time - sun, sausage sizzle and friends all together and fundraising for a very worthy cause!

Hawaiian Hula Lula for Preparatory girls

Preparatory School girls and their dads enjoyed a great Father Daughter Dinner organised by the Preparatory School Parent Group on 3 June. With a Hawaiian Hula Lula theme, the Main Hall was transformed into a beautiful Hawaiian setting with lovely palm trees and a beach. All the girls and their dads enjoyed the night with entertainment by the Spirit of Island performance and dancing the Bop Till You Drop.
**JSPG**

Mother’s Day Stall

The Junior School Parent Group conducted a Mother’s Day Stall on 5 and 6 May for girls in the Junior School. It was great to see so many dads behind the tables, ready for what proved to be 45 minutes of extremely fast-paced retail therapy on both days. Crowd control was left to some very brave mums who did an admirable job and amazingly enough were still smiling at the end of the lunch period!

**MSPG**

Hollywood themed Year 8 mother daughter dinner a fun night for all

The Year 8 Mother Daughter Dinner held in Term 3 was an outstanding success with 210 mothers and daughters in attendance.

The hall looked amazing decorated in a Hollywood theme and the girls and their mums all looked like stars as they danced the night away. A special thank you to the Year 9 girls who worked so hard on the night. Their dedication, hard work and positive attitude are to be commended. Thanks also to the fantastic support of parents who helped in the lead up to the evening and on the night.

Years 3 and 4 girls and dads dance the night away

The cold snap in Term 2 just melted away when 270 girls and their dads partied at the Years 3 and 4 Hawaiian themed Father Daughter Dinner held on 20 May 2011.

Many gallant dads queued patiently delaying dinner just so their partners could take home a Graeme Biddle caricature! The Spirit of Island performers had all the girls doing the Hula whilst dads were taught to Haka. Dads and girls took to the dance floor after the amazing Fire Dance finale and danced the night away enjoying the fun Hawaiian atmosphere.
President’s Report

As we move through 2011 I take pleasure in reporting on the Ex-Students’ Union’s (ESU) continuing celebrations of the 95th anniversary of the College. The tireless efforts of the ESU Committee were focussed most recently on preparation for the Commemoration Day Chapel Service and the Diamond and Rubies Lunch which followed on 31 July 2011.

Commemoration Day Chapel Service and Diamond and Rubies Lunch

The Ex-Students’ Union again took great pride and pleasure in hosting the annual Commemoration Day Chapel Service on Sunday 31 July 2011. Reverend Barbara Oldmeadow graciously presided over the service at the invitation of Mrs Greer Dokmanovic College Chaplain who was overseas. We were delighted as usual with the beautiful singing of the ESU Choir under the inspiring leadership for 13 years running of Jillian Cranney (Stacy, 1972). We were mesmerised by the beautiful soloist piano performance of Jessica Sun (2010). Our guest speaker for the service was Dr Charlotte Hespe (Wright, 1980) who amazed us with her stories of rendering medical services throughout Australian and overseas communities and demonstrating to us all, her dedication, care and devotion to those less fortunate.

The Diamonds and Rubies Lunch followed afterwards where 90 delighted and excited ex-students gathered in their ‘ruby red slippers’ and ‘twinkle toes’ to lunch with Pymble girls.

The day was a great success from start to finish and we felt it was a fitting tribute to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the College. Just watch out for the celebrations in 2016 when Pymble turns a respectable 100 years old!!

Garden Party 17 September 2011

The Ex-Students stall was set up on the lawn to meet and greet our Pymble community at the 2011 Garden Party. This year we offered an additional range of crested goods.

We were very fortunate this year to have a beautiful piece of art work by Year 6 mother, Jacqui Joubert. Jacqui’s abstract painting of Pymble girls in their very distinctive blackwatch tartan summer dresses and Panama hats immediately conjures up wonderful memories of being a Pymble girl and reminds us of the many lovely friendships we have all had and the privilege of enjoying them.

Pymble girls are rarely idle and Judi Elliot (1974) is no exception. The 2011 Tour De France provided Judi with hours to crochet a beautiful Pymble rug. Immortalised as “Cadell ‘11” for obvious reasons, the 1.8 metre square snugly is guaranteed to warm the heart and soul of every Pymble girl. This was the second prize in the 2011 ESU Garden Party Raffle.

All proceeds from the ESU raffle support the Ex-Students’ Scholarship which we offer annually to a Year 11 student to cover half the cost of her tuition through Years 11 and 12.

Three Generations High Tea 22 October 2011

As our final celebration of the 95th anniversary of the College, the ESU will be hosting a High Tea on Saturday 22 October 2011 from 2.30pm to 4.30pm to acknowledge three (or more) generations of Pymble girls. If you are one of three or more generations, you are cordially invited to attend. There is no need to have all generations attend, the High Tea is to celebrate the ‘growing tree’ of generations throughout the College history, both present and into the future and please note that these connections may skip or jump families and generations.

To help 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.

We are sure that you will have lots of memories to share – your first day, funny things that happened, extraordinary events, customs and practices that no longer exist. Are there bits of folklore that have passed down through the generations? What was it like boarding during the war? What were your extra-curricular choices and stories? We would be delighted if you could forward any information with special memories or reminiscences together with copies of photos and other memorabilia that we could include in a commemorative booklet. Even stories from your current girls are welcome!

If you would like to share information with us, please contact Kristen Faahhan-Smith (Wood, 1987) faahhan smith@yahoo.com or Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987) katrinacorcoran@yahoo.com or Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987) katrinacorcoran@yahoo.com or you can send information to our postal address at PLC ESU, PO Box 15, Pymble NSW 2073.

ESU AGM

All Pymble Ex-Students are very welcome to attend the upcoming Ex-Students’ Union Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 28 October 2011 at 6.30pm in the Senior School Centre. You are also welcome to join us after the formalities for a light supper. RSVPS are essential to esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au

Staying in touch

We had a very pleasing response to our flyer which was included in the last edition of the Pymbulatin seeking updated contact details for all those on our membership database. As is the case with any organisation, we are dependent on the responsiveness of our members. Please remember...
to keep us informed of any changes to your contact details. We also invite you to provide us with any feedback you may have and we look forward to your support and participation in our future events.

**Year 12**

Each year we send out an invitation to the girls in Year 12 to join the Ex-Students’ Union as life members before they leave the College to explore and enjoy the world beyond Pymble. We are very keen for the girls to join before they leave us as it gives us a contact point for the future which can be lost through changing surnames and the mobility of the younger generation.

We will be hosting the Year 13/14 Cocktail Party again next year. We host this special event every second year to reunite the girls of the past two Year 12 groups. Only life members receive this invitation as their first ex-Student activity. It’s usually the first contact with the girls since they have left and we get a fabulous response. Please help yourselves or your daughters to be part of this gathering by joining before you or they leave the College. Membership applications can be found on the Ex-Students’ tab on the College website. Remember: once a Pymble girl always a Pymble girl.

**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](mailto:esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au)

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**Interstate/International Reunions - 2011**

**Brisbane Reunion Lunch**

The 2011 Pymble ladies luncheon in Brisbane will be held on Saturday, 8 October 2011 at 12.30pm for 1:00pm lunch. The luncheon is being held at *Era Bistro*, 102 Melbourne Street (corner Merivale Street), South Brisbane.

Contact Helen Gibson at PO Box 457, Caboolture QLD 4510 Phone: 07 5496 6544 or Email: research2@hotkey.net.au

**Class of 2001 – 10 Year Reunion in London**

A ten year reunion for 2001 ex-students is being organised for this November in London. Please contact Vanessa Ballauff via email at vanessaballauff@gmail.com or Sarah Estens at sarah.estens@gmail.com for details.

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**Upcoming Reunions - 2011**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Year Reunion</td>
<td>2006 Leavers</td>
<td>Friday 28 October 2011, 7.00pm to 10.00pm, The Loft, 3 Lime Street, Sydney (Cockle Bay), S55 includes canapes, wine, beer and soft drinks. Join Pymble class of 2006 Facebook group.</td>
<td>Amy Marks (Seton) E: <a href="mailto:amymarks26@gmail.com">amymarks26@gmail.com</a> [phone] 0434 190 351</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Year Reunion</td>
<td>2001 Leavers</td>
<td>Saturday 5 November 2011, 8.00pm, Balcony Bar 46 Erskine Street, Sydney. See Pymble 10 Year Reunion Facebook event page.</td>
<td>Louise Chau E: <a href="mailto:louise.m.chau@gmail.com">louise.m.chau@gmail.com</a> Melanie Cowlishaw E: <a href="mailto:mdcowlishaw5@gmail.com">mdcowlishaw5@gmail.com</a> [phone] 0412 30 47 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1991 Leavers</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:sammiabs@people.net.au">sammiabs@people.net.au</a> [phone] 0411 60 43 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1986 Leavers</td>
<td>Friday, 29 October 2011, 7.30pm at Edwina Faucett’s (Seaton) home, 22 Greengate Road, Killara. Please BYO drinks and a plate to share.</td>
<td>Catherine Parker (Phipppard) M: 0411 131 131 E: <a href="mailto:cathaparker@gmail.com">cathaparker@gmail.com</a> by 18 October 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1976 Leavers</td>
<td>Friday 14 October 2011, Plato Restaurant, 123 Blues Point Road, McMahons Point at 6.30pm S55.00 per person including food and drinks (champagne, wine, softs). Invitation and payment details being sent to 1976 leavers.</td>
<td>Wendy Dreyfus (Sherman) E: <a href="mailto:dreyfus@pobox.com">dreyfus@pobox.com</a> [phone] 0401 75 47 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1971 Leavers</td>
<td>Saturday 12 November 2011, luncheon at 12.00 noon, David MacFarlane Centre, Pymble.</td>
<td>Barbara-Gai Herden (McLellian) E: <a href="mailto:s03herden@gmail.com">s03herden@gmail.com</a> Merran Davidson E: <a href="mailto:merrandavidson@hotmail.com">merrandavidson@hotmail.com</a> [phone] 0411 90 55 88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingleholme Kindergarten 50 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1961 Kindergarten Class</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>
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<tr>
<td>50 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1961 Leavers</td>
<td>Saturday 29 October 2011, luncheon at 12.00 noon, venue to be advised with invitation.</td>
<td>Anne Stephen (Priddle) E: <a href="mailto:stephenb@bigpond.net.au">stephenb@bigpond.net.au</a> Margaret Mullen (Langsworth) E: <a href="mailto:margmullen@yahoo.com.au">margmullen@yahoo.com.au</a> [phone] 0434 190 351</td>
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<tr>
<td>55 Year Reunion</td>
<td>1956 Leavers</td>
<td>Saturday 5 November 2011, tours of the College at 11.30am followed by lunch at 12.30pm in the David Macfarlane Centre, Pymble</td>
<td>Barbara Wood (De Groot) E: <a href="mailto:grootal@primus.com.au">grootal@primus.com.au</a> Betsey Whittleford (Brain) E: <a href="mailto:rogbetsw@bigpond.net.au">rogbetsw@bigpond.net.au</a> [phone] 0404 843 673</td>
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**Three Generations High Tea at Pymble**

Enjoy a High Tea to celebrate the 95th Anniversary of the College. Saturday 22 October 2011 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Open to ex-students who are one of three or more generations at Pymble. Contact Kristen Faahan-Smith (Wood, 1987) email: faahansmith@yahoo.com or Katrina Corcoran (Hum, 1987) email: katrinacorcoran@yahoo.com.au or mobile: 0404 843 673.

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*esu@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au or PO Box 15, Pymble NSW 2073*
Reunion reports

65 Year Reunion

Twenty-two 1946 Pymble ex-students celebrated their 65th Reunion at an enjoyable lunch held at Killara Golf Club recently. Thanks to Robanne Howie (Collerson), Margaret Bray (McCluskey) and Jean Miller (Robertson) for organising our gathering; to Margaret Coleman who was Master of Ceremonies and to Ruth Sinclair (Gray) our Head Prefect who cut the cake.

Ann McKern (North, 1946)

60 Year Reunion

1951 Pymble ex-students celebrated their 60 Year Reunion at a luncheon held at the College on 30 April, 2011. The ladies were in fine voice singing the School Song without missing a beat and thoroughly enjoyed their 60th get-together.

15 Year Reunion in London

1995 Pymble ex-students met at the Prince Albert in Marylebone High Street, London for a 15 Year Reunion late last year. Pictured from left: Emma Godhard, Mel Seeto, Edwina Wotherspoon, Serena Sharp and Bonnie Wong. Thanks to Grace Yee for taking the photo! It was a fun night catching up and thanks to Mel for organising the evening!

Bonnie Wong (1995)

Announcements

Marriages

- Joula Dekker (2000) married Mark Howard on Saturday 9 April 2011 in the Rose Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Her three bridesmaids were Pymble girls.

- Jacqueline Delaney (2000) married Andrew Hawkins on 10 December at Curzon Hall in Marsfield. All four of her bridesmaids were Pymble girls.


Births

- Amelia Jacka (Thomas, 1996) and husband Justin are thrilled to announce the arrival of their son, Xavier Patrick Jacka, on 13 December 2010. Xavier is a little brother for two year old Lochie.

- Susannah Radcliffe (Craigie, 1992) and husband Ewan are proud to announce the birth of their second son Jack Edward Radcliffe on 3 June 2011, a brother for Tom.

- Susan Saunders (Jones, 1989) and husband Philip are delighted to announce the birth of their son Henry George on 11 August 2010, a precious little brother for Ewan and Emma.

- Lara Ters (Westaway, 1997) and husband, Charbel, are proud to announce the arrival of their first child, a beautiful daughter Isabelle Olivia, born on 9 May 2011.

- Emma Westall (Paxton, 1994) and husband Scott are thrilled to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Romy Paxton Westall, on 16 April 2011.
**Vale**

- Betty Marian Ferguson (Rogalsky, 1937) passed away on 12 September 2011, aged 91.
- Rev Theodora Hobbs (Milne, 1947) the last female Presbyterian Minister ordained in NSW, sadly died in July 2011 in Canberra. Theodora was the eldest of three daughters, all of whom attended Pymble. She came to the College in 1942 and was dux of the school in 1947 before graduating with first class honours in French at the University of Sydney and awarded a French Government Traveling Scholarship to the Sorbonne.

  Theodora married a Cambridge graduate, Michael Hobbs, who returned with her to Sydney where they raised four children, including one daughter Catherine, a former student also at Pymble. Theodora’s interests broadened and she became involved in numerous activities, including the NSW President of the Save the Children fund, worked on the University of Sydney Ethics Committee and the Women’s Electoral Lobby becoming its women and religion convenor in 1972, and served on the Lavender Bay precinct committee to protect May Gibbs’s house, Nutcote.

  Her two great loves were libraries and the Presbyterian Church. In 1988 Theodora was ordained a Minister of the Presbyterian Church, despite the growing opposition towards women’s ministry. Before her ordination she was forced to face a ‘heresy trial’ which caused her great anguish.

  Throughout Theodora’s life she was a friend to many, a warm caring fun loving person with many interests. Her last years were spent in Canberra where she went to live after developing Alzheimer’s Disease. A funeral service was held at St Andrew’s Canberra on Friday 29 July and a Sydney memorial service was held on Monday 1 August at St Peter’s Presbyterian Church, North Sydney. Barbara Gray (Cross, 1947) and Barbara Knox (Blackwell, 1947)

- Dorothy Bishop Lacey (Meers, 1930) died on 12 July 2011. Dorothy was a descendant of the pioneering Meers and Jones families of the Collie district in NSW. She attended Pymble for the last two years of her schooling and for many years afterwards enjoyed reunions with her fellow students.

  Dorothy married Tom in 1945 and after their first son, Ross, was born in 1946 they moved into their home at Dalwood. Their second child, Joy, was born four years later and third child, Jan, was born in 1960. Dorothy’s family was everything to her and in her Obituary read by her grandson, Tim Lacey, she also had great happiness to see the arrival of her great grandchildren. Dorothy was laid to rest at Western Districts memorial Park Dubbo.

- Hazel Allen Marks (Marshall, 1942) attended Pymble from Year 7, having spent her earlier years at Roseville Public and Ascot State School in Queensland. She enjoyed her three years at the School, especially playing hockey and netball, and developed a lifelong friendship with several girls. Other friendships were rekindled when her daughter and niece commenced at the College. She married Ken Marks in 1951 and had a daughter, Janette Stewart (Marks, 1972) and son, Grahame. Hazel had an active mind and was very interested in family history. With her daughter and family, Hazel travelled across Australia, camping in Central Australia, the Kimberleys and Cape York. These trips were an absolute highlight for her. Hazel was very involved in community activities in her later years becoming involved in Probus and Ku-ring-gai Historical Society, taking on many voluntary roles. Hazel passed away on 1 June 2011, leaving her two children and four grandchildren. Hazel has left wonderful memories. Janette Stewart (Marks, 1972)

**News**

**Australian Women’s Relay Team member**

After moving to Toowoomba, Queensland to train for track and field with Gerrard Keating, former Australian 100m champion and record holder, Pymble ex-student, Charlotte van Veenendaal (2006), represented Australia in the Women’s 4x100m Relay Team at the 2011 World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, 27 August to 4 September 2011.

**Scholarship recipients**

Pymble ex-students, Annabel Probert (2007) and Gillian Bennett (2008) were acknowledged as scholarship recipients when they attended the University and Schools dinner held in May.

**Penelope Seidler AM (Evatt, 1955)** was recently awarded the Chevalier of Legion D’Honneur by France. This is the highest decoration order in France.

**Christobel Mattingley (Shepley, 1944)** has been chosen as Australia’s nomination for the 2012 Hans Christian Andersen Award presented biennially by the International Board on Books for Young People. Last year Christobel received the Alice Award from the Societies of Women Writers of Australia, also given biennially to “an Australian woman whose written work has made a distinguished and long term contribution to literature.” Christobel has written 50 books, 45 for children, many of which have been shortlisted or received awards and recognition in Australia and overseas. Some of her books have been made into films by the ABC for schools programs. One of her most recent, Maralinga the Anangu Story, was the basis for two documentaries for ABC’s Message Stick, as well as being an Honour Book in the Children’s Book Council of Australia 2010 Awards and shortlisted for the Australian Publishers Association Awards and the NSW Premier’s Young People’s History Prize in 2010.

**Marlene Moses (1980),** Ambassador to Nauru, visited Pymble in March and was taken on a tour of the College by students, Samantha Bear and Pippa Kensit. Ambassador Moses was impressed with the students and commented that they were excellent ambassadors of the College.

**Jana Bowden (1999),** who left the College after completing Year 9 in 1996, has been awarded one of 20 prestigious national teaching citation awards by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, in recognition of her career as a lecturer in Marketing at Macquarie University. “I am an extremely passionate educator and find teaching an extremely intrinsically rewarding career,” said Jana. Jana received her award at a special ceremony at the Sydney Opera House on 16 August.
The Year 12 HSC Bodies of Work Exhibition official opening on Friday 22 July 2011 was a wonderful evening enjoyed by the Year 12 Visual Arts students, parents, friends and staff.

Guest artist, Patrick Shirvington, opened the exhibition expressing his admiration for the 56 Bodies of Work and the art education that Pymble girls’ experience. Over the weekend and the following two days, the exhibition was visited by hundreds of people who were impressed by the excellence of artworks and diversity of art forms.