This edition of The Bridge honours the successes of our students beyond the classroom in the vast array of opportunities available to them. It also reflects our commitment to the holistic education of the young women with whom we are entrusted.

For 200 years of public education, many renowned thinkers and critics have argued that education should involve much more than simply moulding students into future workers or citizens. Education should involve the cultivation of the moral, emotional, physical, psychological and spiritual dimensions of the developing child. This movement took shape in the 1970s and focused on understanding education through the perspective of holism. This perspective seeks to encompass and integrate multiple layers of meaning and experience as the foundation for good education. It challenges those who would define human possibilities narrowly. Every child’s intelligence and abilities are far more complex than her scores on a standardised test.

Holistic education is based on the premise that each person finds identity, meaning and purpose in life through connections to the community, the natural world, and spiritual values such as compassion and peace. Holistic education aims to call forth from people an intrinsic reverence for life and a passionate love of learning. Holistic education nurtures a sense of wonder.

The purpose of holistic education is to prepare students to meet the challenges of living as well as the learning required to succeed vocationally. It is important that our girls learn:

- about themselves
- about how to relate well to others in a positive way
- social development
- emotional development
- resilience
- to see beauty, be in awe of their world and appreciate life.

This edition of The Bridge reflects how our students are engaging in a holistic program that prepares them for their adult years. These activities enable them to understand themselves and others, develop socially and emotionally, be resilient young women and walk into the world with greater confidence and capability.

Mrs Jane Curran
Principal
Brigidine College is a positive place to learn. Over many years, staff have developed strategies and activities to build a sense of community and also to enable individual students to shine and strive to reach their full potential. Beyond the classroom, students are encouraged to participate in the cocurricular life of the College and get involved in a wide range of sports and clubs. Recent research and years of educational experience concur that this is good for learning and good for our girls.

The development of the whole person has been a critical facet in Brigidine education. Brain research in recent years has emphasised the important roles good health and healthy living play in effective brain functioning and, therefore, good learning. Sleeping well and eating well, along with involvement in physical activity, are all beneficial to the brain. Sports allow for the development of coordination, where activities that engage the mind – such as debating, public speaking and mock trial – use parts of the brain not normally used in everyday functioning, as do more creative activities like music and drama. All of this is sound and sensible. Learning and brain development occur beyond the classroom and, more importantly, in ways that the classroom does not always allow.

Another key factor is the place of emotions and feelings in learning. Having a ‘growth’ mindset is something that students learn about at Brigidine. Learning from mistakes and taking risks are significant aspects to a growth mindset. In opposition to a ‘fixed’ mindset, a growth mindset is being prepared to learn in new ways and to continue learning. The difficulty often lies with students who are not necessarily feeling confident in themselves and are risk-averse. When faced with a new challenge they step back, refusing to take risks for fear of failure, and move to familiar areas of comfort and ease. These negative emotions create anxiety and stress and, at times, these will hinder learning. We all know how we act under stress – both our logical and cognitive functionings are greatly affected. At Brigidine, our Positive Education strategies consistently explore positive emotions and positive thinking.

This is also where the learning and experience gained through participation in cocurricular programs have a clear effect on our girls. They can try new things, play new sports and learn new skills and approaches. In games that are won and lost we learn from mistakes and errors and plan a strategy for improvement in the next game or challenge. We learn from each other, develop a sense of community and ‘team’, and in a safe environment, use different parts of our brain to play the sport or complete the activity.

Learning at Brigidine occurs both in the classroom and beyond the classroom. The holistic development of each student is a core component of our education of girls. The cocurricular life of the College is an extensive dimension that facilitates community and positive health outcomes for all of our students.

Mr Brian Loughland
Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care
Involvement in the Music Club teaches our girls the value of sustained effort to achieve excellence and the rewards of hard work. For an ensemble to sound good, all players must work together harmoniously towards a single goal – the performance – and must commit to learning music, attending rehearsals and practicing. It is only by much hard work that a successful performance is possible, yet the enhancement of teamwork skills and discipline takes place in the friendly and encouraging atmosphere that is the Brigidine Music Club.

This year, the Music Club has seen a vast increase in the amount of ensembles on offer. We now have a Percussion ensemble, a Rock Band, Senior and Junior Flute ensembles, Clarinet ensemble, Saxophone ensemble, Chamber ensembles and a Big Band, alongside the regulars. Next term we begin another new ensemble, the Brigidine Community Choir, where staff, students both current and past, and parents are all welcome to join.

As the list of Music Club ensembles continues to grow, so do the already established ensembles. The number of students in the Choir has doubled, the Concert Band is bigger than ever with more members and brand new equipment, the Senior Vocal Ensemble recently won an eisteddfod, and we have recorded a CD at Australia’s best studio, Studio 301.

We are soon to launch a tour for next year and will be increasing the amount and variety of concerts on offer at school and in the local community. Following a review of the reward system for Music, selected girls have, for the first time, received Music Club ‘lines’ to add to their College blazers in recognition of their achievements. Next year this should expand to include the separate ensembles within the club. A review on Music Blue Awards is taking place, as well as looking at introducing a plaque and plate system for each student involved in the Music Club. We have already formalised and introduced a new Merit Award system. All this will be facilitated well within our fantastic new building in 2014. A band room, two classrooms, a smaller ensemble room and eight practice rooms, all soundproofed, is a very exciting development and will help the Music Club journey immensely.

Mr Charles Lovelock
Head of Cocurricular Music

"Music cleanses the understanding, inspires it, and lifts it into a realm which it would not reach if it were left to itself."

Henry Ward Beecher

Who needs X Factor when you can be part of the Diamond Factor!

Brigidine College is celebrating its 60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee in 2014. All staff, current and ex students, and parents are invited to join our new Brigidine Community Choir! Rehearsals begin 8 October, held Tuesday evenings from 6.30 to 8pm to prepare for our Carols by Candlelight concert this year and our Diamond Jubilee Concert on Thursday 5 June 2014. Anyone interested should contact Mrs Ros Boyd at rboyd@brigidine.nsw.edu.au
"I'm excited to have the opportunity to be involved in more productions."

Nina Osada-Phornsiri, Year 10

Girls in Black – an initiative for Brigidine in 2013 – is a group of students who form the technical and backstage crew for productions, performances and events held at the College. Girls are taught a wide variety of skills including operating vision, sound, lighting and staging elements for productions, as well as filmmaking and communication.

With these skills, the Girls in Black have the opportunity to fulfil roles such as lighting operator, stage manager, spotlight operator and audio operator during College productions. Some of the productions that Girls in Black have been involved in this year include:

- the College musical, Grease
- the Year 11 Play
- BrigFest short film festival
- HSC Drama performances and exams
- Music Cabaret Evening, and
- Founders Day.

In 2014 Girls in Black will have the opportunity to hone their skills in the new Performing Arts Theatre with state of the art equipment. This is particularly exciting for the girls, who will also be studying Entertainment as a subject.

The new space will provide more opportunities, not only for Dance, Drama and Music students, but also for the technical and backstage crew with a brand new lighting interface and gantries, digital audio desk and control system. This equipment is industry standard and will properly prepare girls who wish to pursue the area of live entertainment as a career, whilst giving all students a chance to learn a range of technical skills.

"I'm looking forward to working with the equipment that will be in the Theatre, especially the new lights and lighting desk!"

Hannah Ribbons, Year 10

As well as their role in the new Theatre in 2014, Girls in Black will be involved in the College musical Beauty and the Beast, assisting with Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and attending professional productions to see how their skills can translate to those required for major shows.

Miss Leah Crockett
Girls in Black Coordinator
What have some of the Dance Club’s highest achievements been over the years?

Our eisteddfod groups have always been of very high standard, placing in every performance. We’ve achieved a number of first places at *The Sydney Eisteddfod*, one of the toughest competitions to compete in. This year we received 1st for *Navras*, a very exciting contemporary piece. We were then invited to perform this piece at *The Dance of Champions*, a huge honour, being the highest level of the competition and broadcast on Channel 10. Brigidine received 1st place in the People’s Choice Award and $5,000 prize money. This was an amazing achievement for all the girls especially as a school group as we were up against some amazing full time dance schools.

What else has the Dance Club been up to this year?

In the July school holidays we held a *Bollywood* workshop at school, open to all students. The girls were taught fantastic techniques by Prafulla Parida. It was a lot of fun and the girls were able to perform a very bright and colourful dance at our annual *Dance Spectacular*.

How can a student benefit from joining the Dance Club?

The number of people taking part in Dance classes worldwide is increasing, with Dance allowing people to be more active, socialise and develop creative skills. Dancing isn’t just about the steps and music; it is a perfect combination of physical activity, social interaction, and mental stimulation.

There are numerous benefits to partaking in Dance classes, ranging from increasing your amount of daily exercise, to making new friends with shared interests. Increased exercise helps to reduce stress levels, improve relaxation, strengthen bones and muscles, and control body weight.

Other benefits of Dance include:

- keeping the body and the brain active
- offering a way to improve strength and flexibility, which helps keeps muscles and joints healthy
- learning more about your body
- improving posture and balance
- providing a creative outlet
- insight into other cultures, through studying different dance styles and meeting new people
- increased self-esteem and confidence through mastering new skills.

Dancing is a great way to add excitement to your life. Although learning to dance takes concentration and dedication, you will be surrounded by artistic, cheerful people who make learning a pleasurable and rewarding experience.

What does 2014 have in store for the Dance Club?

We hope to have a large number of girls enrolling in the Dance Club again next year. This year, the Dance Club continued to be the largest cocurricular club at Brigidine, with more than 300 members from Years 7–12. We also look forward to using the new Dance studio in the Performing Arts Centre.

*Mrs Shane Grieve*

Dance Club Coordinator
Building Brigidine

Master Plan update

After some delay in the development consent from Ku-ring-gai Council, Stage 2 of the Brigidine Master Plan got underway on 19 August, putting us on track (weather permitting) to complete the entire Anita Murray Centre for Performing Arts and Sciences in time for the start of the 2014 school year.

We would anticipate immediate use of the Theatre, Drama and Music spaces, along with the 8 general classrooms, with the move into the Science laboratories to be carried out at Easter.

Already by late September the first floor slab in Stage 2 is complete, while in Stage 1 both the internal fit out and external landscaping are well underway. The contractor continues to deliver a very high standard of workmanship both inside and out.

This building will hugely enhance the educational experience of our girls. The Theatre will provide a truly professional environment not only for drama performance, but for public speaking, debating and musical ensembles. The full set of technical equipment will allow girls to develop a confidence in handling technology that will be transferable to all sorts of technical challenges they can expect to encounter in our ever changing and ever more “digital” world. Dance classes will love the new studios, and instrumentalists the acoustics of the new practice rooms. The modernity of the lab and classroom fit out will encourage creative engagement, much as the recent library renovation has done. High quality finishes in vibrant colours, and long sight lines through extensive use of glass will make working in the new centre a real pleasure.

As the external works take shape it is becoming possible to see that the new paved areas, outdoor stage and planter seating will provide truly enjoyable recreation space. The opening of these new facilities will make 2014, our Diamond Jubilee year, a very special milestone indeed.

Mr Michael Layden
Director of Support Services

It is with great pleasure that we announce the name of the new building for Brigidine College St Ives will be the Anita Murray Centre for Performing Arts and Sciences. Sr Anita Murray has been an instrumental and significant leader in the ongoing development of Brigidine College St Ives. It is a fitting tribute to her contribution that this latest development acknowledges her role in the history of the College.

Ms Anne Garvan, Board Chair
Mrs Jane Curran, Principal

In 1973 Sister Anita came to Brigidine College St Ives to teach English, French and Ancient History, taking on the role of Principal in Term 3 of 1975. She held this position until 1989, except for a year sabbatical in 1980. Since retiring from her role as Principal at Brigidine, Sister Anita has been the Province Archivist from 1990 to 2008, the Province leader of the New South Wales Brigidine Sisters from 1998 to 2001, and a member of the Brigidine College of St Ives Board from 2006 to 2011. Sister Anita is involved in ensuring the work of the Brigidine Sisters continues by helping in the creation of a Public Juridic Person (P.J.P) with the Victorian Province and is a major contributor to the development of the Kildare Ministries.

Sr Anita Murray

The Bridge October 2013
Capital Appeal and Annual Giving

Since August 2012 small groups of parents have accepted invitations to evening presentations regarding the Capital Appeal. There has been keen interest in hearing Jane Curran’s vision for the College and Master Plan for facilities.

Parents at these functions have been surprised and impressed at the size and speed of construction.

Imagine

In early 2012 the Board authorised the commencement of Stage 1 but planned to start Stage 2 in 2015.

Due to good weather and excellent planning by Michael Layden, Director of Support Services, Clive Chandler and Koos Kruger (Property Committee), and the efficient teamwork by Co-Wyn Builders, the acceleration of commencing Stage 2 appeared a possibility. Approval by the Council and authorisation by the Board has resulted in Co-Wyn pushing ahead to complete Stage 2 together with Stage 1, providing significant time and financial benefits for our College.

Create

By early 2014 the northern boundary of our College will have been transformed in a 16 month building project to include:

- 75 car space underground car park
- 220 seat Performance Theatre
- Drama, Dance and Music studios
- 7 Science laboratory and preparatory centres
- 8 new general learning spaces
- an oversized synthetic grass multi-purpose court, and
- refurbished and new landscape areas.

All this has been achieved with minimal disruption to the operation of the College.

Staff and students are excited by all the opportunities these new facilities will create in 2014.

Inspire

Our principal architect, Greg Isaacs from Fulton Trotter, wholeheartedly embraced the College brief. Greg combined the new facilities required by the College to further enhance the education experience for students with the College motto Fortiter et Suaviter – “Strength and Gentleness”.

For recent presentation evenings Year 10 students were invited to meet parents and escort them along the top level of the Convent to view the construction site.

The girls were excited and inspired seeing the new facilities from the close vantage point and expressed their eagerness to use them next year.

Capital Appeal

Our website has a breadth of information about the 2012/13 Capital Appeal. Everyone is encouraged to browse the material which includes time lapse videos and interviews with Alumni, staff and students. Those who wish to receive an information pack may contact Di Lawrence for their own copy.

We recognise the generosity of donors from the parents and Brigidine community from 1999 to 2006 which assisted with the construction of our Chapel and Religious Education Centre, Bowie Hall and renovations to the Romuald Hall.

We thank all parents who have attended a Capital Appeal function in 2012 and 2013. Your generous support to date has been greatly appreciated.

For parents who have not been available for their scheduled Year group presentation, we are planning two more functions in late October which may include a “Twilight Hard Hat Tour” of the new facilities.

We look forward to meeting you there.

Mr Brett Kimmorley
Chair – 2012/13 Capital Appeal

Annual Giving

The growing presence of the new Performing Arts Building over the last 12 months has been impressive. If you have any doubts just watch the time lapse videos on the College website http://masterplan.brigidine.nsw.edu.au/

With this in mind the College has launched its first Annual Giving program seeking support of any of three projects from our past community.

Taking a Seat: Your gift of $500 will go towards providing a comfortable, high quality theatre seat. The seat will acknowledge the gift with an individual’s or family name on a plaque.

Lights, Camera, Action! Gifts will help equip the Theatre with the technology needed and expected today.

Bursary support: A Brigidine girl’s family may experience a period of financial hardship – sometimes through business difficulty, the illness of a parent, or even the death of the breadwinner. In times like these we strive to provide support, enabling girls to remain within the security of their familiar friends, staff and College. Donations will greatly increase the College’s ability to help families at such times of misfortune.

Each Annual Giving project will give our girls new opportunities to discover and develop their own talents and enjoy new experiences to lead them into their future, better prepared for life-long learning.

Whatever the gift, it will be greatly appreciated and it will make a difference.

If you wish to make a gift to any of these projects, please contact Di Lawrence on +61 2 9988 6278 or email dlawrence@brigidine.nsw.edu.au

Building Brigidine
Goodooga met my expectations, yet continually surprised me. I knew the community at Goodooga would not be as well-equipped as ours, but arriving at Goodooga, I was pleasantly surprised. The town had character and even though it was very bare, I felt a strong sense of love and respect between the people and their community.

The children of Goodooga Central School were gorgeous! Helping them with small activities in class, such as reading and writing, meant the world to them. Their endless smiles spoke a thousand words. Overall, it was really the people of Goodooga who surprised me the most. I have heard stories that have touched my heart and that I will always carry with me. Working with the children at the school was a highlight. I heard their stories about living in Goodooga, their families and school life. I learnt how the school runs and why they do certain activities, such as having their lunch time at our recess time. This was mainly because the students don’t have breakfast. Working with these children really made me step back from all of the first world problems in life and helped me focus on what is really important. These kids don’t have a lot, but they sure are very happy and thankful for what they do have. Something I admired about all of them was the respect they have for one another and their community. I also admired their courage and will to learn.

I have taken away so much from this immersion. I learnt what life is like in country Australia from the original Australians of this land. By listening to Aunty Beth and other elders and seeing the environment surrounding Goodooga, I gained an even greater respect for my country and the Aboriginal people. But most importantly, I learnt you don’t need to own a lot, nor do a lot, to be happy or bring happiness.

The sheep stations were also incredible. I learnt what life is like living on the farms there, so isolated from the rest of the world. I learnt about the hardships of farming and the impact of drought on the crops and animals. I also learnt how to shear a sheep! I can honestly tell you, this was the most stressful job I’ve ever done. However, the sheep were the cutest things ever. We were very lucky to have a bottle feed and hold three baby lambs. Now, I really wish I had a farm!

Goodooga was the most amazing experience of my life and it has taught me so many valuable life lessons. To add to this, relationships with the teachers and the girls on the trip grew so much stronger. We also had the opportunity to travel to Lightning Ridge, going deep underground to view the marvellous opals, and then bathe in hot springs with a priceless view of the sunset behind you.

Maddison McCauley
Year 10
Leading with Courage

When we pass on the mantle of leadership to those who come after us, we are enfolding them in our trust, our hope and belief. It gives me great pleasure to announce our College leaders for 2014. They have the capacity and courage to lead – all those who have voted have identified it in them.

As the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill said during WW2, courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all others.

To all our new leaders, my message is to have courage, trust in yourselves and our sincere congratulations and blessings on the journey ahead.

Mrs Jane Curran
Principal

Senior Leaders
College Captain
Shiryn Hagh
College Senior Vice Captain
Maddison Breen

Vice Captains
Holly Dalton Social Justice
Emma Douglass Houses
Edwina Ovens Student Leadership
Jasmin Singh-Brar Clubs

House Captains
Fatima
Captain Billie Eder
Vice Captain Sabrina Thompson

Kildare
Captain Alice Pitney
Vice Captain Sarah Brawn

Lourdes
Captain Louise Humphries
Vice Captain Hermione Williams

Prague
Captain Ashley Price
Vice Captain Georgia Harrison

Centre For Excellence Clubs
Art
Captain Charlotte Ronksley
Vice Captain Letitia Alford

Debating
Captain Stephanie Long
Vice Captain Francesca Farrell

Drama
Captain Isabella Christenson
Vice Captain Sabrina Thompson

Justice and Democracy
Captain Alexandra Pinn
Vice Captain Jodi Williamson

Languages
Captain Chloe Hyde

Mock Trial
Captain Billie Eder
Vice Captain Rhea Karunakar

Music
Captain Emma Squires
Vice Captain Rebecca Johnson

Public Speaking
Captain Jasmin Singh-Brar
Vice Captain Lucy Stafford

Science
Captain Caitlin Bariol

Textiles
Captain Claudia Merrill
Vice Captain Jasmyn Garna

Sport
Basketball
Captain Allison Bradley

Dance
Captain Demi Schofield
Vice Captain Tiffany Browne

Hockey
Captain Elisha Dickens
Vice Captain Kathy Tou

Netball
Captain Ashley Price
Vice Captain Brianna Gorman

Soccer
Captain Louise Humphries
Vice Captain Chloe Hyde

Softball
Captain Elizabeth Beck
Vice Captain Kristen Coolentianos

Swimming
Captain Rachel Carroll

Taekwondo
Captain Stephanie Long

Tennis
Captain Ashly Murray
Vice Captain Brooke Menzies

Touch Football
Captain Kate Jones
Vice Captain Elizabeth Beck

Volleyball
Captain Abbi Wilkinson
Vice Captain Hannah Tarbotton

Water Polo
Captain Madison Spencer
Vice Captain Letitia Alford

DEAS
Captain Emma Newell
Vice Captain Caitlin Bariol

Year Ambassadors
Isabella Christenson
Francesca Farrell
Brooke Menzies
Alexandra Pinn
Jodi Williamson
Sports Clubs are an important component to the Brigidine community. The variety and range of sports is significant and our involvement in school competitions, such as Independent Girls Schools Sports Association (IGSSA) and Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sports Association (BBSSSA), enable our students to compete together and represent their College in their chosen sport.

This year the College conducted a Sports Review and re-explored how sporting opportunities can be enhanced and improved for all of our students. Key stakeholders were invited to comment and a list of recommendations were developed by staff from the Association of Independent Schools who conducted the review.

From those recommendations the College is enabling the following:

- appointing a new Director of Sport from 2014
- developing effective sports policies and procedures to enhance student enjoyment and participation in sport
- improving our communication strategies
- maintaining parental involvement through coaching and management of teams and through sports committees as required by certain sports
- setting up a framework of skills development for each sport that gives explicit guidance to all coaches so that student performance and enjoyment of their chosen sport is enhanced
- developing the capacity and skill level of all coaches, and
- exploring the effective use of current facilities and the development of future facilities for sport in the years ahead.

Sports development is a critical component in the development of student wellbeing which is also a key aspect of the Strategic Plan. Students who are involved in sports are being active and developing capacities and skills for life. They are able to create friendships and build a sense of community through their involvement. In the challenging adolescent years, success and effort in sport can be an excellent way of keeping the girls connected, active and achieving their full potential.

Mr Brian Loughland
Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care
Enthusiastic Brigidine girls descended upon Narrabeen Athletics Centre on 9 May for this year’s Athletics Carnival – with a Carnivale theme! Our talented band of athletes across all four Houses and age groups demonstrated their speed, strength and stamina in many events, while others enjoyed the opportunity to test their own skills in the novelty events. Congratulations to Prague House for their win.

### House Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Prague</td>
<td>1175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Lourdes</td>
<td>1161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Fatima</td>
<td>1097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Kildare</td>
<td>1065</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Records Broken:

- **17 years Discus**: Emma Douglass, 33.15m
- **Open 1500m Walk**: Amy Bettiol, 6:42.02
- **15 yrs High Jump**: Melissa Fitzsimmons, 1.57m
- **13 years 400m**: Helena de Gruchy, 1:01.72

### Special Mentions:

- **Helena de Gruchy** of Year 7 broke a 31 year old record – 13 years 400m set in 1982.
- **Emma Douglass** of Year 11, by setting the 17 year Discus record, now has five school Athletics records – four discus and one shot put. Emma and her older sister, Laura, now hold every one of the College’s discus records between them.

### 2013 Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1st Place</th>
<th>2nd Place</th>
<th>3rd Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 yrs</td>
<td>Ruby Scarf</td>
<td>Megan Rose</td>
<td>Equal 3rd: Sam De Montemas, Ursula Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 yrs</td>
<td>Helena De Gruchy</td>
<td>Isabelle Ronksley</td>
<td>Antonia Whiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 yrs</td>
<td>Sophie De Montemas</td>
<td>Equal 2nd: Mandy Guberina, Kate Mayjor</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15 yrs</td>
<td>Emma Welch</td>
<td>Melissa Fitzsimmons</td>
<td>Alison Colgan</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 yrs</td>
<td>Abbi Wilkinson</td>
<td>Equal 2nd: Emily Parker, Kelly Wilcox</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 yrs</td>
<td>Emma Douglass</td>
<td>Equal 2nd: Catherine Lanz, Lauren Harrison</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWD</td>
<td>Juliet Liddy</td>
<td>Rae Pastuszak</td>
<td>Tegan Grunwald</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Invitational 100m Champion

- **Melissa Fitzsimmons**

### Overall Athletics Champion

- **Helena de Gruchy**
Our Community

Mother's and Father's Day Masses
Year 10 girls and their parents were invited to Brigidine College for the annual Parent Daughter Dinner on 30 May. We enjoyed a beautiful meal to celebrate our time at the College so far and our final year in Junior school.

We were very privileged to listen to and meet the brave and inspirational Jessica Watson. In 2009, at the young age of sixteen, she made the treacherous yet equally astonishing journey of sailing around the world by herself in just a small boat. She said she used to be a scared young girl, afraid of everything, but the feat she achieved definitely proved how it is possible to overcome challenges, no matter how big they can seem. Hearing her words was very inspiring, especially as it came from someone so young and close to us in age. It was a truly amazing and eye-opening night and we are all so grateful to have had this experience.

Olivia Audsley and Jessica Lynch
Year 10

Have you checked out our YouTube channel yet?

Watch Maddison McCauley of Year 10 interview Jessica Watson here!
http://youtu.be/zArEu6Lxvmo
Stolen

Stolen by Jane Harrison is a contemporary Australian play which is studied by HSC Drama students in many schools. The play follows the paths of five indigenous children whose memories of belonging to the Stolen Generation form the ‘baggage’ of our collective Australian heritage. Directed and adapted by our Head of Drama, Miss DiAnne McDonald, the story was combined with life experiences and ‘baggage’ of our own Year 11 actors. This forthright and confronting production challenged the audience to consider what social, political and emotional baggage we carry. Patrons commented on the powerful messages conveyed by such a young, yet talented cast.

This was a landmark and significant production for Brigidine in so many ways. The play has not been performed by a non-indigenous cast before, nor has it been performed by a school. It also marked the last Year 11 Play to be performed in Bowie Hall prior to taking up residence in the new Theatre.

Miss DiAnne McDonald
Hollywood certainly came to Brigidine on Saturday 31 August for the Annual P and F Trivia evening! With 32 Trivia tables the room was filled with plenty of glamour, a great amount of Gatsby and a few quirky tables, including the Best Dressed Table winners of Hollywood Plastic Surgeons.

Gerardette Seeto and the Trivia Committee consisting of Sally Stewart, Vanessa Samson, Catherine Clelland, Julie Biggs, Julia Terry and an army of volunteers set up an amazing evening with fantastic auction items and raffle prizes.

We would like to thank our sponsors, some of whom joined us for the evening, Harvest Financial Group, Fuji Xerox and Fulton Trotter. We would also like to thank parents who donated items for the raffle or auction and Wayne Shapiro, our Trivia Master and auctioneer.

The event raised $16,000 to go towards audio visual equipment for the new Performing Arts Theatre.

A very big thank you to all who attended.

Laura Hurstfield
P and F President

Gerardette Seeto
Functions Coordinator
The TAS Department hosted the Exhibition 2013 in Bowie Hall on 13 August. The evening gave students the opportunity to exhibit their works completed in the subjects of Technology, Design and Technology, Food Technology, Textiles Technology and Textiles and Design for Semester 1. The exhibition also allowed students in Year 12 Textiles and Design to display their completed Major Textiles Projects and supporting documentation before HSC Marking.

Guest speaker, Madelyn Blom (Class of 2004), opened the exhibition and gave an account of her career in the fashion industry, from her studies at the College to the launch of her own fashion label, Wild Divine. She was even wearing one of her very own designs on the night.

As part of the TAS Exhibition, guests were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite projects in two different categories.

**The People’s Choice Awards were awarded to:**

**Design and Technology**
Olivia Tams of Year 9

**Textiles and Technology**
Lauren Grieve of Year 12

We congratulate the girls on their effort in creating their wonderful projects.

*Mrs Tawney Peachey*
Head of Department
The Visual Arts and Design and Technology Exhibition combined to celebrate the creative achievements of Year 12 students’ HSC Bodies of Work and Major Design Projects. Of special significance this year was that, for the first time at the College, Year 12 students had studied Design and Technology as a part of their HSC. These ten students, along with the thirty students in Visual Arts, made artworks and designs that demonstrated diversity, skill and imaginative concepts.

The Bowie Hall was filled with the families and friends of the exhibitors, along with staff and other members of the Brigidine community, making it a lively and entertaining event. In opening the exhibition, Mrs Curran reflected on the creativity we all experience as children. She congratulated the girls on acknowledging their own and having the courage to nurture this throughout their high school years and beyond.

We thank the musicians who added a delightful background of ambient music along with the catering skills provided by Year 11 Visual Arts students in keeping the enjoyable food and beverages flowing throughout the evening.

Ms Lu Buckley
Head of Visual Arts
Every year students from Years 7 to 11 participate in the Brigidine College Public Speaking competition. Each student has 24 hours to prepare a speech on a challenging topic. Two students are selected from each class to participate in the Finals Night, held on the evening of 3 September. The adjudicators were Alumni and past staff members. Mr Pat Moran, a former Deputy Principal of the College, has been adjudicating continuously for twelve years.

Our guest speaker was Olivia Rolleston (Class of 2008). Olivia won the Brigidine Public Speaking competition in 2007. She is currently completing a Bachelor of Media with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours). Olivia spoke about her experiences in orphanages in Nepal and remote Aboriginal communities. The central premise of her address was the importance of giving a voice to the voiceless.

Sabrina Thompson of Year 11 spoke about the ways language is used by the media and others to manipulate. Her speech was thought-provoking and included humour and an analysis of the emotive language used on television news bulletins to create a mood of fear in an attempt to gain higher ratings. Sabrina was a worthy winner and she will present her speech at the Annual Prize Giving Ceremony in December.

Mr Brett Harrison
Head of English
Mock Trial

Our Mock Trial team was victorious in both Rounds 3 and 4. Last May they successfully prosecuted an alleged drug smuggler, presented by Turramurra High School and in June, acting as the Defence team, the girls had a convincing win over St Ives High School.

Congratulations to: Billie Eder, Rhea Karunakar and Lucy Stafford of Year 11, Isabel Bunting, Alice Edwards and Amanda Liem of Year 10.

Speech at Brigidine

Speech classes at Brigidine started in Term 2. A group of students elected to take after school Speech classes and have enjoyed it so much that they will continue in Term 3. The girls will sit their Australian Speech Communication Association (ASCA) examinations in early December.

Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award

Dominique Bennett of Year 9 took part in the Northern Sydney Regional Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award, where she presented her prepared speech and then competed in the Impromptu section. Ellen Trimble of Year 8, who went to support Dominique, was asked to be the Chairperson at the competition and she did a wonderful job. Both girls were a credit to Brigidine College.

Tournament of Minds

The Regional Finals of the Tournament of Minds were held in August. Brigidine had four teams competing; two teams in the Language Literature challenge and two in the Social Science challenge. Brigidine Team 1 won the Social Sciences section, taking part in the State Final at UNSW in September where they all proudly represented our College.

We were delighted when Tournament Honours was given to Brigidine Team 2 who competed in the Language Literature discipline.

Mrs Jan Whiddon
Centre for Excellence Coordinator
Languages and Sports

A Cultural Exchange

Exchange students 2013:

Lou Grimberg, from France with AFX, stayed with Hermione Williams from 22 July – 23 August.

Giulia Modenesi, from Italy with SCCE, is staying with Emma Steiner 16 July – November.

Livia Bonaita, from Italy with SCCE, stayed with Francesca Farrell 31 July – 23 August.

Francesca Farrell and Olivia Johnson have gone to France with SCCE, 5 September to December.

Lea Schaden, from Germany with SCCE, 16 July – 5 December.

Bridget Leonard is going to France with SCCE 29 October – Term 1 2014.

Lea Mougenot, from France with SCCE, stayed with Alicia Parton 16 July – 27 August.

Sports

Athletics

2013 has been a very successful year for Brigidine Athletics. We saw Catherine Lanz of Year 12 stamp herself as not only Brigidine’s premier sprinter, but also earn that title at IOSSA and BBSSSA. We also saw the emergence of a very talented group of Year 7 athletes, with the likes of Helena de Gruchy winning events at all three carnivals and Isabella Ronksley becoming overall Age Champion in the 13 years age group at BBSSSA.

At the highest level of competition in which Brigidine students compete – the NSW Catholic Colleges (CCC) Athletics Championships in September – three athletes won gold medals:

Catherine Lanz of Year 12 for U19 100m; Emily Parker of Year 10 for 16 years 400m; and Helena de Gruchy of Year 7 for 7 years 400m.

In one of the best overall results in many years by a group of Brigidine girls at this event, eleven of the sixteen students who represented won a total of 15 medals.

Hockey

Bella Purnell of Year 10 was selected in the Sydney Metro Academy, the Greater Sydney Academy U/18s. Bella participated in Gordon’s squad, represented North Shore at State Championships for U/15s and U/18s, represented Brigidine at IGGSA and was then selected to represent IGGSA at Combined Independent Schools (CIS) and was invited to the NSW Development Camp. Bella has also played club hockey for Gordon in U/15s Juniors and played in 3rd grade for the Women’s team.

Netball

Jordyn Chue of Year 11 represented NSW Catholic Colleges (CCC) at the NSW All Schools Netball Open Age Challenge in September. Jordyn was a member of the winning team that defeated the Combined Independent Schools and Combined High Schools teams. Jordyn was then named in the Merit Team which consists of the top 10 players across the three representative teams and is essentially a NSW All Schools team.

Alexandra Kopp

Class of 2012

On 4 September Alexandra Kopp, who sat the 2012 Italian Continuers HSC examination, was honoured for her effort in attaining 5th in the State at the 21st Annual Awards for Excellence in HSC Italian. Presented by the Consul-General of Italy, Sergio Martes, Alexandra received an Italian course for adults of 9 weeks’ duration, an 18 month membership to the Multimedia Resource Library and a DVD on Italy. She is to be commended for this wonderful achievement. Alexandra is presently studying International and Global Studies at the University of Sydney majoring in World Politics.

Jordyn Chue

of Year 11 represented NSW Catholic Colleges (CCC) at the NSW All Schools Netball Open Age Challenge in September. Jordyn was a member of the winning team that defeated the Combined Independent Schools and Combined High Schools teams. Jordyn was then named in the Merit Team which consists of the top 10 players across the three representative teams and is essentially a NSW All Schools team.
The Class of 2013

Year 12 Graduation
I was always envious of Anne’s maroon beret. It was round and looked really flat and decent. She came from Forestville, along with other interesting girls who had older sisters, and therefore more decent looking older-style uniforms (unlike Christine and I, who had just arrived in the new subdivisions of St Ives, who had brand new cherry red berets, brand new houses, brand new everything). Our cherry red berets were millinery masterpieces: made of really thick felt, they stuck on the side of your head with a raised, pointy side, finished off with a thick felt bow. We hated them! That is why Anne’s perfectly flat, round, maroon beret was highly coveted by the St Ives girls.

We all turned up to our new school on the first day of Form 1 in 1969. It was a magical feeling that hasn’t been repeated for me in any life experience. Our bags were full of wonderful high school items such as white cooking aprons with matching hats, 14 denier flesh pink stockings and matching cherry red sports bloomers.

Anne was in my class as we both had names in the first half of the alphabet. Joining us was Jeanine, Louise and Deborah, also with A-L surnames. It’s funny how fate and friendships can be sealed by the simple division of the alphabet.

I know Jeanine was annoyed that she had a cherry red beret and this annoyance was heightened by the fact that her big sister, Kerrie, had a flat, round, maroon beret. Louise and Deborah had no older sisters like me, so we were united in our cherry redness. In fact, we had to wear matching cherry red gloves.

Our teacher was Mrs Zena Sharpe. We were in Form 1 Gold. Her regal grey hair was at the top of an imposing 6 foot frame, her wrinkled face covered in foundation and the finest of white loose powder. Gold spectacles and a wonderful sense of humour completed one of my favourite teachers of all time. “Sharp by name and sharp by nature!” was her mantra and we lapped it up.

For French, I remember sitting next to Louise, another Forestville girl. We were sharing one of those desks with a two-person fold-up seat. My first trick to impress Louise was to chew up mandarin segments, put them on the end of my plastic ruler and use the catapult method to aim at the St Joseph statue to the left of the blackboard. Bullseye! Right on his face. Louise thought that was pretty funny.

And that is how it all starts; lifelong friendships created by slicing up an alphabet and comparing beret colours.

Karen Balstrup
Class of 1975

Karen Balstrup graduated from Brigidine College in 1975 and studied Economics and Geography at the University of Sydney. After backpacking travels, Karen studied a BA (Communications) at UTS Broadway, while working for The National Trust to coordinate Heritage Week. Australia Day celebrations followed and a professional career in Public Relations, spanning 20 years. In 1987 Karen managed the Pepsi account and entered a music marketing career, where she worked on tours around Australia and overseas for Michael Jackson and Tina Turner. She has been responsible for brands such as Apple, Pizza Hut, Moet et Chandon, and most recently specialises in Social Media Marketing. She has two daughters.
Births
Claire Williams, Class of 1999

We welcomed our second son, Zachary Tait, on 25 July 2013. Dylan Tait was born 26 July 2011 and is now 2 years old. Asking a 2 year old to sit still for a photo is difficult!

Deaths
Zoe Gillig – Class of 2002 – tragically taken 7 July 2012
Mary Virgona – Class of 1976 – 17 May 2013
Geraldine Slattery (nee Links) – Golden Girl – a Pioneer of 1956 – sister of Moira (Class of 1962) and Frances – Mother of twins, Virginia and Samantha – 8 April 2013
Margaret Torrens (nee Dermond) – Golden Girl – Pioneer Class of 1960 – 31 May 2013
Michelle “Chelle” Moore (nee Notter) – Class of 1992 – daughter of ex staff member, Carol Notter – 26 August 2013
Sarah Durazza – Class of 2005 – tragically taken 26 August 2013
Sister Patricia Keating – 99 years old – 12 September 2013

Weddings
Katherine White, Class of 2002

Katherine White and Brock Hatton were married in the beautiful garden setting of Hopewood, Bowral on 4 May 2013.

There was a strong Brigidine presence at the wedding with bridesmaids from the Class of 2002: Ashley Cameron (Cornwell), Melanie Vrachas, Clementine Johnson, Clare Craighead (from left to right).

Katherine and Brock spent their honeymoon in Hawaii. Katherine is the daughter of Ann and John White and Brock is the son of Di Lawrence and Graham Hatton.
Sr Patricia Keating

Mother Thomas Keating (now known as Sister Patricia Keating) was Principal of Brigidine College St Ives from 1968–1970. She was a tall, authoritative, spontaneous, warm and dignified woman with a genuine laugh – a side not always evident to the students. She is remembered for her promotion of singing, deep commitment to the College’s expansion and the passion she held for her subject area, Geography.

Sister Patricia came with the intention of promoting the College to ensure its survival following the introduction of the Wyndham Scheme. Greater pupil numbers were necessary for the College to resource the subject electives and levels adequately. Sister Patricia envisaged catering for pupils’ individual needs. She actively worked to establish feeder schools from the local Brigidine parish primary schools.

During her leadership the increase in pupils saw the progressive introduction of two teaching streams and the establishment of a fourth school House, Lourdes (1968). She oversaw the final construction and furnishing of Stage III of the building program (Science block, 5 classrooms, and Library, as well as staff and student amenities). Financial difficulties were met with innovative fundraising activities, procurement of government grants and an increase in fees.

To enhance the College’s prestige, Sister Patricia set out to demonstrate that the College had embraced modern teaching techniques. She designated a Library space and employed the first Librarian, Margaret Torrens (Brigidine Alumni, Class of 1960). She also introduced Debating, broadened the students’ excursions by promoting links with other schools and led the first interstate excursion to Tasmania. In 1970, Sister Patricia produced the first College Yearbook.

Despite not always having the support of the parent body, she embraced new means of assisting the students to meet spiritual and lifestyle challenges. Sister Patricia left Brigidine College to become Vice-Principal at Soubirous Brigidine College, Scarborough, Queensland.

Margaret Torrens (Nee Dermond)

Margaret attended Brigidine College St Ives from 1956–1960. She was a popular student and a natural leader, becoming the fourth College Captain and the Sports Captain. She was also the first ex-student to be employed by the College, as the Librarian, from 1971–1984.

The Year 7 intake (or in 1956, 1st Form) originally consisted of seven students including Margaret and myself, Barbara Virgona (nee Dalton) and Sandra Wood (nee Hopkins) and we all became lifelong friends. I will always remember Margaret with her two plaits, freckled face and a broken-toothed smile.

In 1956 the College consisted of the first four classrooms of the two storey Synan Wing. Upstairs there were just two classrooms, the third was divided into a small Chapel and Music room, and the fourth was where the nuns had their sleeping quarters. Throughout our schooling we were in composite classes, sharing our classroom with other Year groups. Sisters Romuald (the first Principal) and Adrian were our teachers, skilled in multiple subjects.

Margaret was a bright student excelling in French, English, History, Maths and Chemistry and won a scholarship to Sydney Teachers College majoring in English and French. Her first teaching position was at Barraba Central School.

After completing a B.A., a Graduated Diploma in Library Science and an M.A. (Hons.) in Cultural and Heritage Studies she became a Librarian at various schools. She also managed the Stanton Library at North Sydney where she developed the Writers at Stanton monthly book launches and started the movement of Sydney Librarians that created AORA Children’s Literature Research.

She was also a very good all-round sports woman – playing A grade tennis, and basketball and participating in the Sydney Athletics Club.

Margaret had incredible strength and determination, an infectious laugh, a wealth of knowledge, and always “had a go”!

We give thanks to God for the life of Margaret who lived a life of a Brigidine, Fortiter et Suaviter. May Margaret rest in peace.

Denise Brady
Class of 1960
Theresa Pitts
Class of 1999

It was midnight when the plane bumped onto the runway at Entebbe, Uganda’s international airport. I had no idea of the conditions I would be working in or the isolation of the village I was going to, but I knew with certainty that this was something I’ve wanted to do for a long time.

I work as a Pediatrics Registrar at Sydney Children’s Hospital and I’ve taken six months leave of absence to do voluntary work as a doctor in a small Catholic hospital run by Ugandan nuns in Nkozi, an isolated village in a large farming region about 100km from the capital of Kampala.

Fortunately, I was met at the airport by Sister Josephine, the hospital administrator. We embarked on our journey to Nkozi, staying the night at a convent on the way due to the distance and rough roads.

I’ve now been in Nkozi for six weeks and the experience has exceeded my expectations. Every day I learn something new and hope that I am able to make a difference – either to a patient, to the dedicated staff, or to someone in the community.

The medicine in Uganda has to be seen to be believed, I’ve experienced things I’d only previously read about. If a medical condition can’t be treated with simple antibiotics (we have only four types) or oxygen (only two patients at a time), then the patient will most likely die. Many patients arrive in an extreme state, after having tried local healers or witchcraft first, and after travelling a long distance to get to our hospital.

The patients pay for everything (gloves, syringes, medication) and when the money runs out they leave – cured or not. Women (often adolescents) frequently come in with advanced obstructed labour, usually with a poor outcome, and there are certainly no facilities to manage any premature babies.

Malnutrition is rife among the population, as is HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. It is devastating to watch these diseases, especially in the children.

There is no anesthetic machine. We use ether at times, but mostly the patients just have to grin and bear the pain. There is also no X-ray machine, as it is broken, and we have only two blood tests (a malaria film and haemoglobin estimation), so my diagnostic skills are challenged every day.

I’m living in the staff quarters, which is quite an experience. It is a lovely community and has such a vibe of happiness. There is no running water, no TV, the electricity is off more than on, and we cook on a fire and hand wash our clothes. There is always loud music, singing and lots of laughter. I’ve been taught to cook matooke (the local staple diet) and braid my hair African style. The kids love to play and they follow me shouting “Bye Mazungu”, which means white person.

However, despite the conditions, the Ugandans are the most beautiful people I’ve met. They are so warm and friendly, always with a huge smile, a genuine hello, and a handshake.

Religion is an important part of daily life. Most locals wear a rosary, and are given names like Immaculate, Grace, Joseph and Mercy. Church is packed on Sundays for Mass and the music (singing and bongo drums) is like being at a rock concert.

I’ve been invited to various “relaxation drinks”, stayed on a matooke plantation, attended a funeral, and recently a wedding (the most lavish over-the-top wedding I have ever seen), which was conducted by ten priests. I’ve also managed the occasional weekend break, hiking amongst stunning scenery and waterfalls and whitewater rafting in grade 5 rapids.

Working here in Nkozi has been an experience of a lifetime. I feel privileged to be able to contribute to a nation with such poor health, but such a vibrant culture. I’ve also learnt to appreciate so many things that we take for granted in Australia. While I will not miss eating matooke after having it at least twice a day, I am looking forward to a warm shower and a cup of coffee.

For details of my Uganda experiences visit my Travel Blog: http://travelpod.com/members/theresapitts
Sharon Mair (nee Leach)  
Class of 1988  

I left Brigidine at the end of Year 10, aged 16, because I was successful in obtaining a position as a Junior Office Assistant at Weight & Co. Real Estate in Dee Why where I gained a lot of experience in all facets of Real Estate, Strata Management and Property Law.

I was always a studious girl and a quick learner and I loved Maths and English, so attaining a qualification was important to me, especially as I did not finish Year 12.

I completed three and a half years of part time study to attain my NSW Real Estate Licence at TAFE. I enjoyed Real Estate but I particularly loved preparation of the legal documents. My strengths were accuracy and attention to detail.

I was married in 1997 and we moved to country Victoria as I owned an Australian Stockhorse and competed in many agriculture events.

I worked full time as a Conveyancing Manager for the largest Law firm in East Gippsland and really enjoyed the extension to my real estate knowledge. Finally, I found a career that suited me perfectly!

While on maternity leave I decided to operate my own Victorian Conveyancing Company from home and I then progressed to a Main Street address when Olivia started school.

I became the first Conveyancer in East Gippsland to become a Certified Practising Conveyancer, which meant I was regulated through the Australian Institute of Conveyancers VIC and held Professional Indemnity Insurance. This was very important to the community as there was no Government Licensing for Conveyancers like there was for NSW. I won a Gippsland Business award in 2004 for my efforts.

I was extremely busy and worked very hard building a successful business all by myself. When Licensing for Conveyancing became mandatory by the Victorian Government in 2005, I completed a Diploma of Financial Services (Conveyancing) at RMIT University in Melbourne. I had to travel eight hours return on the train to the CBD every day for two years to attend the course, but it was important to me to become licensed and keep my business. When I finished, I became the first Licensed Conveyancer in East Gippsland.

I sold the Victorian business to a local solicitor in 2009 and moved to the Northern Rivers district, where I attained my NSW Conveyancing License.

I have now built another successful business where I look after conveyancing in New South Wales and Queensland. Having the experience and the knowledge of conveyancing in three states with different regulations and procedures is priceless. I can also communicate effectively with my clients easily, should they be moving from state to state.

I belong to good, local networking groups and most of my work comes from word of mouth referrals and through trusted local real estate agents, bankers and mortgage brokers.

Owning my own business has been very rewarding and I wish all Brigidine students the very best of success in whatever career they may choose.

Candice Dilworth  
Class of 2007  

“Since leaving Brigidine I have completed a Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) at the University of Sydney.”

I am currently completing a thesis on a connective tissue disorder known as Marfan syndrome. Researching this has been exciting as I am working closely with cardiologists at RPA to obtain patient tissue samples. This means I have been required to attend open heart surgeries and work alongside surgeons. As you can imagine, these experiences have enhanced my excitement for medical research and encouraged me to further my pursuits within the medical field.
Hayley Montague  
Class of 2002

I recently ran in the very popular 2013 Virgin London Marathon after winning a ballot to participate. I started running about four years ago after my employer ran a Wellbeing program that involved giving out a pedometer to staff to increase the number of steps we took each day. I soon realised that running meant more steps and started to use my lunch breaks to run. My first 10km race went well and my running partner suggested that I target a marathon. The path to running a marathon is long and trying. I ran, on average, six days a week over a distance of between 30 to 50 miles for around five months, to ensure that I would have the best possible chance of completing the London Marathon in a reasonable time. My faithful Golden Retriever, Aura, accompanied me on many runs and we perfected the art of sprint training by chasing cats and deer together. I used my long training runs as an opportunity to explore the countryside around my village – I even ran to France once (not so far as I live in Luxembourg). Running in winter presented several challenges; I remember making it back to my front door only to find that my hands were too cold to turn the key in the lock! The 2013 Virgin London Marathon was my sixth marathon in three years, so I was well aware of the pain and effort that was involved in preparing for and completing this distance. My grandparents suggested that I use my run to support the fundraising efforts of the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice based in Farnham, Surrey, UK, which offers specialised palliative care to adults facing the end of their lives. Their services are free of charge and they rely on community support. The start of the Marathon was well organised and the atmosphere was incredible – the BBC reported that over half a million people were along the route, cheering and encouraging the runners. Crossing Tower Bridge, which was lined with vocal crowds, was an experience I shall never forget. The 26.2 miles was long and painful, but the reward of crossing the finish line made it all worthwhile. It felt like a giant ‘fun run’, rather than a competitive event. My favourite motivational sign was “Your feet are hurting so much as you are kicking ass!” at mile 25, closely followed by “Do not stop now, there are people watching”. I enjoyed the race (as much as it is possible to enjoy pushing yourself through physical and mental barriers), but even more so knowing my efforts were helping to fundraise for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. I was very happy with my finishing time of 3 hours 39 minutes and I am proud to report that my grandmother and I have raised over £1,500 for this worthy charity. We cannot all aspire to compete in the Olympics, but by running a marathon we can aspire to compete in the same races as elite athletes.

Georgia Knox  
Class of 2002

I graduated with a Bachelor of Laws/Media (Honours) degree from Macquarie University in 2007. I then spent four years at a law firm and worked in Singapore, Canberra and Sydney. In 2011 I embarked on a career change with APN News and Media in their Fast Track program. This two year program attracts a select pool of young professionals from a diverse range of backgrounds to work on projects across the company’s radio, outdoor advertising, publishing and digital businesses, with the aim to “fast track” each individual to a senior management role on completion of the program. In late 2012, I entered the Search for Australia’s Emerging Leaders competition, which was run by AFR BOSS Magazine and The University of Sydney Business School. The prize was a fully-paid scholarship to be in the first intake of the University’s brand new Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. This was a tough competition that went for many rounds – including written submissions, assessment days and interviews – during which I had the opportunity to meet some amazing people and be challenged in new ways. I made it all the way to the final with the other chosen top 10 “Emerging Leaders” in the country. Although I did not win, I was fortunate enough to be offered the University’s Postgraduate Business Leader Scholarship which pays for half of my MBA fees. In March this year I commenced the University of Sydney Business School’s MBA as one of their first cohort of 47 students. It is a part time program, so I am studying while still working full time at APN. It is exciting to be part of something so new that is on the cutting edge of management education, both in Australia and internationally. As part of the program, I have just returned from Shanghai where I worked with 20 of my MBA colleagues on a consulting project, providing strategic advice to Chinese enterprises on opportunities for extending or developing their investment activities in Australia. My aim is to partake in the first graduation ceremony for the MBA in 2015. I am loving the journey!

Hayley currently works as an Administrator at The Bank of New York Mellon (Luxembourg).
Term Dates

2013 Term Dates for Students

Term 4
Thursday 5 December: TERM 4 ENDS

2014 Term Dates for Students

Term 1
Thursday 30 January: Year 7 and New Student Orientation Day
Friday 1 January: TERM 1 COMMENCES
Friday 11 April: TERM 1 ENDS
Thursday 17 April – Monday 21 April: Easter
Friday 25 April: ANZAC Day

Term 2
Tuesday 29 April: TERM 2 COMMENCES
Monday 9 June: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Friday 20 June: TERM 2 ENDS

Term 3
Tuesday 15 July: TERM 3 COMMENCES
Friday 19 September: TERM 3 ENDS

Term 4
Monday 6 October: Public Holiday
Wednesday 8 October: TERM 4 COMMENCES
Thursday 4 December: TERM 4 ENDS

Reunion Dates 2014

Class of 2004
10 Year Reunion
October 2014

Class of 1994
20 Year Reunion
October 2014

Class of 1984
30 Year Reunion
October 2014

Class of 1974
40 Year Reunion
October 2014