Celebrations for our 100th year are almost at an end. The only event remaining is a gathering of past and present staff. While there is some relief attached to the fact that our three major events are over and were truly memorable, there is renewed optimism as our journey continues.

The preparation for our celebrations began over 12 months ago with a generous committee whose ideas flowed. The committee comprised three sub-committees and, because this publication lives in posterity, I would like to publicly acclaim those who led those initiatives: Mr Charles Lovelock – the Gala Performance; Mrs Stones Lindsay – the Mass in St Mary’s Cathedral; Ms Di Lawrence and Mrs Vicki Scott – the Opening of the Anita Murray Centre for Performing Arts and Sciences. Supported by gifted and capable staff, these committees created unique and memorable opportunities for our students and the broader Brigidine community. Each event was remarkable because it not only reflected our current context but involved students, staff and families who have left the College. That sense of belonging and connection is genuinely felt and genuinely offered to all and long may it continue to define the culture of the College, hospitality and warmth, those values St Brigid modelled so long ago.

The Chair of the College Board, Ms Anne Ginnan, stated in her address at the Opening as she introduced Her Excellency, the Governor, Dame Marie Bashir:

You represent all that we wish for our girls at Brigidine – a selfless commitment to the service of others, especially those most in need, and the capacity to model in the best sense of the word, all that a woman can aspire to and achieve in shaping a caring society that allows its citizens to flourish.

This 100th year sees us in a good space – a thriving community where all are welcome and valued. We look ahead with optimism and look back to those foundational principles which guide and support us.

Jane Ginnan
Principal
A Jubilee Celebration

Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral

Be faithful to our Catholic heritage.
Welcome all people, especially the vulnerable.
Celebrate all that is good with joy and gratitude.
Engender a love of learning, hope and a sense of purpose.
Social justice and service to others.

These are the core values of Brigidine education and were the central themes as we celebrated our Diamond Jubilee Mass on Tuesday 17 June.

St Mary’s Cathedral was a fitting venue for such a significant celebration. It was particularly beautiful filled with students, staff, parents and invited guests, so many who owe so much to the Brigidine Sisters, our most important guests.

The Mass was a true celebration of all that we cherish. The music provided by Ms Ros Boyd, Mr Charlie Lovelock, Ms Kathryn Ramsay, members of our Community Choir and our talented students filled the Cathedral.

Rebecca Johnson of Year 12 gave a moving rendition of Pie Jesu as the Reflection after Communion.

The Brigidine community was well represented through those who offered our Prayers of the Faithful: Mrs Barbara Brennan (first College Captain, 1954), Mr John Bowles (College Principal 1996-2005), Mr Brett Kimmorley (Board Deputy Chair and current parent), Meaghan Collins (Year 7 2014), Miss Natalie Nabbandian (Staff member 2014), Andrea Baxter (College Captain 2000), Sr Anita Murray (College Principal 1975-1989) and Dr Kerry Ann O’Sullivan (Class of 1976, Head of English 1985-1997 and current Board member). We are so grateful they could all play a significant role in this Mass as a reflection of the significant roles they have played at the College over the past 60 years.

The Procession of Gifts was enriched with symbols of the charities supported at the College throughout 2014. Mrs Sally Dickens and her daughter, Elisha of Year 12, led the procession followed by a representative from each Year group. Each carried her gift of charity to the altar as a reminder of our sense of service to others.

After the Mass a picnic lunch was enjoyed by staff and students at the College before girls in Years 7 to 11 each made a St Brigid’s Cross using straws. The straws were then collected and put together to form one large cross made from many – a fitting end to our celebration.

Many thanks to the enormous number of people who helped to make this Diamond Jubilee Mass such a joyful celebration. We have much to be proud of.

Maree Lindsay
College Staff and Year 12 Coordinator
A Jubilee Celebration

Diamond Jubilee Gala Performance

The Diamond Jubilee Gala Performance was held at Bowle Hall on Thursday 5 June to showcase the performing arts at Bridgeline and celebrate the College's 60th Anniversary through music, dance and drama.

Musical numbers ranged from the recently formed Percussion Ensemble providing a dramatic and energetic opening number, to the College's established and longstanding Concert Band which has been performing since the 1960s. Members from the whole community had their turn in the spotlight with past and present students, staff and parents making up the Community Choir, which was formed especially for the Gala Performance.

Other musical items included two HSC pieces by Year 12 Music students Hannah Garcia and Rebecca Johnson, along with performances from the College Choir, String Quartet, Senior Vocal Ensemble, and an excerpt from this year's College Musical, Beauty and the Beast.

Dance was also a feature of the evening with Year 7 students, Kahlil Gabriele, delighting the audience with an Irish dance which provided a link to the College's Irish ancestry. Three routines from the Dance Club were also on display, starting with the spellbinding lyrical routine Say Something which was performed in three acts earlier in 2014. Other dance numbers included a high-energy jazz piece, Circus, and an exciting contemporary routine, Amnes, which was awarded first place in last year's City of Sydney Eisteddfod and went on to receive the People's Choice Award in The Dance of Champions, the highest level of the competition.

The audience was also entertained by the College's two Aerobics teams, both of which were formed in 2012 and have already gained success representing NSW at the National Championships in 2013 and 2014. Our brilliant dramatists were in top form and provided some insight into the fabulous work they do. Students from the Year 11 Play had the chance to show an extract from Molière's hilarious The Bourgeois Gentilhomme.

The Year 10 Drama ensemble presented a group devised piece entitled Flawless, written and directed by our senior Drama teachers, Miss DiAnne McDonald and Mr Chris Rutherford. The cleverly written script explored the role of a woman, tracing the transition from the 1950s perfect housewife through to the corporate world of the 1960s and, finally, to the multifaceted and restricted role of today's contemporary woman.

Past students of the College were also heavily involved. Alumni 'stars of the past' had the opportunity to tread the boards of the Bridgeline stage again, presenting parts of their original HSC Drama Individual Performances. Other Alumni featured in a short film put together for the event titled: A Diamond Jubilee Perspective: Being a Bridgeline Girl, where the College motto, Fortiter et Suavitatem, Strength and Gentleness, was visually represented by the lives and stories of three women: Maureen McCallum (nee Dalton, Class of 1958), Lizak Russell (nee Singh-Bair, Class of 1969) and Jasmin Singh-Bair (Class of 1969). The evening's Master of Ceremonies included College Alumni Glinde Mullin (Pioneer and Golden Girl, Class of 1963), Denise Brady (Pioneer and Golden Girl, Class of 1969), sisters Kate McEnehone (Class of 1993) and Sally Hudson (nee McMahon, Class of 1986), Marie Duffy (College Music teacher and staff member 1976–1998), Margaret Cook (College English teacher 1970–1997) and Rebecca Quinn (2009 College Captain), who were each accompanied by a member of the College's 2014 Senior Six.

Not only did we see an amazing range of talent from both past and present students on stage, the event also included the skills and expertise of a range of people from the College community: our Girls in Black crew worked tirelessly behind the scenes making sure the show ran smoothly and looked fantastic; Visual Arts students decorated the foyer, providing a stunning entrance to great audience members on arrival; the Maintenance team executed the setup of the Hall exceptionally well and worked tirelessly in the lead up to the event; and members of College staff were vital in ensuring the evening ran flawlessly – a diamond effort by all!
A Jubilee Celebration

Anita Murray Centre Opening Ceremony

It was so fitting that the opening of the Anita Murray Centre for Performing Arts and Sciences was such a celebrated event as it was the culmination of great effort, planning and long-awaited facilities.

The College was honoured to have Her Excellency, Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO, officially open the Centre on Tuesday 22 July, particularly as it was one of her last duties as Governor of NSW. On arrival Her Excellency was met by the Official Party and greeted with a Guard of Honour formed by Student Year Group Leaders as she proceeded to Bowie Hall where staff and students eagerly awaited.

In introducing Dame Bashir to the students, College Principal Mrs Jane Cumn remarked that Her Excellency had lived a life that models how education can be used in the service of others. Mrs Cumn stated that Dame Bashir "truly embodies the Briglanite motto of strength and gentleness."

The Official Party then proceeded to the Murray Theatre for the Opening ceremony, observing a traditional smoking ceremony that took place outside the Centre.

Board Chair Anne Gasman welcomed the College community and special guests including Sr Anita Murray, Principal from 1975 to 1989, after whom the building was named. Fr Paul Fitzgibbon gave the blessing and Dame Bashir jointly unveiled the model plaque with Sr Anita to name the Centre and declare it officially open.

Sr Anita was acknowledged by Mrs Cumn as a much loved member of our community. She said, "It was unanimously decided to name this building in your honour. We hope it brings joy to those students and staff who have the benefit of its presence on campus and may, if we always stand as a reminder of your dedication to art and love of the arts community."

Mrs Cumn expressed her gratitude to all those who had contributed so much to the planning and construction of the Centre including College Boards and sub-committees, Fulton Trotter Architects and the consultant team, Co-Wyn Building Contractors, Pat and Marc Cohen, Oliva Chandler, Director of Support Services Michael Layden, Property Manager Brian Rordan and the many College staff who contributed to the design development.

In addition Mrs Cumn thanked all those donors who had contributed to the 2012/13 Capital Appeal and Annual Giving donors who supported the Theatre through the Take a Seat project.

This excitement of the event was elevated by live streaming of the proceedings shown in both the Murray Theatre and Bowie Hall. This provided for the inclusion of our students, staff, Briglanite Sisters, parents, donors, friends and Pioneers present on the day.

The new facilities were enjoyed by our special guests following the ceremony. Year 10 students led personalised tours through the soundproofed music classrooms and tuition rooms, drama and dance studios, science laboratories and general classrooms.

Dr Lawrence
Director of Development and Community Relations

College Principal Mrs Jane Cumn remarked that Her Excellency had lived a life that models how education can be used in the service of others.
2014 Snapshots

"Our guest speaker, Lynika Cruz left us with the message that we are our own best friends; we need to like ourselves to move forward and achieve success."

Georgie Callaghan-Gilmour, Year 10

"We managed to raise in the vicinity of $1200—$1300 for the Community Project of a classroom rebuild we will take part in during our trip in December 2014 to Thailand/Laos. What a great result!"

DI Lawrence, Staff

"We developed an understanding of the problems faced by the country in trying to rebuild a future for their people, along with the importance they place on education."

Sue Gibson, Teaching Staff

"I loved our Year 12 Retreat and I enjoyed that we were able to spend time reflecting on our lives, our relationships and the future that we are embarking on, both as individuals and as a group. I will never forget the experience."

Emily Heyes, Year 12

"At the end of the Mass each mother was presented with a flower and a prayer card from her daughter."

Ingrid Thompson, Teaching Staff
Annual Giving 2014: What’s the story?

“In years to come she can come back and show her own daughter her seat and tell the stories of wonderful days here.”

These were the words of a parent who was so excited to contribute to Take a Seat. We hope this will be the start of many ongoing Brigantine stories. It seems that many different stories will be recalled through this program which aims to support the Inspiring new Theatre the girls are enjoying.

Another request for a seat came from a Pioneer who was amongst the first students of 1954 – now five of our early students take their place in the front row of the Murray Theatre. Some have dedicated a seat to a friend who has since passed away.

Some families have “taken a seat” for sisters side by side and others have asked for their family name to be on the plaque, collectively celebrating their connection with the College. The Take a Seat program has provided an important means of supporting the breadth of performing arts experiences our girls are enjoying through the Murray Theatre – drama, music, public speaking, dance and film. We are already seeing the benefits of this space, with a record-breaking number of Drama students nominated for Cristbajal (HSC Drama Showcase) this year.

Other stories are being told through the support received from our community for the Bunyip program. Unfortunately each year some families experience misfortune. It is so much a part of the Brigantine way to assist families such as these in times of difficulty. Gifts to the Bunyip Fund help us support such families and offer a stable educational context in times of need.

We thank this year’s donors, who gave $24,000 to assist in these important programs. We also appreciate all those who give their time and effort to ensure the continuation and progress of the College.

Di Lawrence
Director of Development and Community Relations

Our lucky winners on the night were:

Trivia Winners
Brisbane and Pino Varone and friends

Best Dressed Female
Leisa Burns

Best Dressed Male
Stuart Tavaron

Best Dressed Table
Cat in the Hat, Dr Seuss team

These events take a great amount of planning and preparation and so a very well-deserved thank you to our Trivia Committee of Vanessa Samson, Sally Stewart, Catherine Cleland and Ains Tinker. Also thanks go to the volunteers who helped behind the scenes over the last week to collate and wrap prizes and decorate Bowie Hall which looked fabulous on the night. The P&F cannot organise such great events without the support of the College, Di Lawrence and her team who have again been a great supporter to the Trivia Committee, Leah Crockett with AV and, of course, Brian Rocrabin and the Maintenance team who set Bowie Hall.

Again, thank you to everyone who attended the evening, helped out on the night or helped with the organisation of the event. It is so important not only to raise funds for the College but also to “fund raise” to build the Brigantine community.

If you would like to become involved in the P&F in any way please email pnf@brigantine.nsw.edu.au for further information.

Laura Harstfield
P&F President

1. Best dressed team winners - Cat in the Hat
2. The Trivia Committee preparing for the night
3. Pink lollies and friends
4. Bill and Julie Gleeson wearing the 1954 College uniform
5. Trivia Winners - The Grumpy Team
6. Mathematics staff - Bright in the Rain
The Bourgeois Gentleman

"I see we have begun a new chapter in the history of folly!"

The Year 11 Play is an institution at Brigidine College. Started by Mrs Margaret Cook in 1975 it has provided many opportunities over the years for our budding Brigidine thespians and drama queens to tread the boards within the safety and support of the Year 11 cohort.

In true gypsy-like style, the Year 11 Play has been performed in many venues across the College: Board Hall, Bowie Hall, outdoors on the Year 11/12 verandahs and even on the gravy tray near the College Green. This year marks the Year 11 Play’s new venue, the Murray Theatre. We are so blessed to finally have such a fabulous performance space that our girls can access daily to promote, enhance and refine their performing arts skills. There is much cause for celebration!

And celebrate we did – by presenting Moloney’s classic The Bourgeois Gentleman. Originally written by the great French playwright in the 1670s, the ‘bourgeois gentleman’ Monsieur Jourdain of Paris, desires one thing in life: to be a proper gentleman and part of the upper class. To achieve such greatness he hires actors, singers, philosophy and dancing teachers to improve his ‘education’ whilst his colourful wife, Madame Jourdain desperately tries to marry off their bewildered daughter, Lucile, to the decadent, diamanté and sparkling world of the 1970s – an era of disco music, flared pants and big hair, to say nothing of fabulous pop groups and dancing.

I wish to thank all of our fabulous Year 11 cast and crew who made this such a fun production. In particular, Mr Chris Rutherford and Miss Leah Crockett who have been forced to endure my passion for all things disco! I thank the College for their financial support and the whole College community for their support of the show.

DiAnne McDonald

Creative Tour

Brigidine on Tour

Concert Band Tour

The first ever Brigidine Music Tour took us to Noosa on the South Coast in Term 1, 2014. Fifty-four members of the Concert Band took part in a workshop and concert at Noosa Angkorian College. The girls worked on new repertoire which was showcased at the concert later that day. Aside from all things musical the girls also had the opportunity to enjoy a dolphin cruise, a game of ten-pin bowling, and visits to the Ilwara Rain and Jambaroo Recreation Park.

Big thanks to Mrs Lorna Hall and Mrs Jos Boyle for supporting the trip. Also to Mrs Attalah, our rent-a-crowd mum who supported us too.

Choir Tour

The Brigidine Choir went on its first tour in Term 3 to take part in the Brigidine College Choir and Instrumental Festival in Melbourne. The festival is a means of bringing together a number of Brigidine schools in a fun and creative atmosphere.

After a visit to the Melbourne Museum, the girls were straight into rehearsals under the direction of acclaimed choral conductor, Dermot Tutty. The concert that evening displayed a large variety of music from all schools involved, including our own Senior Vocal Ensemble singing Coldplay’s hit, Fix You. The following day, students and staff saw the production of Les Misérables at Her Majesty’s Theatre and even had the chance to meet two of the cast members! Shilane thanks to all parents, sisters and friends who came to support us.

Charlie Lovelock
Head of Co-curricular Music

From the Green Room

Brigidine College’s 2014 Music Club Vice Captain, Rebecca Johnson of Year 12 has placed first in Music 2 and is this year’s recipient of the Music Department Performer of the Year Award. Here she discusses her music experiences and involvement at the College during her high school years.

What age did you start playing music?

I began learning piano when I was 4 years old and then the violin when I was 7. I also began singing at a very young age and have been involved in a number of singing programs throughout my schooling.

What groups outside of school have you been involved with?

I have been a member of the Sydney Children’s Choir since 2009 and was a part of the Gordonvale National Choral school program in 2012 and 2013. I have also performed numerous times with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in programs such as Mozart’s 40th Symphony, Orff’s Carmina Burana, The Lord of the Rings Trilogy and most recently, Britten’s War Requiem. This has provided me with opportunities to tour China, Spain, France and England performing in fantastic venues such as Westminster Abbey, Notre Dame, St John’s Smith Square and the Palau de la Música Catalana. Anyone who has a passion for choral singing would benefit greatly from it, as I have.

What groups at Brigidine College have you been involved with?

I have been involved in the College Musicals since 2012 and have been in the String Ensemble, String Quartet, College Choir, Community Choir and Senior Vocal Ensemble.

What are your hopes and aspirations for the future with your music?

While I would be interested in becoming a composer for film, it is not really my desired career path. Music is something so special to me and I wouldn’t want to lose my love and passion for it by adding stress into the mix. However it will always be a part of my life in some form and I will continue to write my own music.

Can you offer any advice to girls starting their own musical adventures?

If you set your mind and work hard you can really surprise yourself. It is never too late to start learning music, especially if you develop a passion and a love for it.
TAS Exhibition

Year 12 People's Choice Awards
Most Creative Major Textiles Projects: Eliza Curridi
Most Innovative use of Materials and Overall Design: Amelia Gill
Most Creative Design and Technology Project: Madison May

1. Rachel Carroll
2. Demi Schofield
3. Madison May
4. Louise Humphries
5. Amelia Gill
6. Shylin Hugh
7. Eliza Roel
8. Emily Stuart-Jones
9. Elisa Guarilliani
10. Sarah Bommar

Year 12 Visual Arts

- "Although individuals with "heroic careers" such as firefighters, doctors and soldiers are thought of as risking their own lives to save others, my artwork challenges these stereotypes by pointing out that sometimes the qualities of a career do not always mimic the character of the individual behind the job. Hence, we as the public need to take a step back and question, who is it that we are really trusting?"
  - Jasmín Singh-Brae, "Is this really who you trust?"

- "My artwork explores the relationship between the imagination and different land and cultural "scapes". Through liquid graphite and felt pen, my style varies from loose shapes to very structured illustrations to create these surreal worlds."
  - Claudia Merrill, "The spirit seeks the light that is in nature"

- "My concept revolves around the idea that everyone in society hides behind a façade and it is only when free of the pressures to conform that we are able to truly express ourselves. The end product was three panels, progressing from a realistic style to a more expressive representation of the human face. The colour represents freedom of self-expression, as opposed to the grey blandness of conformity seen in the first panel. I was inspired by Australian artist Del Kathryn Barton but sought to create a style that was uniquely mine to emphasise the freedom unique expression provides a person."
  - Charlotte Ronksley, "This crumbling façade"

- Emily Gaiton, "Not a compliment"
Dance at Brigidine

A group of keen students requested the motion of a dance group at Brigidine College in 1999. The following year, SOC (Spectacular Opening Ceremony) Pacific School Games and at Jubilee 00. They also worked with acclaimed choreographers and special events guru, whisked Atkins, for the ‘event’ segment the Sydney Olympic Games, with the support of several staff members.

2001 the inaugural Brigidine College Spectacular was held at the Bethania Theatre at the University of New England, Sydney. The first dance was produced by College N1, member Judy Cameron and involved approximately 70 students in Years 7 to 12. Judy worked closely with choreographer Rochelle Jones, who remained the College’s principal choreographer to this day. The dance has since been an annual offering in the College calendar, with a record number of girls participating this year.

Dance has continued to grow and now has close to 400 students participating in classes, making it the largest co-curricular club at Brigidine. Our elite alldanced group dancers compete in five events every year under Rochelle Jones. We have a number of Brigidine Alumni teaching our current students: Elkie Tamates (nee Osborne, Class of 2009), Lauren Thompson (Class of 2009), Rebecca Back (Class of 2017) and Lauren Grieve (Class of 2013).

This has been an exciting year for Dance at Brigidine with the completion of the Arts Murray Centre at Performing Arts and Science. Our girls now have access to a professional rehearsal space with spacious practice rooms and mirrors. This means the College can offer Dance as part of the curriculum for the very first time in 2015.

Shane Grieve
Dance Club Coordinator

Sport

Sport Highlights for 2014

The College has achieved some fantastic sports results throughout the year. Here are some highlights.

IGSSA Saturday sport competition

Five out of eight Netball teams and two out of the Hockey teams completed in the final, with three Netball and one Hockey team winning their grades.

Our Year 7 Water Polo team placed 2nd in the Northern Suburbs Water Polo Competition grand final.

Sport continues to grow, with 10 Touch teams entered in the IGSSA Touch competition, 15 Volleyball teams in the Santa Barbara Invitation competition and 10 Tennis teams in Hornsby Kuring-gai Tennis in Term 4.

Representative Sport

Netball

Jordan Chau of Year 12 has been selected for the NSWCC Open netball team to compete at the NSW All School Championship.

Snow Sports

Ursula Phillips of Year 8 placed 6th as individual for Snowboard Cross, Georgie Less and Georgina Fryer of Year 9 placing 6th as a team for Snowboard GS. All three girls have qualified for the Australian inter-school championships.

Irish Dancing

Kath Gilchrist of Year 7 travelled to Montreal, Canada for the North American Irish Dance Championships and placed 30th out of a total 210 competitors from all over the world in her age group. Since starting in this activity at 6 years old, Kath’s dedication and effort have won her the National title and State title for her age group.

Aerobics

Two Brigidine teams represented NSW at the Schools National Aerobics Championships in the Gold Coast, Queensland, achieving outstanding results.

Our Stage 1 team finished with the Silver medal in their division – a remarkable achievement, especially as all girls were first-timers to Aerobics. Our Secondary aerobics team who were NSW Champions finished in 7th place in the most tightly contested School division, where one point separated 2nd place and 10th place.

The teams were:
Stage 1
Year 7 – Maddie Kelly
Year 8 – Grace Christensen, Anna Dunn, Anna Supierz, Antonia Wright, Ruby Magee
Year 9 – Francesca Copas
Secondary Aerobics
Year 8 – Jessica Villegas
Year 9 – Chloe Grant, Emma Brasher
Year 10 – Holly Fumagali, Megan Looney, Sophia Tonski

Athletics

The College won the intermediate age group and overall point score trophy at BBSA Athletics as well as coming runner up in both the Junior and Senior age groups.

Brigidine also competed at the IGSSA cross-country championship against 25 other Independent girls’ schools from Metropolitan Sydney and regional NSW, placing 11th overall.

With several fantastic achievements at both carnivals, special mention goes to the Brigidine Athletic 4 x 100m relay team of Melissa Pizamamides of Year 10 and Emily Parker, Emma Welch and Laura Welch of Year 11.

This year’s team has produced the most consistently excellent set of results in a season by any Brigidine Relay team: BBSSA – 1st place (Association record time)
IGSSA – 2nd place in the intermediate age group (with Mandy Suborich of Year 9)
NSW Catholic Colleges – 1st place
NSW All Schools Team competition – 1st place.

Belinda Moore
Director of Sport
Interhouse Competition

Athletics Carnival

A fantastic day was had by all at this year’s Interhouse Athletics Carnival, held at Narbean Sports Academy on Friday 13 June. The track and field were full of girls participating in activities and competing in events all day. The excitement and enthusiasm of the day was highlighted by the House war cries, the 100m Championship race and the House relays. Congratulations to Lourdes for earning the most House points.

Bellinda Moore
Director of Sport

Records Broken:
14 years 200m
Isabella Ronksley
12 years 100m
Madeline Owen
14 years 400m
Helana De Gruchy
17 years 400m
Emily Parker
16 years Long Jump
Melissa Fitzsimmons

2014 Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1st Place</th>
<th>2nd Place</th>
<th>3rd Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nicola Marksay</td>
<td>Madeline Owen</td>
<td>Ella Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Junyi Fang</td>
<td>Isabella McLeary</td>
<td>Jasmin High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Isabella Ronksley</td>
<td>Helana De Gruchy</td>
<td>Carryn Woodley</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Courtney Young</td>
<td>Clare Elder</td>
<td>Kate Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Emma Welch</td>
<td>Allison Colgan</td>
<td>Melissa Fitzsimmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Emma Douglass</td>
<td>Emily Parker</td>
<td>Lauren Piper</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWD</td>
<td>Juliet Liddy</td>
<td>Ellen Hester</td>
<td>Jessica Pencillar</td>
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Open 100m Invitational Champion

Melissa Fitzsimmons

Top: 17 years -400m record breaker, Emily Parker of Year 11
Above: Record breakers Isabella Ronksley and Helana De Gruchy of Year 6
Student Leaders for 2015

There are many attributes to leadership — powerful words like courage, strength, integrity, but we cannot forget that kindness is one of the most powerful. Every one of us has the capacity to be kind, to show kindness. Daily we witness it. Kindness is a funny word — often represented in expressions such as ‘that was a kind thing to do’ — ‘She is a kind old lady …’. It is like the word ‘nice’, it runs the risk of being thought of as weak but I have learned this year that kindness is an extraordinarily powerful word because it is about having a strong sense of ‘other’, of putting yourself second because, for whatever reason, you have put someone else first. May the power of leadership lie in the capacity of our new leaders to be kind and may all our girls make kindness the mantle in which they clothe themselves so that love and care of each other is what defines this wonderful school.

Jane Curran
Principal

Kildare
Captain Emma Welch
Vice Captain Jasmine MacKeanes

Centre for Excellence
Art
Captain Emily Parker
Vice Captain Julietta Dallahan

DEA
Captain Sophie Clark
Vice Captain Keshia Merlo

Debating
Captain Amanda Liem
Vice Captain Rebecca Bau-Gaspar

Drama
Captain Rachel Saeto
Vice Captain Georgie Barnes

Justice and Democracy
Captain Tara Chandra
Vice Captain Jessica Lynch

Languages
Captain Emma Steiner
Vice Captain Natalie Rinaldi

Mock Trial
Captain Alice Edwards
Vice Captain Amanda Liem

Music
Captain Katherine Goode
Vice Captain Maddison McCauley

Textiles
Captain Natalie Yeung
Vice Captain Jessica Tierney

Year Ambassadors
Rebecca Bau-Gaspar
Maddison McCauley
Stephanie Muir
Emma Steiner
Kelly Wilcox

Graduation Week

I am grateful to now have the capacity to think beyond boundaries and succeed with an Independence and confidence I once never deemed possible.

Edwina Owen, Vice Captain
Student Leadership

I have learnt that it’s ok to dream big because girls can do anything, but Bigblue girls can do everything.

Shiryn Hagh, College Captain

The principle of belonging is participation and by being encouraged to fully participate in College life through offering my skills and abilities, I was able to achieve a greater sense of belonging.

Holly Dalton, Vice Captain Social Justice

Whether it be within the College or outside in the wider world, I’ve learnt that being a leader requires you to put yourself aside and focus on helping others grow and succeed in order for you to do the same.

Jasmin Singh-Brat, Vice Captain Clubs

“Tthe memories I have made, with not only the incredible girls in my Year but all the young women who have passed through Bigblue with me, have been some of the best times of my life.”

Emma Douglass, Vice Captain Houses
Back to Brigidine

1. Bernadette Brannan at the Athletics Carnival, 1980
2. P&F square dance, 1984
3. The Inaugural Dance Spectacular, 2001
4. Athletics Carnival, 1996
5. 1992 reunion
6. The Opening of Ronald Hall (now Ronald Visual Arts Centre), 1984
7. The graduating class of 1998
8. Year 11 Play A Midsummer Night’s Dream, 2000
9. Staff and Year 12 students dress up for Founders Day, 1980
10. Year 12 Farewell, 1989

Class of 2013 Yearbook Collection
Afternoon Tea

We welcomed the Class of 2013 back to the College for a special afternoon tea and to collect their Yearbooks last May. The Anita Murray Courtyard was buzzing with excitement, laughter and chatter as the girls caught up with their fellow ex-classmates and staff. It was a fantastic opportunity for our newest Alumni group to share what they have been up to since leaving the College. Some girls have taken a gap year, some have already entered the workforce, and others have been accepted into various universities where they are studying degrees including Business, Law, Education, Health Services, Engineering, Science, Aviation, and Architecture.

We wish them the best of luck in all they do in the coming years!

Wendy Baxter
Alumni Coordinator

Pioneers Reunion

The annual Pioneers Reunion brings together Alumni members from the 1960s and 1970s, being the first students of Brigidine College St Ives. With the theme “Celebrating our Gifts”, this year’s reunion was particularly special for the Class of 1964, being the 50th Anniversary of their graduation.

Our Alumni travelled from around NSW, Queensland, South Australia and New Zealand to be a part of the day, which commenced with a Mass in the Chapel celebrated by Fr. Paul Durrin. Twenty-nine Alumni were inducted as Brigidine Golden Girls, with College Principal Mrs. Jane Durrin presenting them each with a gold St Brigid’s Cross. Special guest Sister Maureen reminded that she had taught this year’s Golden Girls from 3rd to 5th form, back when St Ives was changing from farm land to housing estates.

After a tour of the Murray Theatre our Pioneers were treated to a buffet dinner and a performance of this year’s College Musical, Beauty and the Beast where they commented on the professionalism of the production and the wonderful facilities now available to our girls.
Alumni Return to Brigidine

Alumni Women in Mathematics and Science

We were very fortunate to welcome back five Alumni members who returned to the College in July to speak to current students about their chosen career paths and offer some valuable advice on life beyond high school.

Monique Costin (Class of 1998) spoke about her journey into medical science research and specialist, Theresa Pitts (Class of 1996) explained the ups and downs of her job as a paediatrician and Jessica Miller (Class of 1994) convinced our students that accountability is not boring. Melissa May (Class of 2005) told the story of her career as a paramedic, pointing out that the direct route is not always the best option and other roads can offer interesting journeys. Paige Edmunds (Class of 2007) spoke about how... The number of girls who stayed behind after the presentation for a Q&A with our Alumni was a great indication of how engaging and inspiring everyone had found the evening.

We greatly appreciate our Alumni being involved with the College and our students; your participation is invaluable.

Alumni Mentors

The College was delighted to welcome back members of our Alumni who participated in a discussion with our current Year 12 students regarding their own experiences of high school, the Higher School Certificate and life after Brigidine. The speakers varied in age, perspectives and areas in which they pursued studies or a career.

Topics discussed included tips on how to manage time and stress, finding a balance between school, work and social activities and most importantly, that life does go on beyond the HSC. Year 12 girls were encouraged to ask questions and voice their opinions, comments and concerns via prepared questions. They also had an opportunity to meet the ‘experts’ after the panel discussion.

The evening was a great success with many Year 12 students leaving the Theatre feeling enlightened and inspired. The cohort appreciated the honestly exhibited by the speakers and greatly benefited from the extensive insight and advice offered throughout the presentation.

We would like to thank Nathalia Gibson (Class of 1998), Sarah Dixon (Class of 2008), Megan Todd (Class of 2008), Nadia Fureyana (Class of 2010), Cathy Dhillon (Class of 2011), Lauren Ward (Class of 2011), Madeline Carroll (Class of 2012) and Kellie Ross (Class of 2012) for giving of their time and sharing their stories.

Introducing our Patron of Alumni

Brigidine College St Ives has a substantial and significant Alumni following with over 5000 past students. The importance of this special group is recognised by the College for the wonderful contribution they have made in the past and we look forward to their continued involvement in our future.

With increased participation and a focus on our Alumni in recent years, we see the importance in establishing the role of Patron of Alumni. We believe that the Patron should uphold the College’s mission: ‘We inspire girls to value learning, to be true to themselves and to honour their spiritual heritage. We challenge young women to act in the world with strength and gentleness.’

It is with great pride and pleasure that we announce our first Patron of Alumni is Sr Anita Murray.

Sr Anita is the longest serving Principal of Brigidine College St Ives and has since remained involved in all aspects of College life. Sr Anita looks forward to catching up with our Alumni members at future events.
Births and Weddings

Christine Stoten, Class of 2001
Christine Stoten (Class of 2001) married Doug Edmunds at the breathtaking Serenara Resort, Uluwatu, Bali on 19 November 2013. Sister, Elizabeth Stoten (Class of 2004) was Maid of Honour with friends and family traveling overseas to attend, including Brigidine Alumni, Angelique Dentley (Class of 2009). Christine and Doug spent their honeymoon in Bali followed by an extended holiday in Whistler, Canada. On their return the couple had an official Australian wedding ceremony on Long Reef headland where those who couldn’t make the overseas trip could attend, including former classmates, Alesha Conley.

Erin Howitt, Class of 2003
Erin married Michael Pappas on 24 August 2013. Erin and Michael met in 2009 in Stuttgart, Germany while Erin was studying her Master of Music degree. In Germany, couples choosing to marry in a church must first be legally married in a civil ceremony. This gave Erin and Michael the perfect opportunity to have a wedding ceremony in both of their home countries. Some guests even travelled from their respective countries to join Erin and Michael in both celebrations.

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Emma Kindred (nee Colton), College Ox (Class of 2000) a daughter, Madeline Elizabeth Kindred, born in Queanbeyan on 21 October 2013 weighing 3.59kg.

Melanie Woo, Class of 2005
Melanie met Ross McMahon while living in London in 2009 and they were married on the 28 February 2014 in Phuket, Thailand. Sixty guests, including friends and family from around the world attended the beautiful beachside ceremony. Melanie looked stunning in a gown she had designed herself. The bridal party wore their best friends and former classmates, Jessica Holubkovic (Maid of Honour), Felicity Franklin (nee Roberts) and Marilee Raymond.

Elise Osborne, Class of 2006
Elise Osborne (nee Tamake) married Daniel Tamake on 23 November 2013 at St Mary’s, North Sydney. The beautiful ceremony was followed by a luncheon filled with all the alumni. The reception at Luna Park where the bridal party entered with a special choreographed dance routine to Whitney Houston’s ‘I Wanna Dance With Somebody’. A number of Alumni members from the Class of 2006 attended the celebrations, including Maid of Honour, Leanne O’Keeffe. Elise and Daniel enjoyed a “double honeymoon”, spending some time in the sun in the Maldives then taking to the ski fields in Japan. They hope to buy their dream house in the near future as they continue their journey as husband and wife.
Back to Brigidine

Vale

Sr Valentine McMahon
Sr Valentine taught at Brigidine College till true, during her illustrious and was Principal from 1971–1974. She had a keen intellect, a compassionate, inclusive and quiet nature and had efficient organisational skills to ably deal with her period of leadership. Under Sr Valentine’s direction, the College adapted to the rapid changes in educational practices and survived financial difficulties, whilst remaining true to the Brigidine ethos. She introduced the first Economics course to the College, employed highly competent lay-staff in a time of teacher shortage, increased the number of cocurricular activities, and conveyed spiritual and religious practice changes to the students as well as preparing them for their ever widening post College career choices.

Supporting the initiatives of her staff, Sr Valentine oversaw the introduction of the first computer within the College, supervised a substantial building program and appointed the first lay deputy principal. She also found time to teach her specialty, Economics, to the senior students. She is remembered by her past students as a very gentle soul and a patient and understanding teacher.

In later years Sr Valentine undertook legal studies and gave many years of valuable volunteer work at the Redfern Legal Centre.

Sr Valentine departed this world 93 years young on 2 May 2014.

Mr Brian Manifold
Mr Brian Manifold commenced at the College in 2004 working two days a week as a TAS Assistant in the workshops after retiring from his position as a full time TAS teacher. During his time at the College Brian was in charge of maintaining workshop equipment, preparing and ordering materials classes and assisting the girls with the technical areas of their projects. Brian was very generous with his time and would often come in for extra lessons to assist the girls when they required help.

Brian also had a passion for model trains and music which had a positive influence on his work.

He will be sorely missed.

Where are they now?

Rachel Grady, Class of 2008

After graduating from Brigidine I spent a year working and travelling overseas before completing my Bachelor’s degree in Tourism Management at UTS. For the past 16 months I have been working with CruiseCo, a cruise wholesaler, and am currently completing my Certificates 3 and 4 in Fitness with the Australian Institute of Personal Trainers. I met Erin at a boot camp and she encouraged me to run with her in the City 2 Surf. We each raised $1,000 and attended training sessions with the CanTeen ambassador and trainer from The Biggest Loser, Shannon Ponton, in the lead up to the race.

On Sunday 10 August we gathered in Hyde Park over 80,000 other participants and made our way from the City to Bondi Beach via Heartbreak Hill, crossing the finish line together.

Emily Myatt (nee Richardson), Class of 1990

With a love of animals from a very young age, becoming a Veterinary Nurse was a natural progression for Emily after graduation. From the experience she gained in that role, Emily grew very competent in pet grooming and is now an internationally certified Master Groomer, winning many awards for her creative styling. She is also a Companion Animal Hygienist. Emily has worked in veterinary surgeries in the UK and on the Gold Coast, and after completing a Certificate in Small Business Management and a Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment, opened her own pet grooming business, Animal Magic in 1998 and now runs two salons.

Erin O’Neill, Class of 2005

As I commenced my final year at Brigidine I was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma. After months of chemotherapy and radiation therapy alongside Mr Hamilton’s English assignments and Mike Mac’s Drama HSC rehearsals, I made it into remission and completed my HSC! I attained a degree in Media & Communications then landed my first media job with 2day FM. A few years later I packed my bags for Bournemouth in the UK.

The week I returned to Sydney I commenced a job as Digital Marketing Coordinator at CanTeen — an Australian charity helping young people living with cancer. Although it had been many years since my diagnosis and recovery, I still felt a strong connection to the year I’d had cancer. As an impressionable 17 year old I seemed to shape who I had become and I couldn’t escape that, so I decided to embrace it instead. I am now working on a brilliant project which is an online hub for young people to find peer-to-peer support and free counselling sessions.

This year I heard about the City2Surf and signed up. I met Rachel Grady (Class of 2008) at boot camp and she helped me on my practice runs. On race day we made it to the end and I really couldn’t have done it without Rachel. We did it for CanTeen and we did it for Brigg. We even managed to beat my goal of under 1:00 minutes by stepping over the line at 59 minutes. To run for that long at that pace was just fantastic! But experiencing it with a friend takes it to a whole new level.
Term Dates

2014 Term Dates for Students
Term 4
Thursday 4 December: TERM 4 ENDS

2015 Term Dates for Students
Term 1
Thursday 29 January: Year 7 and New Student Orientation Day
Friday 30 January: TERM 1 COMMENCES
Wednesday 1 April: TERM 1 ENDS

Term 2
Tuesday 21 April: TERM 2 COMMENCES
Monday 8 June: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Friday 19 June: TERM 2 ENDS

Term 3
Tuesday 14 July: TERM 3 COMMENCES
Friday 18 September: TERM 3 ENDS

Term 4
Wednesday 7 October: TERM 4 COMMENCES
Friday 4 December: TERM 4 ENDS

Reunion Dates 2015
Class of 2005
10 Year Reunion
October 2015

Class of 1995
20 Year Reunion
October 2015

Class of 1985
30 Year Reunion
October 2015

Class of 1975
40 Year Reunion
October 2015

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