



Pymble Ladies' College



pymbles

Bravo for
*Orpheus
and Eurydice*

PYMBLE
LADIES'
COLLEGE

.....
Read all about it on page 28

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Pymble Ladies' College



Front cover

Students performing the Opera *Orpheus and Eurydice* in the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts.

About Pymble Ladies' College

Celebrating 100 years of education in 2016, *Pymble's* history has been marked with excellence. The College has gained a reputation for offering extraordinary opportunities with outstanding teachers and facilities. *Pymble* students aspire to the College motto, 'All' Ultimo Lavoro' – Strive for the highest, graduating with confidence and maturity to embrace the challenges that lie beyond the College gates. A school of the Uniting Church in Australia, *Pymble* welcomes girls of all faiths in Kindergarten to Year 12 and as Boarders' from Year 7.

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A Warm Welcome to the Third Issue of *Pymbulletin* for 2018

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the news, highlights and events from Term 2 and Term 3. Term 3 in particular is a significant period in the life of the College, as we farewell our Year 12 students and say thank you to our senior leaders for all they have brought to the life of *Pymble* and goodbye as they embark upon their final school challenge. The delivery of this issue will coincide with the delivery of their HSC results and I look forward to sharing news of their achievements in the next issue of *Pymbulletin*, which will be published in early 2019.

Next year will be an exciting one for our new graduates as they forge a new life beyond the College gates – it will be an exciting year within our iconic gates too. As many readers will know, in Term 3 of this year, I advised the College Council that I will be leaving *Pymble* in 2019 to pursue an educational career in private enterprise. This of course means a change of leadership at the College.

I have enjoyed a wonderful 11 years at *Pymble*. Being Principal of one of the leading girls' schools in the world has been the greatest privilege and the pinnacle of my career.

When I came to *Pymble*, we already had a proud history of advancing and supporting young women. Over the last decade I have had the opportunity to take our staff and students to new heights by establishing a clear understanding of our purpose and values, developing our strategic vision, *Towards 2020*, and focussing on our world-leading teaching and learning community and our strong sense of togetherness and contribution.

I have encouraged our girls to live with great purpose and courage, just as I strive to do. So, with a glad heart and great anticipation, I look forward to embracing the next chapter in my career and will proudly hand over the leadership of the College to our incoming Principal, Dr Kate Hadwen, who commences in Term 3 2019 (see over page for more detailed information). I thank you all for your support over the years and know you will join me in extending the warmest welcome to Dr Hadwen and wishing her every success as she leads the College towards and beyond 2020.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our Deputy Principal, Mrs Julie Shaw, for assuming the role of Acting Principal so ably during my recent sabbatical leave. Julie's passion for and commitment to the College is second to none, and I thank her for her unwavering support and her seamless transition to Acting Principal for those important five weeks at the end of the year.

Mrs Vicki Waters
PRINCIPAL



Read how the *Pymble* community came together to raise much needed funds for our farmers (page 17)



We hosted our Inaugural Indigenous Round of Sport in celebration of Indigenous culture (page 33)



Read how more than 80 girls from Years 7 to 12 have opted to play competitive rugby (page 37)



Introducing Dr Kate Hadwen, our Ninth Principal

In November, the Council of Pymble Ladies' College announced the appointment of Dr Kate Hadwen as the ninth Principal of the College.

"After a comprehensive search by the Council and an executive search firm, Dr Hadwen emerged as an outstanding candidate from an impressive field of high-calibre national and international education leaders – no doubt attracted by the exceptional reputation of the College," said Chair, Mr James Hunter.

Dr Hadwen is currently the Principal of PLC Perth where she has served since 2015. In that time Dr Hadwen has been instrumental in establishing a world-leading health and wellbeing curriculum and a dedicated wellbeing centre. She introduced learning co-ordinators for each year level, tasked with monitoring individual student academic progress and providing any necessary intervention and enrichment.

"I'm excited to be joining the dedicated and professional team at Pymble. Girls, my absolute focus will be on you. I want to hear what you have to say and I'll be listening carefully to your opinions. It's important that as we move forward, we do it together."

– Dr Kate Hadwen

Dr Hadwen has always been a strong advocate for student voice, and significantly enhanced staff professional development, programs and opportunities. She has more than 25 years' experience in educational leadership across the breadth of schooling from Kindergarten to Year 12 and has held roles in schools in Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia from Principal and Head of Senior School to Head of Boarding and Primary Teacher.

For a period, she worked as a Senior Research Fellow at The Child Health Promotion Research Centre while also working as a Senior Lecturer in Occupational Health and Safety Law at Edith Cowan University. Dr Hadwen was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research in 2011 and remains an Adjunct Research Fellow. She has authored a number of policies and curriculum resources related to technology, wellbeing and anti-bullying, and is a continuing Reviewer with the *Journal of Psychologists and Counsellors in Schools*.

Dr Hadwen's doctorate was on transitioning challenges faced by boarding students and families, and she has since written books for parents on boarding, international students and young people transitioning to Middle School. She has an ongoing book contract with

Hawker Brownlow Education. She is currently a Non-Executive Director with the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia and the Australian Youth Orchestra, an Honorary Fellow of the Telethon Kids' Institute and the Child Health Promotion Research Centre and an Ambassador for Australia's Biggest Mental Health Check-in.

"She mirrors *Pymble's* style of collaborative leadership, shares our passion for evidence-based and data-driven personalised education, and is a strong advocate for academic excellence. She was selected for her strong personal philosophy which centres on the girls' development and success," said Mr Hunter.

Dr Hadwen will commence at the College in Term 3 2019.

"This announcement brings home the reality that Mrs Vicki Waters is departing, and reinforces her ongoing message to our girls about having the courage and confidence to embrace the future. We have flourished under her leadership and there will be opportunities to thank her next year.

"Mrs Waters will continue to serve as Principal until the end of Term 2 and I look forward to joining our community in thanking her for her faithful service for the past 11 years," said Mr Hunter.

Mrs Waters advised the College Council that she will be leaving *Pymble* in 2019 to pursue an educational career in private enterprise.

"Mrs Waters has served the College for more than a decade with absolute distinction and we have much to thank her for, including her vision for our strategic direction, values and educational offering; her inspiration to extend and challenge our exceptional staff; and her leadership in fostering a flourishing and committed community locally and globally," Mr Hunter said.

"There will be many opportunities to thank and farewell Vicki next year and I hope you will join me then as we honour and celebrate her lasting legacy."

Pymble Principals throughout the years

1916 to 1920	Dr John Marden
1920 to 1921	Miss G Gordon Everett
1922 to 1933	Miss Nancy Jobson
1933 to 1936	Miss Grace Mackintosh
1936 to 1967	Miss Dorothy Knox
1968 to 1989	Miss Jeanette Buckham
1989 to 2007	Mrs Gillian Moore
2007 to Term 2 2019	Mrs Vicki Waters

Strategic Partnerships

Pymble Ladies' College is delighted to announce a new strategic partnership with the NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS). In conjunction with Knox Grammar School, the College is proud to be selected as the home of NSWIS's new Northern Metro high performance swimming hub.

Simon Cusack, who is one of Australia's top-performing swim coaches and has twice been named Australian Swimming Coach of the Year, will lead the team which includes his athletes, Olympic champions Cate and Bronte Campbell. Commencing in early 2019, the NSWIS team will train alongside the highly-regarded coaches and squads already operating at the *Pymble* and *Knox* pools.

Mrs Vicki Waters, Principal, said the partnership with NSWIS supported the strategic aim of the College to forge partnerships with external experts that can extend student learning and growth, as well as staff professional development.





"Pymble has a long and proud history of sporting and academic excellence – it's in our DNA to value both equally; we firmly believe that one complements the other," said Mrs Waters.

"Cate and Bronte Campbell are fantastic role models for our Pymble girls, and we are very excited to welcome them to our community."

"By providing the facilities for the New South Wales Institute of Sport squad, not only do our swimmers and coaches have the opportunity to learn and grow from someone of Simon Cusack's calibre, but they will have the opportunity to train side-by-side with some of the best and emerging talent in the field," Mrs Waters said.

The partnership with NSWIS bolsters an existing program of alignments Pymble has forged with sporting professionals including the Macquarie University Sydney Rays Rugby Sevens players and coaches and the Women's International Cricket League. Pymble's exceptional coaching team includes ex-Wallaby Julian Huxley as Head Coach of Rugby Sevens (see page 37 for more information) and Olympian Melinda Gainsford-Taylor as Head Sprints Coach.

Pymble Learning Festival

Another addition to our Partnership Program is the Pymble Learning Festival which was held on Monday 23 July. This professional learning day for our teachers involved members of the Pymble community hosting a Pymble teacher in their workplace, to provide insights and understanding of current practices, processes and technologies. The result? Learning at Pymble is deeply connected to the world of work and students gain up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills for the workplace, before they even get there.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL EXPANSION

There was much activity at the College over the July holidays as the Preparatory School expansion was completed according to schedule.

As planned, on the first day of Term 3, Year 1 returned to their classrooms, the Performing Arts room was restored for general use, and Year 2 regained the common area between their classrooms. The landscaping around the Preparatory School precinct was the last part of this major building project and was completed in August.

"To see the College grow in this way – meticulously planned, executed and revealed, on time and on budget – to maintain the integrity of our world-class learning environments for our current and future Pymble girls, is incredibly rewarding," said Principal, Mrs Vicki Waters.

"I am looking forward to doing maths in the classroom, there is so much room to spread out and roll the dice."

– Jessamy Facer, Year 1

"I like the new Riverbed because there are so many beautiful new plants."

– Cate Luxton, Year 1

"I love my new classroom because it has a lovely view of the Riverbed."

– Jolie Li, Year 1



1 Mr James Hunter (Chair of College Council) and Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal)



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Personalised Learning

Personalised Learning experiences value students' voices, needs, aspirations and passions in authentic ways, because their purpose is to empower those learners to become self-directed and independent. Our Personalised Learning Framework places at its heart the learner attributes of passion, scholarship and self-assurance; its intention is to foster young women who can delight in their successes and failures because these experiences contribute equally to ongoing learning.

Under the *Little Big Top*



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The College values were demonstrated through performance as our Preparatory School students presented Under the Little Big Top.

Each class spent time in their Performing Arts lessons preparing for their moment on stage with both voice and movement. Watching our young performers courageously take to the big stage, considering their space, recalling movement sequences while remembering to sing, highlighted their capacity and confidence.

As with each Preparatory School event, we look to have the girls' 'footprints' evident. The wonderful backdrop projections included the artwork of our students, a testament to the imaginative talents of our girls and their understanding of the context of their performances.

Creative talents were also very evident in the amazing costumes worn by our girls. Mrs Bianca Orena Barlin, our Preparatory School Parent Group Leader, fashioned a truly outstanding array of costumes in a spectacular display of colour and design. Staff and girls cannot express enough their gratitude for her contribution as well as the large number of parents who applied make-up and spent many hours ensuring the costumes came to reality.

A collaborative staff team worked with Ms Tiffany Farlow, our Performing Arts teacher, to produce a spectacular circus event. Our thanks to the Gillian Moore Centre for Performing Arts (GMCPA) staff who, with humour and patience, enabled our students to enjoy the experience of performance.

- 1 Back row: Adeline Wu, Trisha Viswanathan
Second row: Laurinda Ma, Chloe Tseng
Front row: Alina Yang, Kindergarten
- 2 Back row: Lily Zhang, Savannah Sherlock
Front row: Kavya Surana, Florence Cheng, Kindergarten
- 3 Olivia Chen, Kindergarten
- 4 Shylah Carré and Amaaya Saheed (back), Year 1
- 5 Chloe Lenane, Blair Tang and Emma Lloyd, Year 1

Personalised Learning

Beyond the Classroom

In Term 2, Kindergarten students arrived at school bouncing with excitement and anticipation for their first big excursion! They made their way out to Fairfield to visit Calmsley Hill Farm. The highlights of the day included a bumpy tractor ride, milking Custard the Cow, patting some adorable baby animals in the nursery and watching a working dog show. Four of our brave *Pymble* girls even had a go at cracking a stockman's whip!

The girls and teachers all enjoyed a wonderful day learning about the important role farms play in meeting our needs, as well as the many jobs farmers do to care for their living things.

Year 1 girls visited the Sydney Observatory in The Rocks to further their understanding of monitoring the weather and mapping weather patterns.



- 1 Alina Yang, Trisha Viswanathan and Laurinda Ma, Kindergarten
- 2 Arya Shanmugaratnam and Salma Hassan, Kindergarten
- 3 Charlotte Wu, Kindergarten
- 4 Chloe Qian, Chelsea Duan and Ruby Stoodley-Williamson, Year 1
- 5 Year 1 Excursion
- 6 Year 1 Excursion

Sir Robert Menzies' Reading Competition

Congratulations to the Robert Menzies' Reading Competition winners: Lara Barnouti, Year 8, Annabelle Richens, Year 10 and Onyinye Nwamadi, Year 11, as the overall winner.

The contest dates back to 1963 with Sir Robert Menzies' visit to *Pymble* as a guest speaker for Speech Day. During his visit, Menzies commented that nothing had given him greater pleasure in the afternoon than to hear then Head Prefect, Edwina Dight, read in the Chapel "in a splendid, simple, measured fashion". And so, a *Pymble* tradition was born with the introduction of a reading contest the following year. This year, students read one prepared text, a Bible verse and an unknown text in front of a panel of judges.



Global Latin Exam

Latin students in Years 9 to 12 recently participated in the 2018 National Latin Exam, organised by the American Classical League. The exam covers a range of classical topics including history, mythology, geography and language and is undertaken by more than 143,000 students from more than 24 countries.

All participants are to be congratulated on their performance, particularly those achieving a Perfect Score or a Gold 'summa cum laude' Award. Special congratulations to Emily Shen and Daphne Zhang, Year 12, who both achieved at such a high level that they have been offered the opportunity to apply for a National Latin Exam Scholarship, providing financial support for further Classical Studies.

1 Back row: Rhedyn Wong, Kristen Ma, Mrs Sarah Drane, Christine Hur, Alyssa Yee
Front row: Gabrielle Zhong, Martina Chin, Emma Lau, Lucia Jin, Year 7

2 Grace Jarvis, Sophie Mok, Isabella Natale, Mrs Nikki Wyse, Mrs Edwina Maher, Willa Webster, Phoebe Kinsey and Carina Ye, Year 11



Pymble Shines at da Vinci!

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The da Vinci Decathlon is an academic competition which was designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of the most academically able students in the country by competing in teams of eight across ten different subjects.

Students compete at regional and state competitions and *Pymble* saw great success as all the Year 7 to 11 teams entered the 2018 New South Wales state finals. Every team finished in the top ten overall and in the top ten for two or more individual subjects.

The Year 7 team was invited to compete against the winners from other states at the national finals which took place over the first four days of the July holidays. The girls achieved amazing results finishing in the top three in eight out of the ten subjects as follows:

- First place in English and Engineering
- Second place in Cartography, Creative Producers (Drama), Ideation, Code Breaking and General Knowledge
- Third place in Science

These wonderful results enabled the team to finish in first place overall. Many congratulations to Alyssa Yee (Team Captain), Martina Chin, Christine Hur, Lucia Jin, Emma Lau, Kristen Ma, Rhedyn Wong, Gabrielle Zhong and Samantha Beverley (Reserve).

Personalised Learning

Creative Acts

We concluded Term 2 on a high note of celebration with our Middle School Performing Arts Festival. What a fantastic tribute to the talent and collaboration of all of our Years 7 and 8 students. The event was colourful and entertaining and the acts creative and engaging. Our House Liaison Captains and Drama Captains certainly did an outstanding job!

The winners were:

Best Singing / Choir – the Norma Hoddle Cup: **Hammond**

Best Drama / Dance performance – the Nancy Tucker Cup: **Goodlet**

Best Overall House – the Miriam Gaydon Cup: **Wylie**.



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HSC Callbacks

Drama

Congratulations to the students in our HSC Drama cohort who have been nominated for the prestigious NSW Onstage Showcase. Onstage is the annual showcase of the most outstanding Drama performances in the State with the successful nominees performing at the Seymour Centre in January – the *Pymble* nominations are for two group performances and one individual performance.

Dance

Congratulations to our HSC Dance Class of 2018 who received a total of 16 nominations for the HSC Callback Showcase. The girls will now submit a video of their performances to be considered for the Showcase.

This year we had five students receive triple nominations for their Core Composition, Core Performance and Major Study Performance and one student received a single nomination for her Major Study Performance.

Camps are another annual rite of passage for Pymble girls each year. The series of camps in our Outdoor Education program intentionally steps up each year in intensity to take girls out of their comfort zones and challenge them both physically and mentally to help them discover new skills and capabilities, to understand themselves and their classmates on a new level, and to grow their resilience and independence.

Camps

Year 4

It may have been a warm winter, but the Southern Highlands was certainly chilly for the Year 4 Camp in Term 3. Flying fox, low ropes, initiative games, silly songs around the bonfire, chasings (including the teachers) and much more all made for a superb three days. Our gratitude goes to the staff who attended.

Year 5

Year 5 returned from their four-day camp in Term 2, exhausted but exhilarated by their experiences in a very brown and dry part of NSW (Lake Burrendong). What a delight it was to see the growth in confidence of so many of our girls, who challenged their limits and grew as a result. We thank the Year 5 teachers, Mrs Itzcovitz, Mr Tyson and Mrs Worsley for their attendance and encouragement of the girls who will never forget their time away.



- 1 Keaara Gunzenhauser, Year 11, Lara Albany, Year 8, Jessica O'Bryan, Year 8, Claire Oslington, Year 7, Charlotte Macdonald, Year 7, Zara Benson, Year 7 and Isabelle Kellaway, Year 8
- 2 Year 4 Camp
- 3 Alissa Xue, Angela Zhang, Selina Wu, Ariana Ziolkowski, Yve Willmott and Zoë Hart, Year 4
- 4 Holly Hogan, Year 4
- 5 Dasha Stusenko, Hollie Richardson and Grace Walmsley, Year 4
- 6 Sophia Slater and Elizabeth Bull, Year 5
- 7 Sophia Chang, Year 5

Personalised Learning

SNAP! A Paparazzi Story

Our Year 6 girls took to the stage with aplomb on Thursday 20 and Friday 21 September in back-to-back performances of SNAP! A Paparazzi Story. This musical had it all – a dynamic cast, great score, brilliantly-choreographed routines and lots of humour!



Personalised Learning





Jersey Day

Community

As a community, we value the relationships we have with each other and we stand together as global citizens, included and valued. Connecting and engaging with members past and present ensures our rich learning community extends through generations to build Pymble bonds that endure. Together, we acknowledge and commemorate our past and present achievements. At home and internationally, community members are committed, loyal and proud to be a part of Pymble.



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Jersey Day

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Jersey Day, held in June, is a day where Secondary School staff and students wear their favourite jerseys for a gold coin donation to support a Boarding scholarship in the name of three Boarders who left us too soon.

Alanda Clark, Jane Gay and Prudence Papworth were the victims of a plane crash while travelling home for the June long weekend in 1993; a genuine tragedy that devastated their families and our entire community and is still felt keenly by those who knew the girls and who were at Pymble during that time.

A beautiful stained glass window in our Chapel, three Tallowood trees and the Boarding Scholarship in their three names ensures the memory of the girls lives on.

Record Smashed!



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Our Boarding Charity Event on Friday 24 August certainly didn't disappoint – in fact, thanks to the generosity of those who donated food, beverages, auction and raffle items, and those who dug deep to bid on the items or to make a financial donation, we raised more than \$35,000 for Australian farmers. This is more than double the amount we raised last year at the same event!

- 1 Claudia Green, Emma Manwaring and Anna Mactier, Year 12
- 2 Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal), Mrs Edwina Beveridge (Walker, 1993), Zoe Jones and Georgia Laurie, Year 12
- 3 Lily Bougoure, Zoe Jones, Emma Manwaring and Anna Mactier, Year 12
- 4 Alice Clifton, Juliette Clarke, Claudia Green and Amelia Kierath, Year 12
- 5 Claudia Green, Alice Clifton, Dominique Nash and Anita Schwarzer, Year 12
- 6 Mr Tom Tanner and Mr Alistair Jones
- 7 Katrina Yip, Isabelle Yu, Anthea Ko and Michelle Miu, Year 12



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Biggest Morning Tea

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Our girls came to school on Wednesday 30 May dressed in all the colours of the rainbow to support our annual fundraising event, the Biggest Morning Tea.

In an ideal world, we would have had the whole school together for the event on the Main Oval, as per previous years – however the threat of rain put paid to those plans.

We may not have been all together in the one location, but the spirit of giving was palpable right across the College as all students from Kindergarten to Year 12 enjoyed an extended morning tea, the novelty of dressing up on a school day and the feeling that they were all doing their part for a worthy cause.

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1 Back row: Mrs Julie Shaw, Alicia Chang, Sofia Gongolidis, Year 12, Dr Sarah Loch
Front row: Daphne Zhang, Phoebe Coles, Year 12

2 Amelia Hardas, Isabella Afarin and Shyla Carré, Year 1 with family

3 Freya Wheen, Sienna Stephens and Chantelle Wu, Year 7



Anzac Day Service

On the students' first day back in Term 2, we held a belated ANZAC Day Service on Gloucester Lawn, hosted by our History Captains, Ayra Kassam and Sophie Mok, Year 11, and attended by the Pymble Ladies' College Cadet Unit, under the leadership of Company Sergeant Major Gautirya Muralietharan, Year 12. Our Indigenous scholars, Summer Humes and Sydney Auld, Year 8, spoke movingly about their families' experience of serving Australia during war time.



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- 1 Ayra Kassam, Sophie Mok, Year 11 and Rev Punam Bent
- 2 Ayra Kassam, Sophie Mok with Hollie Banchard, Year 11 and Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal)



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Community

Garden Party

A heart-felt thank you to the *Pymble* community for turning up in droves to share our Garden Party on Saturday 22 September and to support Australian farmers. Thanks to you, we achieved our goal of raising \$55,000 to contribute towards drought relief.





HISTORY OF GARDEN PARTY

The first Pymble school fair was held in 1925 to raise funds for the swimming pool. In 1938 a Maypole Fair was planned to raise funds for the building of a Chapel. In 1956 the College's 40th anniversary was marked by a Garden Party.

The event was an afternoon and evening affair, with sweets, cake, produce, cretonne and flower stalls on the colonnade. Pony rides were on offer on the lower paddock near Goodlet House and other side show events were located around the grounds. Maypole and folk dancing entertained the attendees at the opening ceremony, followed by demonstrations of fencing and lariat throwing. The evening included a dance in the gymnasium, Grand Revue and auction!



PPA Trivia Night

Our Pymble Parent Association (PPA) organised a Trivia Night fundraiser at Avondale Golf Club to help support our aim to provide new outdoor furniture to create more opportunities for our girls to collaborate, communicate and connect with one another. The evening was a big hit with approximately \$12,500 raised and a distinctly royal flavour amongst some of the 80s-themed guests!

A very special thanks to all the amazing helpers: Samantha Yee, Larysa Harris, Gill Angus, Bianca Orena Barlin, Lalenya Waterhouse, Stephanie Pickford, Jane Stewart, Claudine Townsley and Sheevalee Patel for all their help.

Thank you also to all the parents who donated items to the silent auction: Samantha Yee, Lalenya Waterhouse, Gill Angus, Priscilla MacPherson, Nicholas Fiennes, Claudine Townsley, Mary Hassall, Stephanie Pickford, Jane Stewart and Tanya O'Brien.



GOLF DAY

Wednesday 19 September was a beautiful day for a round of golf at Avondale Golf Club, and players took full advantage of the opportunity to spend 18 holes with old friends, and new, to help raise funds for our Indigenous Scholarship Program. A heartfelt thanks to all the businesses, donors, individuals and College families who contributed their goods, services and time so generously to help us raise over \$20,000 for a program that is very close to our hearts.



1 Rachel D'Cunha, Year 10, Carina Ma, Year 10, Rachel Rao, Year 7, Sophia Lin, Year 7, Sophia Benson, Year 9, Zara Benson, Year 7, Lauren Madacsi, Year 11 and Emily Goddard, Year 9



We Couldn't Do It Without You!



As the year comes to a close, we would like to thank the outgoing Pymble Parent Association (PPA) President, Raj Narayan, and the PPA committee of Samantha Yee, Gillian Angus, Larysa Harris, Stephanie Pickford and Nick Fiennes for all their hard work supporting the College throughout the year.

In 2018, the PPA hosted many successful events, including Icebreaker, Trivia Night and the World Teachers' Day barbecue for staff. In addition, the PPA ran the fundraising gourmet barbecue at Garden Party and organised a Gingerbread House Making Evening for the girls.

In total, the PPA raised \$21,000 for the College to enhance our girls' educational experience.

Supporting the PPA and each of the five schools, are the Parent Group Leaders and committees. We also wish to thank the following people for upholding offices in 2018:

Preparatory School Parent Group (PSPG) – Bianca Orena Barlin, Stephanie Pickford, Heidi Elliott, Elizabeth Toh, Danielle Scott, Monique Hardas, Jodi Rahme, Samantha McKinnon, Kirsten Bond and Rosy Bayfield.

Junior School Parent Group (JSPG) – Pilar Yemma, Pam McPherson, Lalenya Waterhouse, Susan Ma, Michelle Braysich, Dushi Cooke, Neeru Bansal, Belinda Gerreyn, Meagan Heritage, Shiva Rich and Kate Livingstone.

Middle School Parent Group (MSPG) – Stephanie Tan, Jane Stewart, Audra Frangos, Caroline Wormald, Sharon Wood, Vanessa Middleton, Deb Walker and Eynas Al-Majali.

Upper School Parent Group (USPG) – Jane Pape, Sharon Rogers, Brigid Robson, Indira Kathirgalingam, Carol Goddard and Hayley Parkinson.

Senior School Parent Group (SSPG) – Maria Papadimitriou, Cate Newman, Carolyn Jones, Lydia Hamilton, Christie Charlin and Helen Kowal.

Boarding Parent Group (BPG) – Andrew Kierath, Regina Warden and Mark Judson.

Music Support Group (MSG) – Priscilla Macpherson, Susan Ryan and Fiona Foster.

Rowing Support Group (RSG) – Martin Buckland, James Thomson, Andrew Cassin, Karen Ferry, Fiona Thomson and Simon Wickins.

Robotics Support Group (RoSG) – Eva Dhanu.

Snowsports Support Group (SSSG) – Nick Luzar, Jeff Braysich, Roland Everingham and Meaghan Gill.

- 1 Icebreaker
- 2 Icebreaker
- 3 Trivia Night
- 4 Pedal-Your-Own Smoothie
- 5 New Parents' Luncheon

Thank you also to our parent and ex-student volunteers who helped at our biggest annual event, Garden Party:

Jane Anderson, Sudeep Apana, Lilian Ariston, Francine Baba, Carol Bai, Angharad Bala, Joanne Baynie, Joanna Bertoline, Maggie Bi, Jeff Braysich, Stella Carlan, Danielle Carre, Christine Cassidy, Sandy Chappel (Shewell), Kathryn Clark, Margaret Coleman, Alison Cook, Merryn Cooper, Annie Corbett, Andrea Cridland, Rebecca Davis, Hayley De Riz, Catherine Dean, Olivia Dixon, Annick Donat, Julie Down, Alison Drill, Gillian Duncan, Sivanthi Edirisinghe, Sally Egan, Amanda Englund, Stuart Englund, Fi Ericsson, Kristen Faahan-Smith, Carlie Facer, Dave Faktor, Harrison Faktor, Kate Faktor, Karen Ferry, Brooke Finucane, Alex Fisher, Sarah Fisher, Lyn Fletcher, Sinead Forbes, Fiona Foster, Audra Frangos, Bhavesh Garg, Carol Goddard, Vaishali Goel, Jo Goh, Paola Gortan, Zoe Green, Scarlet Gregory-Reid, Vanessa Gu, Chelsea Hao, Tina Hao, George Hardas, Craig Harris, Larysa Harris, Kate Hart, Rob Hart, Catherine Heeney, Shana Hennessy, Tara Hilton, Nicola Hoffman, Liling Hong, Jill Hudson, Ann Humphreys, Amy Huntley, Cecelia Hutchinson Parsons, Brigitte Jackson, Helen Jarvis, Ganga Jayasekara, Tara Jayaweera, Ayoma Jeyasinghe, Kai Jones, Bronwyn Kavanagh, Louise Kellaway, Prean Kheray, Kanak Kiran, Dora Kluba, Li-Enn Koo, Vinai Lakhani, Karen Landy, Tiffany Le Clerc, Lisa Lewthwaite, Julia Li, Michelle Li, Yolanda Li, Ting Liao, Jo Lilley, Dorothy Lim, Tara-Louise Linquist, Leanne Liu, Maggie Liu, Nancy Liu, Susan Lu, Nia Luxton, Carolyn MacDonald, Jennifer Macourt, Helen MacPherson, Romilly Madew, Parul Malhotra, Kelly Mancey, Emma Maple-Brown, Melanie Martin, Hilary McKimm, Ruth McKinney Graves, Peppy Mitchell, Petra Mumford, Vijayanthi Muthukuda, Naomi Nakamaru, Julia Nelson, Oxana Ostapenko, Cheryl Padmanathan, Cera Park, Milan Patel, Sam Pearce, Linda Pearson, Simon Pennington, Karen Pfitzer, Lara Porter, Jane Price, Alison Prokop, Alice Qiu, Elie Rahme, Sri Rajagopal, Mekala Rajasuriya, Brija Rajeev, Jane Rew, Aileen Rice, Garry Rich, Lauren Robertson, Gill Ross-Edwards, Tash Rowe, Danita Sarina, Lisa Scott, Margaret Scott, Michelle Seeto, Arosha Seneviratne, Naomi Shanahan, Caroline Sherlock, Nilmini Shirankia De Silva, Alix Shoemaker Sywak, Thara Shubblian, Rebecca Sim, Alex Singhi, Rathi Siva, Shanthi Smith, Sharon Solomons, Robyn Soonius, Katrina Spiller, Jennifer Sproull, Camille Stewart, Jennifer Stoodley, Monika Surana, Frith Sweeney, Melinda Teni, Mizuyo Terada, Indrika Totahewa, Claudine Townsley, Su Tsung, Angela Uther, Sangeeta Venkatesan, Susan Verdall-Austin, Anna Virgona, Fei Wang, Jasmine Wang, Kirsty Wang, Sherry Wang, Tanaz Warden, Ray Waterhouse, David Weaver, Judy Weaver, Jian Wei Cao, Simon Wickins, Mano Wijetilaka, Connie Woo, Louise Woodall, David Woods, Lisa Yu, Michelle Yu, Stephanie Yu, Donna Zhang, Happy Zhao, Shirley Zhao, Juliana Zhou.



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People and Culture

We are committed to ensuring every student is known, valued and encouraged. Professionally, we nurture a learning culture that celebrates creativity, engagement and critical thinking. Our professional practice is deeply embedded in worldwide research and best practice, and we actively seek to share our expertise, facilities and resources to create a vibrant global educational community. Together we make a difference, within Pymble and beyond.

European History Tour

History came alive for our girls over the April school holidays. The girls loved their learning tour of historical sites, including the medieval fortress of Edinburgh Castle, Hadrian's Wall and Clifford's Tower, which is all that remains of William the Conqueror's York Castle.

They visited Bath to soak up the sights of the Roman Baths, Bath Abbey and the Jane Austen Centre, before hitting the big smoke of London where Churchill's war rooms and the world of Harry Potter gripped their imaginations.

While Australia commemorated our ANZACs, our History Tour students were immersed in learning about war and conflict at the Imperial War Museum in London and the Western Front in France. The girls found shrapnel and bomb tips in farming fields and visited an Australian memorial outside Albert, Mont St Quentin and Amiens Cathedral.

The highlight of the trip was an experience our girls will never forget; the dawn service at Villers-Bretonneux with the then Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Prince Charles and French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe to honour the sacrifice of the many soldiers who fought at the Western Front.



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1 First Australian Division Memorial at Pozieres, France

2 Clifford's Tower

3 Lydia Yang, Year 11, at the Jane Austen Centre

4 Churchill's War Rooms, London

5 Edinburgh Castle

Bravo for *Orpheus and Eurydice*

On Friday 15 and Saturday 16 June, *Pymble* provided our students with a truly unique opportunity to be part of a production of an early Classical French opera, *Orpheus and Eurydice* by the French composer, Christoph Willibald Gluck. Instrumentalists (Chamber Strings), singers (*Pymble* Chorale) and dancers from our top Eisteddfod contemporary groups came together to perform a condensed version of the opera and rose to the challenge of this sophisticated production enthusiastically and with great success.

The magnificent sets by Kristie Fritz, stunning costumes by Linda Pearson and innovative makeup designs by Tonya Grelis all contributed to this outstanding achievement as well as the amazing technical skills and support of our GMCPA team.

A heartfelt thank you to our tireless Music department, theatre staff and parents for all their efforts behind these amazing scenes. Bravissimo!





- 1 Alexandra De Santi, Year 12 and Megan Buson, Year 9
- 2 Lucinda Andrews, Year 12
- 3 Rachel Tang, Year 10
- 4 Yvonne Smith, Year 10
- 5 Orpheus ensemble

Congratulations!

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Congratulations to Juliette Di Bello, Year 12, on being awarded her Licentiate Diploma in Music (LMusA) in Voice by the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB). It is very rare for such a young student to achieve this on Voice in particular. Juliette also competed in the 17 to 20 years Operatic Aria section of the Sydney Eisteddfod during the July holidays where she competed mainly against Conservatorium students and was awarded first place for her performance of *Una Voce Poco Fa*, from Rossini's *Barber of Seville*. This is a remarkable achievement!



Pymble Chorale Australasian Youth Choir Champions

Congratulations to all members of the Pymble Chorale who performed so brilliantly at the Australasian Youth Choir Championships and, against some very tough opposition, were pronounced the winners in a unanimous decision by the judging panel.

A special bravo to Corinna Chen, Year 10, who stepped in at the last minute to accompany the Chorale with some very challenging repertoire which she played superbly and to the two soloists Lucinda Andrews, Year 12 and Francesca Bisson, Year 11.

Arts Extravaganza

Another wonderful night was had by all at the annual HSC Visual Arts Exhibition in Term 3. The 51 incredible student artworks on display were amazing and demonstrated the diversity and richness of interests and technical excellence.

The artworks were all as unique as their talented creators and testimony to the highly regarded art education programs at *Pymble* and the commitment of the dedicated teachers.

The opening night was expertly hosted by Masters of Ceremony, Allegra Mazin and Penny Ying, Year 12, and musically supported by Angelina Yoon, Year 8, Christine Lin, Year 8 Hayley Kwon, Year 10 and Hui Shan Pan, Year 10. A huge thank you was extended to all the incredible staff and parent support provided by many in the set-up of the exhibition. Mrs Vicki Waters kindly opened the exhibition with lovely words of encouragement and was presented with a bouquet by the students. They also presented a heartfelt gift to their deserving teachers.



- 1 Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal), Ms Nicole DeLosa, Allegra Mazin and Penny Ying, Year 12
- 2 Kiki Marcoolyn-Lindsay, Year 12 and family
- 3 Eliza Entwistle, Hannah Westhuizen, India Thomson, Year 12 and family
- 4 Jessica Donehue, Year 12 and family
- 5 Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal), Ms Nicole DeLosa, Ms Amanda Harris, Ms Christina Charalambidis, Mr David Del Favero, Ms Rebecca Cassidy, Mrs Nikki Easterbrook and Ms Kathy Hassett

Textiles on Parade

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Once again students provided an outstanding array of individualised products for the much-anticipated Textiles on Parade 2018. Students from Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 presented their interpretation of various design briefs individualised to their style.

Presented with a new design brief of Topsy Turvy, Year 8 students extended their skills in colouration. They showcased jumpsuits, dresses and harem pants and tops all created from the same base pattern. Year 9 girls presented their interpretation of Mykonos and Hanami. Year 10 girls created enchanting costumes for a chosen story of Grimm's fairy tales, from dark and mysterious to fluid and ethereal. Year 11 textiles students interpreted the Shape Shifter brief with a diverse range of three dimensional masterpieces.

The Year 12 Major Textile Projects were also on display in the foyer of the GMCPA and showed an eclectic range of projects with unique inspirations. Year 11 Hospitality students catered for the event with a delicious selection of canapes served to guests.

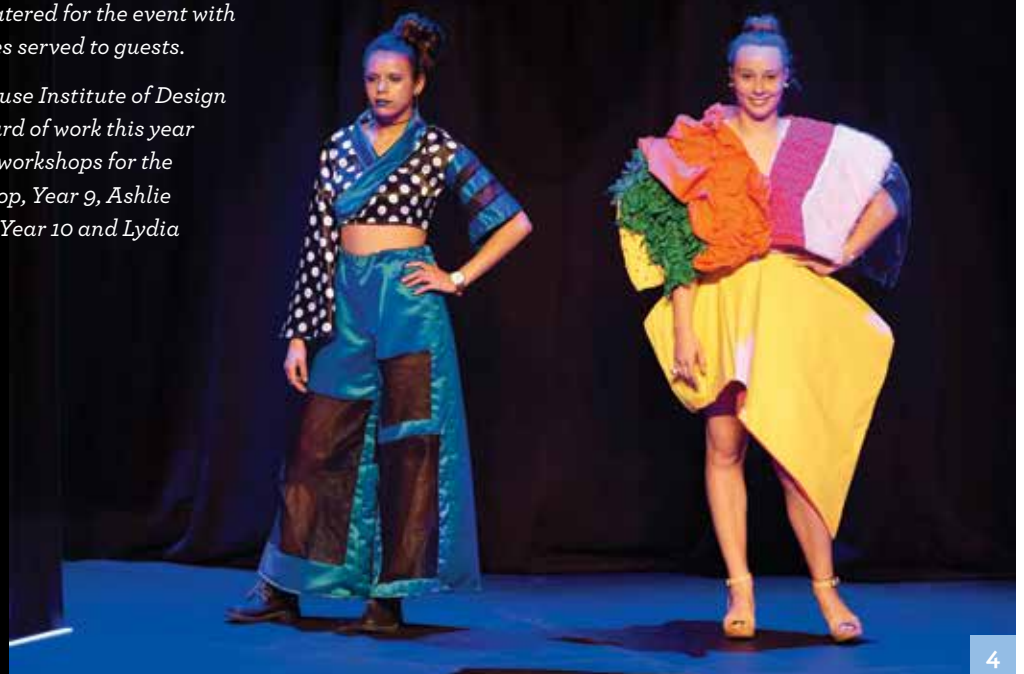
Connie Hart from the Whitehouse Institute of Design was impressed with the standard of work this year and very generously provided workshops for the following students: Talia Dunlop, Year 9, Ashlie Edwards, Year 10, Anny Chen, Year 10 and Lydia Yang, Year 11.

1 Tess Orton, Year 10

2 Helen Bennett and Elizabeth Backhouse, Year 10

3 Mia Biordi, Year 8

4 Shakira Tyson and Antonia Maher, Year 11





Sustainability

We embed high-level sustainable practices in every area of Pymble life – in educational, operational and wider community settings – as the way to protect and guide our future. Social and personal responsibility, as well as economic and environmental initiatives are evident throughout the College, influencing others to make positive changes.

A First for IGSSA

At the end of Term 2, we hosted our Inaugural Indigenous Round of Sport in celebration of Indigenous culture before Pymble and Loreto Normanhurst Basketball and Football teams took to the fields to compete in their weekly Independent Girls' Schools Sports Association (IGSSA) Saturday competition.

This event was the first of its kind in IGSSA sport and a proud public statement of the College's commitment to our Indigenous Scholarship Program, now in its 11th year, as well as the bigger picture of national reconciliation.

The pre-game ceremony included a Welcome to Country and traditional smoking ceremony, dancing by family members of one of our former Indigenous Scholars, Chalali Holness (2017), and an address by our current Indigenous Scholar, Lily Bougoure, Year 12, who spoke from the heart about how the scholarship has provided life-changing opportunities for her to grow and learn at Pymble. Our beautiful jerseys were designed by Indigenous artist Rheanna Lotter to represent the student body (centre design), our five core values (shooting out from the centre), our warrior spirit (boomerangs) and our community of supporters (flowers). They were worn with great pride.

Our Indigenous Scholarship Program benefits our entire community, as well as each deserving scholar. Educating Indigenous girls, side by side with their non-indigenous 'sisters', as future leaders, is the way towards bridging gaps, breaking down barriers and moving forward as a united country that shows genuine care, courage, integrity, respect and responsibility for all Australians.



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- 1** Sophie Gregory, Year 12, Emma Manwaring, Year 12 and Sophie Nelson, Year 11
- 2** Back row: Kiara Woodhouse, Year 12, Niley Woodhouse, Year 10, Freida Kerr, Year 11, Mrs Julie Shaw, Onyinye Nwamadi, Year 11, Khana Tishler, Year 11, Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal), Lily Bougoure, Year 12, Indi Tishler, Year 7
Front row: Rhonda Kerr, Year 9, Sydney Auld, Year 8, Ms Kate Howie, Charlotte Lowe, Year 9

Sustainability

Year 12 Trivia Night

Year 12 let their hair down and enjoyed the competition of our annual Trivia Night in Term 3. Teams of ten, including students and staff, dressed as their favourite families and competed in subjects from Famous Georges to history and pop culture. Thanks to the generosity of the Year 12 students, who donated prizes and through their fundraising, collected almost \$2,500 for the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter. The night was a great success and a wonderful reflection of the camaraderie and spirit in the Senior School. Special thanks to our team of Year 11 helpers who scored and helped run the night, and our tremendous team in Administration who devised the questions.



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- 1 Back row: Charlotte Buckland, Tahire Wijetilaka, Annika Mountstephens, Phoebe Coles, Sarah Lee
Second row: Rebecca Young, Isabel Brand, Sophie Macourt
Front row: Natalie Taylor, Amy Bauman, Year 12
- 2 Sandithi Lewanda, Nicky Koubouzis, Mrs Anne Wright, Mrs Angela Thorne, Fiona Chen, Sophie Yoo, Caitlin Cheung, Year 12
- 3 Back row: Angela Seymour, Emily Shen, Zahraa Khan, Jelinna Wang
Front row: Shobana Siva, Kaman Chan, Year 12
- 4 Siobhan Dubois, Year 9
- 5 Alannah Webster and Ashlie Edwards, Year 10
- 6 Amelie Read, Chloe Luzar, Mr Adrian Hanks (Ambassador from White Ribbon) and Sascha Duggan, Year 10



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United

Our Upper School girls and their dads shared an extra special White Ribbon themed breakfast in May to celebrate their relationships and to unite against domestic violence. Thank you to our guest speakers, White Ribbon ambassador Adrian Hanks, and domestic violence survivor, Stacey, for sharing important information with our community, and to all our dads and their daughters who pledged to break the silence, together.



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Sustainability Week

In Term 2, our passionate and innovative Year 12 Sustainability Captains, Ruvanya Mallikahewa and Emily Shen, were responsible for the facilitation of Sustainability Week at the College. The motivation behind this was to provide a narrative of the *Pymble* students' experience of engaging with this 21st century learning concept and one of our four signposts of the *Towards 2020* vision. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the range of initiatives girls are involved in to promote awareness and behavioural change in connection to sustainability at *Pymble*. The week was chosen to coincide with World Environment Day on Tuesday 5 June.

Preparatory School students created and designed their own bottle garden; Junior School girls voted to adopt an endangered species, Middle School students decorated their own reusable tote bags and Upper and Senior School students had the opportunity to purchase a plant to promote a green local ecosystem.



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1 Jellybean guessing competition in the Junior School

2 Sachini Seneviratne and Kate Soonius, Year 12

3 Decorating reusable bags with Middle School

4 Shakira Tyson, Freida Kerr, Onyinye Nwamadi and Khana Tishler, Year 11 with Mr Stan Grant

RECONCILIATION WEEK

The 2018 Reconciliation Week theme, 'Don't Keep History a Mystery – Learn. Share. Grow', inspired our students and staff to share their stories during assemblies, Chapel services and Connect Time.

Elizabeth Woodhill, Year 11, called upon Secondary School students during Combined Assembly to engage more deeply with Australia's history and seek to understand the events of the past that have led to a week of reflection, engagement and activity.

A small group of students and staff were privileged to spend an evening with multi-award winning current affairs host, broadcaster and author, Stan Grant, as part of Abbotsleigh's Literary Festival. Along with his many other roles, Stan is special advisor to the Prime Minister on Indigenous constitutional recognition.



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Sport and Activities

Pymble is balanced in its passions, demonstrating to students that true success comes from a holistic approach to education; this approach equally values academic success, music and cultural pursuits, sporting achievements, community service and personal wellbeing.

Rugby Sevens



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In 2018, more than 80 girls from Years 7 to 12 have opted to play competitive rugby. Excitement about the game escalated with the appointment of ex-Wallaby and professional coach, Mr Julian Huxley, in the role of Rugby Sevens Head Coach from May 2018.

Mr Huxley's professional rugby career saw him play Super Rugby for the Queensland Reds, ACT Brumbies and the Melbourne Rebels. The full-back debuted with the Wallabies in 2008, when he was also named Australian Rookie Player of the Year, and went on to play nine tests for our national team.

In recent years, Julian turned his passion for the game into a successful coaching career. His experience includes Penrith Emus Shute Shield Head Coach, Warringah Rats Assistant Head Coach and Sydney Rays Head Coach.

"I just love the game," Mr Huxley said. "Rugby presents unique challenges and unique opportunities for both athletic and personal development. I look forward to helping the girls strive for the highest in both."

Pymble's pioneering Rugby Sevens program includes a partnership with the Macquarie University Sydney Rays rugby team to connect students with empowering new opportunities on and off the field. The partnership, established in 2017, gives *Pymble* Rugby players ongoing access to the expertise of Rays players, coaches and support staff and provides hands-on learning opportunities for girls interested in gaining experience in sports marketing, media and event management. *Pymble* girls are able to train and play alongside their rugby heroes and work with the Rays' media and events team at Australia's national women's Rugby Sevens competition, the AON Uni Sevens.

Rugby Sevens is also incorporated in the *Pymble Ladies' College* Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) program.

- 1 Victoria Shepherd, Year 12
- 2 Lily Bougoure, Year 12, Georgia Cooper, Year 12, Onyinye Nwamadi, Year 11 and Tess Orton, Year 10
- 3 Summer Hall, Year 10
- 4 Mr Julian Huxley in action
- 5 Summer Hall, Year 10, Brooke Laurie, Year 10 and Xhana Tishler, Year 11

Well done to the Pymble 14 A and 16 A teams who were both undefeated Division Champions in the IGSSA Rugby Sevens Competition! Congratulations to all the Pymble girls and coaches who were involved and to our IGSSA rivals for making history and sharing a wonderful term of Saturday afternoon Rugby Sevens together!

Sport and Activities

Dance

The Eisteddfod Dance team, involving over 130 talented dancers from Years 4 to 12, had a brilliant season dancing at various competitions and major events this year. Not only did the routines cover a large range of styles and levels, they also explored a broad spectrum of ideas including Matilda, Identity and the Environment.

We had some memorable highlights this year with our Jazz White group winning the Sydney Eisteddfod for their fifth year running. Our Jazz Scarlet group also placed second in this event for their second consecutive year. Our Contemporary White and Scarlet groups both made the Sydney Eisteddfod finals where they performed magnificently and our White group took out third place. Our Junior Jazz group was also asked to be the Guest Act for this event which is considered to be a big honour in the world of dance. Pymble was then also invited to perform at the famous Australian Dance Festival where our Jazz White group performed for a 'sold out' audience of industry professionals and aspiring dancers. This group also qualified for the annual 'Dance of Champions' event where they received first place in the audience vote. Contemporary White concluded their season with the Dancelife Nationals event held at Luna Park.

Congratulations girls!

- 1 Jazz White
- 2 Jazz Scarlet
- 3 Junior Jazz
- 4 Amelie Yee, Year 10
- 5 Eloise Riley, Year 12
- 6 Jemma Lang MacPherson, Hanan Hassan, Gautirya Muralietharan, Mar Uguina Tristan and Stephanie Woolley, Year 12



Fencing Internationally

Amelie Yee represented Australia at the Commonwealth Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships in Newcastle Upon Tyne, England, in July. She competed for Australia in the Cadet Épée Individual and Australian Women's Cadet Team events. There were four girls in the Under 17 Australian Cadet Team, with Amelie being the only representative from NSW.

Amelie also recently competed in the Open National AFC1 Épée Competition, Brisbane, in April and placed 18th.





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Pierre De Coubertin Award

Congratulations to Eloise Riley, Year 12, who has received the prestigious Pierre De Coubertin award. The award acknowledges Year 12 athletes who demonstrate the Olympic Movement's values in their actions on and off the sporting field in a range of sports. It is fantastic to see our 2018 Swimming Captain, Eloise, rewarded for her commitment, participation and outstanding performances in swimming, cross country and football during her time at Pymble.

NETBALL STARS

Congratulations to two of our netballers. Audrey Little, Year 9, was selected to join the NSW All Schools 15 Years and Under Team to compete at the Australian All Schools Netball Championships in July. Well done Audrey, we are very proud of you!

Sofia Metaxouli, Year 12, was selected to join the Australian Indoor Netball 19 and Under Team, and travelled to South Africa from 10 October to 22 October to compete in the World Indoor Netball Championships. Congratulations Sofia.

Cadet Unit Graduation Parade

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On Monday 25 June, Pymble Ladies' College conducted its first Cadet Graduation Parade on Gloucester Lawn. With the Australian national flag and unit colours flying proudly against the blue winter sky, in the presence of visitors from the Australian Army, College Executive staff and Chaplains, parents and siblings, five Year 12 Cadets and 16 Cadet Recruits from Years 9 and 10 formally graduated. The Cadet Recruits graduated to the rank of Cadet, receiving their graduation certificate, graduation plaque and best wishes from Principal, Mrs Waters, and LTCOL Simadas, Chief of Staff, NSW 2nd Brigade, Australian Army Cadets. And, significantly, our first group of Year 12 Cadets was dismissed from the unit for the last time.

We are proud of all of our Cadets, but the Year 12 leavers are a reminder of the inauguration of our unit in April 2017. These five Year 12 Cadets were with us from the start and

were responsible for helping the unit develop. All five were called on to facilitate, mentor and assist in the delivery of this important co-curricular program. The five Year 12 Cadets who graduated from the unit were:

- WO2 Gautirya Muralietharan
- CPL Mar Uguina Tristan
- CPL Stephanie Woolley
- CPL Hanan Hassan
- CPL Jemma Lang MacPherson

Of particular note is our Company Sergeant Major, WO2 Gautirya Muralietharan. WO2 Muralietharan has been the unit's first Head Cadet since Term 3, 2017. She has displayed all of the College Values to their utmost, and ultimately set a standard for all future rank to follow. For her efforts and dedication WO2 Muralietharan was awarded the Unit Cadet of the Year Commander's Commendation.

Sport and Activities

Carnivals

Secondary School Athletics Carnival

.....

**Thursday 24 May at
Sydney Olympic Park**

Records Broken

JUNIOR 400M

Jessica Bird - 58.75 (old record: 59.54)

17 YEARS 800M

Edita Grinbergs - 2.23.94 (old record: 2.27.05)

SENIOR 1,500M

Georgina Sargent - 4.56.01 (old record: 4.59.23)

14 YEARS 90M HURDLES

Emilia Duncan - 13.78 (old record 14.03)

13 YEARS LONG JUMP

Sienna Bond - 4.88m (old record 4.81m)



IGSSA ATHLETICS WIN!



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On Thursday 23 August, the annual Independent Girls' Schools Sports Association (IGSSA) Athletics Carnival was held at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre. It was a beautiful day for track and field, and an amazing day for the Pymble Athletics team.

Pymble won the overall trophy by 204 points; the biggest margin by any school ever in the competition.

We brought home nine trophies: Champion School, Division 1, Multi Class Pointscore, Junior Pointscore, Intermediate Pointscore, Senior Pointscore, Junior Relay, Junior Individual Champion: Jessica Colbran, and Intermediate Individual Champion: Sally Guthrie.

Congratulations!



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Junior School Athletics Carnival

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Friday 8 June

Congratulations to the winning House, **Gibbs**, and the winners of the House Spirit Competition, **Mackellar**.



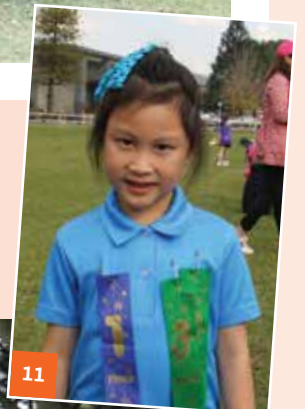
- 1 Jessica Tyson, Year 9
- 2 Back: Edita Grinbergs, Amelia Trippas, Annika Mountstephens. Front: Catherine Miller, Caitlin Shewell, Mackenzie Penn, Year 12
- 3 Eloise Riley, Lily Bougoure and Amelia Kierath, Year 12
- 4 Chantelle Wu, Senu Edirisinghe and Angie Wang, Year 7
- 5 Gigi Spiller and Kate Thorpe, Year 6
- 6 Lisa Ji, Lindsay Campbell and Caitlin Cho, Year 6
- 7 Lucy Pennington, Year 6
- 8 Charlotte Blaiklock, Year 3
- 9 Elizabeth Liu, Year 2
- 10 Sabrina Elshahat, Kindergarten
- 11 Keeley Wang, Kindergarten



Preparatory School Athletics Carnival

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Thursday 2 August





President's Report

Our 102nd year since the founding of the College is flying past like those before it.

Earlier last year, we passed a milestone of 20,000 Alumni of the College when we welcomed the Year 12 leavers of 2016 into our ranks as ESU life members.

I am humbled to be part of an institution that has had 20,000 girls come through its gates to be educated and nurtured and leave as fine women.

The ESU committee and I enjoy continuing the unending chain when we meet each year's Years 11 and 12 students during their Connect Time, to introduce ourselves and the ESU, and then see them again as Alumni and ESU members.

We're excited to be holding *alumNOW2019* in February 2019 – an exhibition and sale of fine arts by Alumni of Pymble. You should have seen, or soon will see, an expression of interest note to all artists. If you are an Alumni artist, please contact Gill Ross-Edwards on g.rossedwards@gmail.com. We would love to showcase your artistic work, which could include painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewellery, etching, photography or other works. Our last *alumNOW* event involved a sparkling opening night for the College community and some successful sales for our artists. We would welcome sponsors for the event too.

Our annual Commemoration Day Service was held, as it is every year, on the last Sunday in July – our annual service for ex-students and their families to commemorate the

Dedication of the College on 31 July 1919. More than 120 ex-students, past and present Council members, College staff, family and friends, filled the chapel. Kate Soonius, ESU Scholar 2017, shared her insights before

Mrs Kate Mason (past Chair of Council) and Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal) celebrated Alison Hale's (Nield, 1943) life. Alison was a much-loved ex-student who devoted herself to the College and will be greatly missed. Many lingered in the warmth of the sun afterwards, enjoying tea and scones whilst catching up with friends.

We once again held our famous Chicken and Champagne stall at the Garden Party in September. We thank all our volunteers who helped on the day, chopped strawberries and donated sandwiches. We couldn't have done it without you!

We were pleased to see our ESU grant to an Artist in Residence, scriptwriter Richard Graham, benefit the Year 11 Drama students who took part in an intensive workshop in May to help them write their own original plays. We thank Tamara Sweetman for helping us to provide this priceless gift to our current Pymble students.

We invite interest in joining the committee. In particular, if you have accounting, finance or bookkeeping skills, we'd love to hear from you. Being the Treasurer of a not-for-profit community organisation is a highly-regarded resumé differentiator. Otherwise, if you'd like to learn some bookkeeping skills, we'd also be happy to teach you this transferable skill.

All' Ultimo Lavoro

Li-Enn Koo (1991)
PRESIDENT
EX-STUDENTS' UNION
pymble.exstudents@gmail.com
Pymble Ladies' College
PO Box 623



1953 Leavers 65 Year Reunion

Stay in touch with our global network of ex-students. Join the ESU Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/PymbleESU

REUNIONS

2008 – 10 Year Reunion, Saturday 19 May 2018

For many years, high school seemed like it ended just last year. But before we knew it, it had been ten years since the school bell sounded to highlight the end of our time at *Pymble*. The Greenwood Hotel at North Sydney held many fond memories of early adulthood and thus, a fitting place to hold a reunion for the girls of 2008 to reminisce about subjects, teachers, tutor group competitions, house marks, the bookroom, Nutella muffins, train line, hair ribbons and celebrate our diverse achievements in life after *Pymble*. And while our lives have slowly but surely moved on, with a mixture of university graduates, entrepreneurs, wives, esteemed colleagues, mothers, social media influencers and elite sportswomen now in our class of 2008, it was very clear from our reunion that we are all very much still *Pymble* girls at heart.

Electra Silk (2008)

1953 – 65 Year Reunion, Saturday 2 June 2018

It was a bleak, cold Saturday, but within the David Macfarlane Centre was warmth and light and friendship renewed as 16 leavers from 1953 met for their 65th anniversary lunch. On arrival guests were presented with nametags to recall who was who, then drinks and nibbles were brought around by a friendly Argentinian waiter, who obligingly took a photo of the group. Meg Darling (Henderson) opened the occasion with a welcome, a brief update and apologies. Judith Heath gave thanks to God, not only for food but also for our years at *Pymble*. Two round tables for eight with centrepieces of red, white and blue flowers, interspersed with rosemary to remember those no longer with

us. A buffet lunch included slices of roast beef or pieces of chicken with a medley of roast vegetables and salad, followed by a choice of fancy biscuits and large, sweet strawberries. Patti Mackenzie (Moran) had researched the archives and brought out memories of what had happened in the years we were there (the setting up of the giant stride in 1946, and in 1953 the undercroft of the chapel with the prefects' room). She called on us to stand and toast the school and sing the school song. Sue Entwistle (Moore) told us the original words of the second verse were "our colours are scarlet and silver and white". Judith Heath gave fellow guests one of her Australian flower fairy cards. The meal finished, but guests lingered on, reluctant to leave, going at last bearing copies of *Pymble* publications and the 1927 prospectus, showing the school as it was in our day, and anticipating meeting again in three years' time.

Judith Heath (1953)

UK/Europe Reunion, Sunday 3 June 2018

Sixteen ex-students, plus Mrs Sue Knox (past Head of Junior School) and her husband Tim, as well as Garry Waters joined Vicki Waters for lunch at Tredwells. It was a beautiful British summer day and a lovely time was had by all. As always, there was much reminiscing and sharing of stories from our school days. A special mention of Judy Burkinshaw (Cuthbert, 1945) who travelled from Yorkshire to join us. Judy attends every reunion and is currently our oldest old girl. She always has lots of wonderful stories to share with us from her time at *Pymble*.

Fiona Schreuder (Hayman, 1986)

Continued over page



Anne Andrews (Fowler, 1962), Rosalie Horner (1959) and Margaret Singer (Warburton, 1962)



Judy Burkinshaw (Cuthbert, 1945) and Robyn Durie (1970)



Rosie Dahill, Isabelle Moss and Isabelle Koerner (2017)

Black Watch Ties

REUNIONS

1948 – 70 Year Reunion, Sunday 29 July 2018

On a glorious sunny day following the annual ex-students' Commemoration Day Service, 15 ladies gathered in the Heritage Centre to celebrate their milestone 70 Year Reunion. They were all so thrilled to catch up with each other and had many laughs remembering their time at the College and noticing how much it has grown and changed since they left. There were lovely displays from their year group set up by the College Archivist, Enid O'Carroll. Many thanks to Ruth Alcock (Inglis) for her hard work in making this event happen.

Katrina Corcoran
Alumni Relations Manager

2003 – 15 Year Reunion, Saturday 25 August 2018

Our reunion was a great success. Held at the Greenwood Hotel, we had approximately 50 ex-students attend, including ex-students from QLD, Milan and Narrabri in north west NSW. There were lots of laughs had by all!

Emily Trouncer (Hopkins, 2003)

1968 – 50 Year Reunion, Sunday 29 July 2018

The '68 leavers celebrated our 50th year since leaving *Pymble*. We are the only year to be the same age as the year we left! We celebrated this milestone with a luncheon at the school following the Commemoration Day Service, which was attended by many of us. Women came from all over Australia plus one from England and Switzerland. It was wonderful renewing school friendships. If the noise of our reunion was anything to go by, then it was indeed a great success.

The previous evening a Boarder's dinner was held at the home of Marilyn 'Maz' Hovey (Carter). Those

of us attending that excellent evening thank Maz for her generous hospitality, delicious food and non-stop chattering! We thank the staff at the school for all their help in organising our reunion and for allowing us the 'run of the school'. We are all so grateful that *Pymble* was our school and are terribly impressed with the facilities that the girls enjoy today. The College song rings true that *Pymble* "will grow ever greater". It certainly continues to do just that. It has been decided to hold another reunion in five years' time. I look forward to seeing as many as possible then.

Sue King (Bristow, 1968)

New York Reunion, Saturday 15 September

A group of *Pymble* alumni gathered at Tessa Restaurant on the Upper West Side of Manhattan for our annual 'Pymble in New York' Reunion in September. Only too happy to have an excuse to come to New York, many of the attendees had travelled for the event including from four US states (New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island) and from Canada.

An enjoyable lunch was had by all and the conversation flowed easily throughout the afternoon. Attendees ranged from those who had been at *Pymble* in the 1970s and 1980s to more recent graduates. Everyone enjoyed hearing each other's story of what had brought them to the USA as well as their experiences of living in the United States. There was lots of interesting discussion of experiences of studying in American colleges as well as sharing of each other's career plans and experiences.

We of course also took time to remember our days at *Pymble* and there were lots of memorable stories shared across the generations. While we were missing some of our 'regulars' this year, due to trips overseas and other events, we look forward to their return next year and as always welcome more new faces.

Our thanks to Alumni Relations Manager, Katrina Corcoran, for bringing us together for another successful 'Pymble in New York' Reunion.

Kate Lanceley (1987)

1958 – 60 Year Reunion, Saturday 15 September

Our 60 Reunion was such a happy affair held at the David Macfarlane Centre at *Pymble*. Everyone mixed freely and enjoyed catching up and reminiscing. We all marvelled at the fantastic facilities available to the girls today. Our thanks to those who made it possible.

Margot Lander (Walker, 1958)



NOTICES

Engagements

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Penelope Coleman (2005) to
Tim Lloyd in May in Rome, Italy.

Marriages

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Jenny Kim (2005) and Chris Yang were married on Saturday 23 June 2018 at the Pymble Ladies' College War Memorial Chapel. "Returning here to celebrate our wedding added another layer of memory to this special place and I was glad to experience this with my husband. It helped me to reminisce and cherish my school memories and respect the lineage it still upholds today."



Jenny Kim (2005) and Chris Yang

Births

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Katherine McKerihan (Goldsmith, 2005) and her husband Matthew welcomed their son Deuchar Timothy Goldsmith Fletcher on 26 April 2018.

Save the Date

Class of 1989 – 30 Year Reunion
Saturday 2 March 2019

Class of 1979 – 40 Year Reunion
Saturday 15 June 2019

Class of 1969 – 50 Year Reunion
Sunday 28 July 2019

EVENTS



Grace Jarvis, Year 11, Kate Soonius, Year 12, McLaine Parsons (2017), Mrs Vicki Waters (Principal), Sally Cao (2017) and Eloise Koch (2017)

Commemoration Day Service, Sunday 29 July 2018

This year's Commemoration Day Service was an extra special event, attended by more than 120 ex-students, past and present Council members, College staff and their family and friends. Beautiful singing filled the chapel bowers as the sun shone through the rose window and the community gathered to commemorate the dedication of the College and the lifelong connection we share. The 2018 Ex-Student Scholar Kate Soonius was our guest speaker, Kate spoke from the heart about her time at *Pymble* and the current struggles that her generation faces, her speech was very moving and thoroughly enjoyed by all. This year was the 20th year that Jillian Cranney (Stacy, 1972) has co-ordinated our Ex-Student Choir and we joined in with them whilst we sang our hymns including *Jerusalem*, *The Old Hundredth* and *Mine Eyes have seen the Glory*. Eloise Koch (2017) played beautifully the 2nd Movement from Gliere's Horn Concerto, accompanied by Sally Cao (2017). Mrs Vicki Waters was joined by Mrs Kate Mason in a lovely tribute to Mrs Alison Hale (Nield, 1943) who recently passed away. We ended the service by all singing the College Song and meeting afterwards for morning tea along the Colonnade.



2017 Leavers Gift to the College

Unveiling of Year 12, 2017 Gift to College, Tuesday 22 May

The College was delighted to welcome back two of last year's graduates, Emily Ainsworth and Belinda Zhang (2017) to unveil the Year 12 Class of 2017's gift to the College – a painting of one of the most iconic and

special places at *Pymble*; the view from Gloucester Lawn towards the Chapel, by Australian artist Andrew Bonneau. We are grateful for this thoughtful gift which will always remind us fondly of our Class of 2017.

Black Watch Ties

NOTICES

Vale

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Margaret Walker (Hirsch, 1962) died suddenly of heart failure on 31 March 2018. Margaret attended Pymble Ladies' College from Kindergarten until the Leaving Certificate in 1962. Margaret enjoyed her school life.

Lyn Roberts (Treleaven, 1962)

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Janet Drown (Ferguson, 1953) passed away from Alzheimer's disease on 3 June 2018.

Janet had a long association with *Pymble*, growing up in Grey House, which had been built as a Principal's residence and boarding house for senior students. She attended the College from 1944 to 1953 and later taught Kindergarten at Ingleholme. Janet married Clive Drown in the School Chapel and was the mother of Tim (deceased), Chris, James and Sally Brimfield (Drown, 1986) (Head Prefect, 1986). She was Grandmother to eight grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Alison Watson (Ferguson, 1963)

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Elizabeth Leifer (Bluett, 1947) passed away on 8 May 2018 in Denver following a brief and acute illness with family in attendance. She was 88 years old and was a loving and cherished mother and grandmother. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Carla Leifer of Evergreen, Colorado, and her two grandchildren, Alyssa and Ben Leifer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Professor Leslie Leifer.

Born in Sydney, Australia, Elizabeth grew up developing a passion for art while attending Pymble Ladies' College. Subsequently she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study art in the United States at the University of Kansas where she met her future husband, Leslie Leifer, while he pursued graduate studies in Physical Chemistry. Following their marriage, they moved to Boston, Massachusetts where she began working for Sheraton Hotels and designed the interiors of most of the Sheratons built in the United States in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Her son was born, then the family relocated to Hancock, Michigan in the mid-sixties. Elizabeth began a decades-long career in fine art in

painting, collage, and then in textiles which defined much of her professional life. She taught fine art and weaving at Soumi College before and while it transitioned to Finlandia University. During this time, she was awarded and completed many fine art textile commissions for institutions such as banks and hospitals. These massive projects were characterised by brilliant colours, often in abstract and semi-abstract designs that told a story and contained within a deeper meaning. An example was her five-panel piece: 'From Bona to Baqubah: No Return', which detailed the transition from the calm of peace to the chaos of war over the history of the 20th Century. Bona was a South Pacific atoll on which many Australians had lost their lives during WWII. Baqubah was a city devastated by bombing in the early days of the Gulf War.

Defined by a love of learning and an enjoyment of the outdoors, Elizabeth sought to comfort and help others with the challenges of life through her extensive knowledge of the world. She relished quizzes and intellectual puzzles, playing Jeopardy games in her retirement. She enjoyed a passion for reading and remained active with this even in later years when, despite visual deficits, she continued with Audio Books through the National Library for the Blind. She was a loving grandparent who challenged her grandchildren to strive for the best in their activities and their lives. She was warm, caring, kind and always maintained a positive outlook. The end of her life was marked by tremendous courage and she will be remembered and loved.

Andrew Leifer (Son)

.....

Suzanne Helen McKenzie (1982) MB.BS, MPH, Ph.D, FRACGP
1965 – 2018

Suzanne left Pymble Ladies' College at the end of Year 12 in 1982 and entered medical school at Sydney University. She did her internship at Hornsby and Ryde hospitals, and residency in the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, Royal Hospital for Women and Sydney Hospital. Suzanne then trained further in General Practice in Scone, Dee Why and thereafter worked in a number of practices in Sydney and Melbourne before her move to Townsville in 2010 to further her academic and teaching career in medicine as an Associate Professor in General Practice and Rural Medicine and Head of Discipline, James Cook University.

Continued over page

NOTICES

Vale continued

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At the same time, she was the Director of Clinical Studies at JCU and remained a Conjoint Associate Professor at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales. She was a senior lecturer in General Practice at UNSW when she commenced her PhD. In the meantime, Suzanne dedicated a lot of her time to the RACGP with varied roles in Sydney and Melbourne as a research officer, curriculum development project officer, medical education adviser, trainee research and development advisor, academic detailer/research assistant and national medical educator and advisor. She became an examiner for the College and held no fewer than 14 honorary positions from 1992 to 2016.

Suzanne was awarded 16 research grants and participated in an additional seven. She published or co-wrote no less than 30 journal articles and 53 abstracts. Suzanne was a member of review panels of 11 scientific journals.

Suzanne's personal life was full of joy because of the wonderful friendships she engendered and the loving support of her partner Helen and her extended family. She travelled widely while presenting at international conferences. Her favourite things were Haigh's chocolates, Moët Champagne, coffee, Winnie the Pooh, Paddington Bear and Snoopy; all things Disney especially Mickey and Goofy; and West Highland White terriers.

She remembered her school days very fondly and her favourite memory was sitting on the flagpole lawn having lunch with her group of friends. Her *Pymble* hymn book was placed beside her coffin at a moving funeral service in the St James Cathedral in Townsville led by the Bishop Bill Ray. Her message to us was: Love with all your heart and mind. Give yourself to every moment and enjoy.

Suzanne died on 14 July after being diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukaemia for which she bravely defied the odds for more than two years. Suzanne was a delightful, funny, compassionate and brilliant woman and medical educator who will be very much missed by her parents, partner and extended family, friends, colleagues and the broader community.

Dr Alison Semmonds (1982) BMed FRACP



It is with great sadness that the College acknowledges the passing of a dear friend of the *Pymble* community, **Mrs Alison Hale (Nield, 1943)**, aged 91.

Alison was a much-loved Boarder at the College from 1939 to 1943 and upheld the roles of School Prefect and Senior Marden House Prefect in her leaving year. A vibrant and active member of many clubs and activities, including the Comfort Branch and Netting Club established as part of the war effort, she is fondly remembered walking the length of the Colonnade loaded up with knitted khaki-coloured scarves for our soldiers at war – while still knitting.

After leaving *Pymble*, Alison trained and worked as a stenographer and left Australia to work in England in the early 1950s.

She also upheld the roles of Ex-Students' Union President from 1961 to 1962 and ESU Secretary and was a regular organiser of reunions, which she attended with great joy to share fond memories of her time at the College.

Alison married Alban Hale in 1962 and lived in Brisbane until his death in 1970, after which time she returned to live and work in Sydney.

She gave her time and loyalty to the College with grace and a smile on her face, most recently in her position as Secretary to the College Council from 1981 to 2009, and attending several key College events to commemorate the Centenary of the College. The Alison Hale Meeting Room in the Administration Centre was named in her honour in 2010 and features her portrait.

Alison, who was known to her loved ones as "Sass" or "Sassie", lived up to her name but died peacefully on Friday 13 July 2018. She was the devoted daughter of Jessie Florence and Ernest Marland, the loving wife of Alban (deceased), beloved sister of Jimmy and Lyn (deceased), and sister-in-law of Shirley and Arthur (deceased). She was an adored fairy godmother to her nieces and nephews Gina, Roderick (deceased), Jane, Bruce (deceased), Sally, Liza, Rowena and Jen, and to her great nieces and nephews Kristy, Naomi, Scott, David, Bryn and Chloe. To the end, she lived by the motto "If it's to be, it's up to me".

The College honoured Alison with a eulogy at the annual Commemoration Day Service on Sunday 29 July in the War Memorial Chapel at *Pymble*.

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*A school of the Uniting Church in Australia for girls from
Kindergarten to Year 12, with boarding available from Year 7*

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Pymble Ladies' College

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“A heartfelt thank you to our
tireless Music department,
theatre staff and parents
for all their efforts behind
these amazing scenes.

Bravissimo!”