What an exciting time at SCEGGS! There is so much happening in a busy school such as ours, and I’d like to share with you something of the activities of the school and to bring you up to date.

Stage 1 of the new Joan Freeman Centre was opened in October last year, and Stage 2 is progressing well, on schedule to open at the beginning of the 2015 school year. We love the building! What wonderful facilities for our staff and students. There are so many terrific spaces in which to learn, and everyone loves the new cafeteria!

Our girls are doing really well, and I was so pleased with their HSC results at the end of last year. They are well-educated and ready to embark on their tertiary studies and ultimately, their different, and hopefully, fulfilling careers. The girls continue to shine in their co-curricular activities too, and I am proud of all of them – from debating to Air Cadets, the Duke of Edinburgh scheme to life drawing. Our girls retain the values for which the school has been so renowned for many years – they are sincere, natural, joyful, compassionate people of integrity.

We are ready to launch our new 1:1 Computing program, with students having their own Tablet PC later this year or at the beginning of next. The 1:1 program will create many exciting possibilities for learning in a 21st century classroom including increased flexibility and more authentic and connected learning experiences. We want our students to be even more engaged.

Our scholarship fund is now well established (and well-supported by many Old Girls) and already generating benefits for the school community and for the girls awarded scholarships from this fund. The SCEGGS Trust has such an important role in supporting this, and their Shining Light Program, promoting philanthropy within the school community, is a wonderful addition.

We have had some changes to the senior staff of the school, with Holly Gyton as the new Deputy Head of School, Andrew Gallagher as Director of Curriculum and Sophie Kearns as Director of Pastoral Care. They are bringing a new perspective to the school and I am thrilled to be working with them. And I hope many of you soon get the opportunity to meet our new Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Michelle Kadi, if you haven’t already. She is doing a great job!

SPAN continues to go from strength to strength, and the latest addition to the services it offers is a Jobs Market. If you are looking for a job, or wishing to advertise one, I urge you to consider SPAN. I am sure it will be of benefit to all Old Girls – from those starting out and looking for a Gap year placement, to those at all the different stages of their careers.

And finally, every second year we do a very comprehensive survey of all our parents, asking for feedback about the things we do well, and those things we need to work on to improve. We ask about all areas of the school, and the results from last year were excellent. The results indicate that SCEGGS is highly regarded, with the large majority of parents more than satisfied with the school’s performance. For example, when asked for the "main reasons" for sending their daughter to SCEGGS, the top 5 stated were:

- Reputation for academic excellence
- School turns out well rounded individuals
- More egalitarian approach – less concerned with social status of pupils
- Educational philosophies and policies
- Very good at fostering individual student's strengths and catering for specific needs

We spend a great deal of time analysing all results, and we are very appreciative of the time our parents spend in giving us this feedback. SCEGGS is such a wonderful school, and I am so proud to be its Head. If you would like to come and visit at some time, we would love to see you. Give us a ring!

Jenny Allum
Head of School
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

It is only in relationship to one’s alumni that the rather quaint term ‘Old Girl’ is used with pride. Many of the Old Girls events are routine diary entries but that does not mean that each occasion is not very special.

The Year 13 Cocktail Party, for our newest Old Girls, is the first event in each year. This occasion, hosted by the OGU, is a buzz with stories of holidays and celebrations, plans and dreams. This is soon followed by our Ascension Day celebrations in May, a special reunion day for Old Girls who left the School 50 years ago or more. But there is no less excitement at this event, as participants enter through the Green Gate, laughing and chatting as stories are told and retold.

Back to SCEGGS Day and the OGU Annual General Meeting is held as near as possible to July 17, Foundation Day. This is a day when any and all Old Girls, including those from SCEGGS Branch Schools are welcomed back to School to enjoy lunch in the beautiful ambience of the Great Hall, whilst sharing in the adventures of one of our many talented Old Girls.

Towards the end of the year, a farewell for Year 12 is held and we present them with their badge. The year closes for the OGU Committee when we celebrate the season of Advent with members of the School Board and Trust.

One other event in which the OGU has a responsibility is the coordination of the Devonshire Tea Stall at the SCEGGS Fair. In 2011, this proved a great success once again, providing a lovely place for people to chat and refresh amidst the busyness of the Fair.

Alongside these activities are many decade reunions and district gatherings, which you will read more about in coming pages. One such event was a country lunch held at Barrington on Saturday November 5, 2011. It was a beautiful spring day to spend in a garden with friends. Old Girls and some partners came from the Gloucester district, Tinonee, Newcastle, Dungog, Tamworth, Lake Macquarie and Sydney. The proceeds from the lunch, over $2,000, were donated to the Scholarship Fund.

The OGU contributes to the SCEGGS Scholarship Fund, which now provides a scholarship for the full six years of Secondary school to a daughter or granddaughter of an Old Girl, who would be unable to attend SCEGGS without this financial assistance.

As Judy Caldwell (ROGAN 1962) President SCEGGS OLD GIRLS’ UNION, I hope you will be able to assist with any questions you may have. We welcome all gifts to support the Old Girls’ Union Scholarship.

At SCEGGS we always are delighted when an Old Girl approaches the school to organise an enrolment for a daughter or granddaughter. It is a real indication of how much they enjoyed their own time at the school that they should want their daughter to share in the experience of a SCEGGS education.

Over the past ten years the reputation of SCEGGS has continued to grow and with it real pressure on the availability of places at the school.

I know when I speak to Old Girls making enquiries about enrolments they often express surprise that the school does not hold places open for the children of alumni. However, from inception SCEGGS has been a non-selective school. As Ms Allum put it so well in her letter to Old Girls last year ‘the School has always enrolled girls on a first come, first served basis regardless of where they lived, their academic or sporting ability, wealth or connections. It is something that has made SCEGGS distinctive amongst independent schools and given it the diversity and vitality that we all so value today.’

In response to the growing demand for the school Ms Allum and the School Board took a number of decisions last year to assist Old Girls in enrolling their daughters whilst keeping the balance of the SCEGGS community as a diverse one, not based on any selectivity.

We are now offering places based on age at application so the pivotal factor in the enrolment process is to apply for a place as soon as possible after birth. Therefore one of the decisions made last year was to defer the payment of both the Registration and Acceptance Fee for Old Girls. We understand that after a child is born finances are often tight and it is not always certain what your circumstances will be by the time you wish to send your daughter to SCEGGS, or even if your family will live in Sydney. By deferring these fees we hope to encourage any Old Girl who is at all interested in the possibility of a place at the school to apply formally as early as possible.

In addition, the entry point for The Old Girls’ Union Scholarship has now been changed from Year 11 to a Year 7 half-scholarship so that a SCEGGS education will be accessible for all six years of Secondary education for scholarship winners.

Our Prospectus and Application Forms are available from our website or you can call to have these sent to you. If you have any questions at all about the enrolment process or how to register your daughter please do contact me on 9332 1133 or via email carol.evans@sceggs.nsw.edu.au. I look forward to chatting with our Old Girls and to do everything I can to assist you in the enrolment process.

Carol Evans
REGISTRAR

ENROLLING YOUR DAUGHTER AT SCEGGS

THE OLD GIRLS’ UNION SCHOLARSHIP

The Old Girls’ Union Scholarship is awarded annually to a girl whose mother or grandmother attended SCEGGS. It covers 50% of tuition fees and is intended to assist a student whose family would face financial hardship in the payment of fees.

The scholarship is awarded on the basis of a formal application and an interview for shortlisted candidates. Some of the factors taken into account are:

• Educational background and performance
• Involvement in co-curricular activities
• Personal qualities and character
• Commitment to the life of SCEGGS
• Financial circumstances of the family

Applications for the 2014 Scholarship will be available from the SCEGGS website in October, 2012 and applications will close in early February, 2013.

For further information please contact The Registrar’s Office on 9332 1133.
Many Old Girls have been asking me what the Barham Fellows Program is and how can they become a Barham Fellow. SCEGGS has a rich history of gifts from many, many Old Girls who have assisted with scholarships, buildings and other projects, all of which need financial support. We have often received these wonderful gifts through a bequest.

Simply put, if you decide to leave a bequest to SCEGGS, you are invited to become a Barham Fellow. This is our way of thanking you during your lifetime for such an important and generous gift which will come to SCEGGS in the future. A bequest can take many forms; a sum of money, property, policies, shares or other assets which you may consider appropriate. There is no set amount, all bequests are equally valued and appreciated.

Becoming a Barham Fellow means you are joining a host of other Old Girls and Friends of SCEGGS including Margaret Whitlam (AO) who was the admired and much loved Chair of the SCEGGS Bequest Committee. Margaret presented the beautiful 9 carat Barham Fellow Badges at both Ascension Day and Back to SCEGGS Day where we recognise and thank our newest Barham Fellows. We will miss her and her wise words on these days. Other Barham Fellows include Joan Freeman (1935). Joan was kept on at SCEGGS when her mother could no longer afford the fees. In true philanthropic spirit, and in recognition of what SCEGGS did for her, Joan left a bequest to SCEGGS which was the cornerstone of the new Joan Freeman Science, Art and Technology Centre.

Mary STEPHENS (1937) recently left a bequest to SCEGGS which was directed towards the Scholarship Fund as a way of helping to invest in the future of girls from disadvantaged backgrounds who would not otherwise be able to attend SCEGGS, something Mary strongly believed in. We warmly welcome Judy Caldwell (ROGAN 1962), President of the Old Girls’ Union, our newest Barham Fellow.

Each year we invite our Barham Fellows, and other Old Girls, to join Ms Allum for Morning Tea in Barham. It is our opportunity to show what is happening at SCEGGS today and to thank the Barham Fellows for their support and generosity. In addition, we have a beautiful Honour Board in Barham which lists all those who have become Barham Fellows (of course, if you wish to remain anonymous that is completely respected).

If you would like to become a Barham Fellow or you would like more information, please give me a ring on 02 9339 9428 or email JoyEngland@sceggs.nsw.edu.au.

I can answer any questions you may have. There is also more information on our website: http://www.sceggs.nsw.edu.au/index.php/community/trust/bequest-programme-barham-fellows

Joy England
Director of Development

Calling All SCEGGS Alumni in USA!

SCEGGS is an affiliate member of the Australian Independent Schools in the USA, (AISUSA). In 2012, the AISUSA is hosting two cocktail events for Australian schools’ alumni. It is a great opportunity to catch up with other alumni in the US and to meet fellow Australians from other Australian Independent Schools.

Everyone is welcome, partners and friends! We would love to have some representation from SCEGGS.

San Francisco Saturday 29 September Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm Cost: $85.00/person Venue TBC

New York Saturday 6 October Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm Cost: $85.00/person Venue Columbia University Faculty Club

The AISUSA was set up as a Foundation to assist with supporting and advancing education in Australia. It provides a vehicle for those with US tax liability to donate to their schools in Australia and receive a tax benefit in the US. For more details regarding the Foundation and the events visit www.aisusafoundation.com or email JoyEngland@sceggs.nsw.edu.au.

A Tribute to Margaret Whitlam

When we lost Margaret Elaine Whitlam AG 17 March 2002 at the age of 92, we lost a great role model. Throughout her life, Margaret Whitlam had a marvellous intellectual curiosity and a willingness to “have a go”. When I interviewed Margaret at her home in Darling Point in 2008 for the ABC magazine Life Etc., she credited her parents, Mary and Wilfred Dovey, for inspiring her life-long passion for the arts in every form. Both her parents were very bright. No wonder Margaret was never intimidated by the erudition and oratory of her husband of nearly 70 years, the former Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam.

Margaret’s father won a scholarship to Sydney Grammar and a bursary to Sydney University. After war service, he ultimately became a NSW Supreme Court Judge. Her mother attended Sydney Girls’ High and also won a bursary to Sydney University. While the early death of her parents meant Mary never completed university, she taught at several schools and introduced her daughter Margaret to the world of ballet, music and theatre. “She was brilliant as a mathematician and musical as well.” Margaret told me, “She gave me an inquiring mind and made sure I read decent things.”

Margaret attended countless performances of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Opera Australia and the Sydney Dance Company, as well as theatre productions of all kinds. She was an active supporter and sat on the boards of a wide range of cultural organisations. For more than a decade, Margaret was a director of International Study Programs. She and Gough led tours throughout the world, including to scores of World Heritage sites.

Her willingness to “have a go” is reflected in the diversity of her working life. She worked as a social worker after graduating from Sydney University in 1943. She told me she loved, “the practicality of helping wives where their husbands were at war and supporting the families of hospital patients.” (She had firsthand experience of family life alone. Gough was at war from 1942 to 1945, serving as a navigator in the RAAF. In the later political years, Margaret was often alone as she raised Tony, Nick, Stephen and Catherine, who also attended SCEGGS for a time.) While living at The Lodge, Margaret wrote a column for The Women’s Day, emulating Eleanor Roosevelt who wrote a syndicated column when her husband was President of the United States. In 1973, Margaret presented an interview show on television, entitled With Margaret Whitlam.

Margaret was breaking new ground by living an independent public life while her husband held high office. And she didn’t hesitate to speak her mind. In his moving condolence speech to the Senate two days after her death, Senator Faulkner described her as a great supporter of SCEGGS and we’ll miss her.

Senator Faulkner told the Senate, “Keeping Gough in line was in fact a lifelong project for Margaret. Many of us have had the experience of having a speech by Gough Whitlam enhanced by the accompaniment of Margaret Whitlam’s gentle ticking from the front row – in later years, augmented by the thump of her walking stick on the floor if she felt he was going on too long.” Malcolm Turnbull’s condolence speech to Parliament spoke of “the ineffable mystery of the intimacy of a long marriage” and how Margaret “radiated throughout her life an optimism, a generosity and a composure the what were unmistakable.”

Malcolm Turnbull gave his condolences to Gough, who he said had “lost his very best appointment.” Margaret Whitlam was a warm and gracious woman who took a genuine interest in everyone she met, regardless of social status. She faced the rigours of old age with courage and characteristic good humour. As John Faulkner said, describing her relatively recent attendance at an event on two walking sticks, Margaret was “indefatigable, irresistible and unflogging.” Margaret was a great supporter of SCEGGS and we’ll miss her.

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A TRIBUTE TO MARGARET WHITLAM

(DOVEY 1937)

Joy England

Julie McCrossin (1971)

Margaret Whitlam & Julie MCCROSSIN

Margaret Whitlam & Julie McCrossin

Calling All SCEGGS Alumni in USA!

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As many will agree, life can often resemble a well-rehearsed juggling act. It involves balancing the competing demands of career, family, friends and the like, with little time remaining for anything else. For Old Girl Chloe ANGYAL, Class of 2004, life is certainly about five hours’ drive from the Guardian comedy on my laptop. Year 7’s Tara McKenzie and May Merewether may be new to the School but they reconnect us with two significant SCEGGS figures of the past. Tara is a descendant of our first School Chaplain, the Rev. Arthur Wellesley Pain. May is the great, great niece of Mr Wilfred Dockker, after whom Dockker House is named. Arthur Pain was instrumental in the founding of SCEGGS. From the 1880’s the Sydney Anglican Synod began to show interest in women’s education. However, like many ambitious ideas, there were a number of false starts between the initial proposal of an Anglican school for girls and actually implementing the idea.

In the August 1889 Synod, the Rev Pain moved: “that the Synod…considers what steps can be taken toward establishing a first class High School for Girls. Although the motion was passed, funding it was considered too difficult. In 1894 however, Rev Pain served on the Provisional School Council that led to the foundation of SCEGGS. And from 1895, he was a SCEGGS Council Member and our first School Chaplain, until 1902, when he was made Bishop of Gippsland. The Year 12 Latin Extension prize is named after him. Wilfred Dockker, an accountant, joined the School Council as Treasurer in 1897. On taking up this position, ‘he expressed his willingness to do anything in his power to further the interests of the School.’ Luckily for SCEGGS his powers were considerable. It was Mr Docker who steered the Council through the complex process of finding, financing and purchasing a permanent home for SCEGGS at Barnham in 1900. On his death in 1919, the Melbourne Argus wrote: ‘Never conspicuous, never in public life, he gave abundantly of his services, his time, and his means in all movements for the public good.’ It was in gratitude for his contribution to SCEGGS that Dockker House was named. We are very pleased to welcome Tara, May and the 2012 cohort of new students to SCEGGS, 117 years after the enlightened vision and hard work of the Rev. Pain and Mr Docker.
**THE ARCHIVES REPORT**

The Archives were involved in many interesting projects in 2011. Among them, an oral history project, a poetry unit for Year 9 students, and the installation of the Honour Boards in the SCEGGS Great Hall.

During the year Old Girl and former Head of History, Jenny Reeves (MOTTRAM 1968) undertook an important oral history project for SCEGGS. She interviewed people involved in the ‘Save SCEGGS Campaign’ of the 1970’s and the subsequent developments that occurred. This was a pivotal time for the School and we are extremely grateful to Jenny and to all those who shared their stories with us.

In Term II, another Old Girl from the Class of 1968 and member of the English Department, Jenny Levitus (CLARKIE) piloted a new scheme for the Years 8 and 9 poetry units, called “Write the School”. This involved providing students with a range of archival material to research. I really appreciated the chance to work with the current students, showing them the wide variety of material in the SCEGGS collection. I hope each girl was able to find something of interest to inspire their poetry writing.

We are very pleased to have the recently restored honour boards for Dux of the School, Catherine Selby Prize winner, Head House and Head Prefect, installed in the SCEGGS Great Hall. Some of the boards were quite fragile having suffered water damage, and are now looking wonderful. Once again, current girls can read the names and ponder the fate of their predecessors inidle moments at Assembly.

The Archives continues to be a resource for external researchers and historians. This year, the school was approached about topics as diverse as a history of women’s sport in Australia, the first female veterinary researcher, and Rudyard Kipling. Many of these research tasks are only feasible because of the enormous amount of research and collating of information done by generations of former staff and Old Girls. Particularly difficult are queries relating to individuals as there are over a hundred years of Lux and other publications to look through. However, this problem has been solved thanks to the work of Joyce Lotherington (RYERSON 1933). Joyce has researched and indexed all references to Old Girls in our publications, as well as doing a huge amount of work on married names. Whenever I, or my predecessors, were faced with a challenging query we would call Joyce, who could tell us exactly where to find information in Lux, the Old Girls’ Union Newsletter, or other publications. Joyce has now very generously donated her card index to SCEGGS. We are very grateful to Joyce; it is a work of great value that will be used extensively by Alumni and the Archives.

Other members of the SCEGGS community have also been generous, donating many treasured items to the School. Some of the highlights included:

- An early photograph album donated by the family of Valerie BEALE (1933)
- A copy of a letter describing life in the boarding house in 1986, from staff member, Ms Jan Morice
- Emeritus Professor Dr John Jenkins kindly donated his very interesting correspondence with Joan Freeman

Thank you to all the Old Girls who have supported the Archives so generously during the year, especially our recently retired Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Marilyn Cook (BROWN 1965). Her wise counsel and caring support have been greatly appreciated over the years and she will be missed by all at SCEGGS.

It was a very special and significant time in the School’s history. We would like to ensure that your memories and contributions are recorded for future generations. It is an inspiring example of the SCEGGS spirit at work!

We’d also appreciate hearing from you if you were a student in the immediate reconstruction years, that is, the late 1970’s. These may not have been easy times either, but they were crucial in the school’s development.

Please send your contributions to the ARCHIVIST, Prue Heath via mail or email: PrueHeath@sceggs.nsw.edu.au.

**IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES; IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES....**

In November 1976, it was announced that SCEGGS Darlinghurst would close. But the school community had other ideas. By the end of March 1977, the required capital was raised and the school’s future secured.

Do you remember these times: the news that SCEGGS would close, the Centennial Park walkathon in the pouring rain, the Unmilitary Tattoo, ‘A Night in Greece’, the art shows, dinners and other fundraising events? If so, we would really like to hear from you.

What was it like to be a student, Old Girl, parent or member of staff during this period?

This was such a special and significant time in our school’s history. We would like to ensure that your memories and contributions are recorded for future generations. It is an inspiring example of the SCEGGS spirit at work!

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**80 DAYS THAT CHANGED OUR LIVES**

SCEGGS Old Girls may be particularly interested to view a new ABC website called “80 Days That Changed Our Lives” at http://www.abc.net.au/archives/80days/.

It contains a clip in the section titled ‘Hear them Roar’ about Germaine Greer’s Female Eunuch. As part of the piece, SCEGGS girls Ruth HEILY, Jennifer STAFFORD, Judith McDonald (VINE-HALL), Carolyn RIMMER, Dianne WALKER, Sally MCPHEE and Lynda LENEHAN from the Classes of 1972 and 1973 were interviewed. Their sincere, thoughtful and forward thinking responses are an interesting contrast to the attitudes of the street interviewees. How times have changed!
POETRY - CONNECTING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

In 2011, Old Girl and English teacher, Jenny Levitus (CLARKE 1968) introduced a very successful poetry project called 'Write the School' for Years 8 and 9 students. Year 8 were asked to write about their own school experience, whilst Year 9 focused on the past, using the history of people, places and events associated with SCEGGS, for inspiration. The school Archivist, Prue Heath collaborated with the English Department for this research. She conducted a tour of 'hidden' parts of the School and provided a range of fascinating archival material. Girls had access to old photographs, excerpts from oral histories, and personal statements of girls, teachers and others in the school community, some from over 100 years ago.

The school archives contain many fascinating stories and this project gives the girls the opportunity to experience some of these. Indeed, many students were amazed to hear one Old Girl's incredibly moving account of Miss Badham telling the school the news that war had been declared in 1914. Equally captivating was the memory book of Kristen JONES (1970), compiled whilst a boarder at SCEGGS in the 1960's. The quality of the girls' compositions was excellent. They used their own experiences and research imaginatively to complete three poems each and reflected thoughtfully on the writing process. The whole school was able to enjoy the poems produced as girls 'published' their work by way of readings and displays around the school. We hope you enjoy the poems on the right.

Chapel Time

Girls are rushing to and fro, upstairs, downstairs, row by row.

Winter tunics neatly pressed, shoes are shining, hair well-dressed.

Prefects sit poised with a glow. Heads sink into ruby red hymn books beneath faces holding smiling looks. Heavenly organ music plays with the angelic choir in full voice today.

The silvered glass windows look upon the historic reflecting the sun. Plaques on the wall behind remind us of those enshrined.

Day after day, year after year the chapel tradition remains sincere.

Katelyn Mazochi

Year 9

Siberia in the 1930's

The day begins at 6:30 each morning, our slumber rudely shattered by the strains of 'Country Gardens.' Like army soldiers, fifty SCEGGS girls line up single file, silent corridors of Siberia fill with dressing gowns and slippers, snails begin their slow trail to the bathroom. Warm beds and teddy bears left behind as cold showers await.

Ahead, early risers shuffle out of the bathroom, ribbons in bobs, long dresses swishing against the floor. More girls file in, hair messy, eyes droopy.

Navy uniforms, white blouses clenched in freezing hands. I touch the cold water, instantly waking up. In Siberia we boarders begin another day.

Teodora Simic

Year 9

ALUMNI EVENTS

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Navy uniforms, white blouses clenched in freezing hands. I touch the cold water, instantly waking up. In Siberia we boarders begin another day.

Teodora Simic

Year 9

ALUMNI EVENTS

Once again hundreds of Old Girls returned to school in 2011 to attend our annual alumni events, Ascension Day and Back to SCEGGS Day. For those Old Girls who left the School 50 years ago or more, Ascension Day provides an opportunity to reflect, give thanks and renew old friendships. And celebrations on 2 June last year did not disappoint, as over 140 Old Girls gathered for the Chapel Service and lunch in the SCEGGS Great Hall.

Often a highlight of the day is the presentation of Batham Fellow badges by Margaret Whitlam (DOVEY 1937). As Liz Efinger (GREINER 1951) commented, “An Old Girl event is not complete without this wonderful lady...sharing her wit and charm with the rest of us.” Although unknown to them at the time, this would be the last Ascension Day they would share with this wonderful SCEGGS Old Girl.

For the 120 Old Girls who attended Back to SCEGGS Day on 23 July, it was the school-day memories and stories of Blanche D’ALPUGET (1960) that entertained. Her recollections of past staff such as Mrs Miller, Mrs Gerber and Dr Goldhammer were particularly amusing.

Also special was the presentation made by Old Girls’ Union President, Judy Caldwell to then Deputy Head, Mrs Anne Titterton. In recognition of her 30 years of outstanding service to SCEGGS, Mrs Titterton was presented with honorary life membership of the Old Girls’ Union; a gesture she was extremely moved by.

This year’s alumni events promise to be equally rewarding for those who take part and we look forward to welcoming you back to school.
Reports & Reunions

Melbourne Branch Report

At the risk of sounding like a broken record - yet again! A delightful lunch to celebrate Foundation Day was held at the R.A.C.V. City Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne on 16 July 2011. We were thrilled to have the company of Jenny Allum, Head of School and her husband, Terry Gagen, as well as Marilyn Cook, our Alumni Relations Co-ordinator and her husband, Constantine Tilacos. The presence of gentlemen at this function enhanced the pleasant atmosphere and this year, we will again invite Old Girls to bring their partners if they wish.

Our Christmas Party was held at the home of Rob and Roz Milne (NUTTALL 1963) on 26 November 2011. It was an outstanding success. The Milnes are wonderful hosts and most deserving of our thanks - Roz even cooked dinner for us! Over the Christmas period, I had the great pleasure of meeting one of our Old Girls, Una Crosthwaite (PETTIFER 1943). Una had often corresponded with Wendy Aiken (SCOTT 1955), whilst Wendy was ‘holding the fort’, responding to our various notices and invitations. When I realised I would be spending Christmas with her, I was very kindly invited, my sister and brother-in-law to lunch with her.

Una lives on a wonderful property, owned by her late husband's family and now a very modern dairy farm, run by her grandson. To say we thoroughly enjoyed our visit would be a gross understatement. Una is so full of life and interested in everyone and everything. I look forward to her bright letters in the years ahead. Always enjoyable are the letters we receive from the recipients of the Speech Night Prizes we sponsor. Today’s SCEGGS girls certainly pack a lot into their school days.

On behalf of all the Old Girls in Victoria, I would like to say a big thank you to Marilyn Cook, who served as our Alumni Relations Co-ordinator for many years. Our association with Marilyn developed into a very special relationship, and we wish her and Constantine, many years of happy pursuits together. We know our friendship will continue.

We look forward to meeting our new Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Michelle Kadi on Saturday 14 July, when we hold this year’s Foundation Day Luncheon at the R.A.C.V. City Club at 12 noon.

As I said last year, Wendy Aiken and I share the administration of the Branch. We may be contacted on: Wendy 0410 9865 1045 or wendyalken@yahoo.com

Cita Mieog (KUIKEN 1957)

Roz Milne (NUTTALL 1963) and Colin Bennett at the Melbourne Christmas Party

Newcastle, Hunter, Central and North Coast Districts Branch Report

We spent a very happy and friendly day at Customs House Hotel in Newcastle for our 12th Annual Old Girls Luncheon held on Saturday 3 March 2012.

This year 11 Old Girls and a number of husbands and partners were able to attend and enjoyed catching up with friends and meeting Old Girls in our area.

We were delighted to welcome Marilyn Cook, her husband Constantine Tilacos and Joy England who travelled from Sydney to be with us, and were able to tell us the latest news from SCEGGS.

Elizabeth Sharpe (SHERINGTON 1956), Nanette Bassier (KRUPA 1956) and Sandie Vicars (HUDSON SHAW 1956)

Newcastle, Hunter, Central and North Coast Districts Branch report

Queensland Branch Report

The 2011 Luncheon for the Queensland Old Girls was held once again at Brisbane’s Tattersall’s Club. It was delightful and we were very happy to welcome both Jenny Allum and her husband Terry, along with Marilyn Cook and her husband Constantine. Although attendance was less than usual, this may have been due to the floods which inundated much of Queensland during the summer. This year vast areas of Western Queensland have again flooded as has much of NSW, so our thoughts are with all Old Girls living in those areas.

Old Girls travelled from Barrington, Salamanter Bay, Tannaworth, Pretty Beach, Boreen Point on Lake Macquarie, Berkelvale, Clarence Town, Black Hill, Newcastle and Sydney.

Welcome to those Old Girls who have not attended our luncheon before – Vania HOLT (1991), Faith Marsh (OLIVER 1956) and Anna WALSH (1995), and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

If you have recently moved into our area to live, do let Michelle Kadi, the Alumni Relations Co-ordinator at SCEGGS, know your new address, so that you will receive an invitation to our next luncheon at Customs House Hotel on Saturday 2 March 2013.

I look forward to attending and catching up with friends this year at Ascension Day on Thursday 17 May and Back to SCEGGS Day on Saturday 21 July.

Meg Scott (MYERS 1957)

Abigail LEWIS (1987) and Vania HOLT (1991) at the Newcastle Luncheon

As usual, the chatter at the luncheon was almost overwhelming to those of us who live in quiet areas of the country, but it is always happy chatter fuelled by shared memories and the odd glass of wine! Adding to the festivities was a delightful clip shown by Ms Allum. It was made by current SCEGGS girls, reflecting on a day in the life of the school. How things have changed since we were there!

The Annual Luncheon is always a truly enjoyable occasion and I would encourage your younger “Old Girls” to come along. For although we are from many different alumni years, as well as branch schools such as Moss Vale and the old Redlands, there is a very special feeling of belonging evident among all Old Girls from whatever year (or campus). We look forward to seeing some new faces at this year’s luncheon on Saturday 28 July.

Lucy Crowley (WOOD 1952) Hon. President

Lucy Crowley with classmate at their 60 Year Reunion

SCEGGS Old Girls’ Union News
Enthusiastic SCEGGS Old Girls gathered together on 24 September 2011 for our Annual Luncheon and AGM. At the AGM it was decided to abandon a formal Committee and just have a President, along with any Old Girls wanting to assist with functions.

Earlier in the year, we organised a bus group to tour The National Arboretum in Canberra. It was a wonderful and informative tour, with a guide so enthusiastic and knowledgeable that we invited her to be our Guest Speaker at the September luncheon. The tour concluded with a catered lunch on the foreshores of Lake Burley Griffin. There were gasps of delight as we approached the function area; autumn leaves fluttered in the breeze, black swans floated by and tables, set with white linen and glasses, sparkled in the sunshine. It was certainly a wonderful day.

On Saturday 17 March this year, Annette Harrison (COOPER 1962) invited us to her home to experience a creative watercolour class with her art teacher and dear friend, Jan Vincent. Jan is a renowned watercolour artist who has taught for many years and had numerous solo exhibitions. She has been a judge at many prestigious shows and was Research Editor of The Australian Artist Magazine. We spent a delightful morning dabbling and chatting, trying to create an “original”; so much so, many were reluctant to put down their brushes to partake of lunch.

Joining us for lunch were partners and other Old Girls. The luncheon table was resplendent, set in school colours with lovely flowers. A donation of an edible bouquet of “POPCAKES” provided a special dessert, delivered by the daughter of Donna Driver (JACKSON 1968). The bouquet was also in school colours, adding to the occasion.

As Elizabeth Poulton (JACKSON 1961) commented, it was especially appropriate to be amongst SCEGGS Old Girls and friends on this day, the day Margaret Whitlam (DOVEY 1937) died, as she was such a great supporter of SCEGGS.

We will miss Marilyn Cook not attending our luncheons and gatherings. We thank her for her continual support and enthusiasm over the years. Marilyn was always interested in our happenings and always ready to assist wherever possible. Enjoy your well-earned retirement. We would love to see you, should you venture this way at any time.

Our Annual Luncheon will be held in Canberra on Friday 19 October 2012. We look forward to Jenny Allum joining us this year and appreciate her taking the time out to do so. We also look forward to welcoming Michelle Kadi, who has taken over from Marilyn. Please join us if you can, you are most welcome.

LUCIE LUX VESTRA
Donna Driver (JACKSON 1968)

CLASS OF 1952

The Class of 1952 celebrated our 60 year reunion at SCEGGS on the 31 March this year. Twenty-three Old Girls came through the Green Gate. A few for whom mobility was now a problem, were grateful for the ramp present. The extra physical effort made by some to be there, was appreciated by all.

Apologies and regrets for not attending came from as far away as the USA, from Barbara Rhea (WINSLOW) and Northern England, from Jean Pierson (BLACK), both of whom sent their best wishes. Others who attended came from Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland, the Central and South Coasts and Bathurst.

On arrival we were greeted by Jenny Allum and Michelle Kadi, who organised our day. We were offered a glass of champagne to mark the start of what was a long lasting and delightful lunch. Friends, some not seen since our graduation day, caught up with news of family, travel and shared interests as many good stories were told.

On our tour around the school, we found its centre was still the Chapel, as it had always been. What had changed was the curriculum and opportunities now offered. In our year, only 38 girls did the Leaving Certificate and 32 matriculated. Many girls had already left in 3rd and 4th Year to pursue careers such as nursing or secretarial work. This reflected the times and how many parents did not see the value of tertiary education for girls.

Memories were enhanced throughout the luncheon by slides of old school photographs featuring House groups, House Captains, Prefects and those with sporting achievements. This excellent slide presentation was kindly put together by Prudence Heath, the School Archivist.

The group showed their positive approach to life by requesting another reunion in five years.

Janette Osborne (CLARKE 1952) and Annette Thev (DUNN 1952)

with fabulous canapés and drinks, renewing acquaintances. SCEGGS provided a great meal to follow, and we were fortunate enough to have Jenny Allum talk to us about recent developments and plans for the future. The wonderful school archivist had put together a DVD of photos from the year, which played during lunch, providing lots of laughs and many chances to reminisce. Later, we had the opportunity to wander through some of the buildings and grounds, noting the many changes and remaining very proud of our old School.

Our classmate, Julie McCrossin, summed it up so well.... "I am not a person who is often lost for words. Yet I find it very hard to explain why I find our school reunions so much fun and also quite moving. We are all such wildly different people and our lives have gone in every possible direction. But I find it emotionally stabilising to touch base every five or ten years with the pack of gals who shared my High School years. I'm already looking forward to our next gathering. My only regret is that it is impossible to talk to everyone on the day." Thanks to Jenny Allum, Marilyn Cook and her team for helping to make it such a great success. We all resolved to meet again much sooner.

Carolyn Shaw (1977)

CLASS OF 1971

The Class of 1971 held a celebratory 40 Year Reunion on a beautiful, sunny, spring day at SCEGGS on 29 October 2011. We had 40 girls in all, coming from as far afield as Queensland, Tasmania, Canberra, interstate NSW and even New York!

We started in the courtyard, surrounded by jasmine in bloom, developments and plans for the future. The wonderful school archivist had put together a DVD of photos from the year, which played during lunch, providing lots of laughs and many chances to reminisce. Later, we had the opportunity to wander through some of the buildings and grounds, noting the many changes and remaining very proud of our old School.

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Thanks to Jenny Allum, Marilyn Cook and her team for helping to make it such a great success. We all resolved to meet again much sooner.

Carolyn Shaw (1977)
CLASS OF 1981

September 2011 bought the girls of 1981 back together to reminisce and celebrate their time at SCEGGS. As we congregated in the sunny courtyard behind the Green Gate, girls from Queensland, country NSW and even a special visit by Hisami Arayama (KATOH) all the way from Japan, laughed and shared many stories of the past 30 years. Stories ranged from family, careers, travel and friendship; however standing next to the detention board did also raise some funny tales of our times at SCEGGS. Thank you especially to Jenny Allum and Marilyn Cook for making the reunion such a success.

Joanne Shipway (WARDEN) and Tessa Swadling (DUCHEN)

CLASS OF 1982

SCEGGS was a fantastic venue for our 30 Year Reunion. Thirty of us gathered in March this year to enjoy a leisurely Sunday lunch in what was once the Boarders’ Dining Room. The fabulous food astounded one old boarder who recalled her days when everything served was deep fried! The day was filled with great hilarity, as evidenced by the number of classmates who pinned their nametags to the Detention Board. It is always wonderful to catch up with old school friends and we all look forward to when we meet again.

Melissa HALKERSTON (1982)

CLASS OF 2001

It’s quite a strange feeling to walk into your old High School 10 years after you swore you would never enter those gates again! Yet somehow it felt natural. This may be because of the warm, happy and dore I say beautiful faces of all the girls who came along. Ten years is a long time, and yet when we were together again, it felt like Year 12 was only months ago.

Whilst everyone arrived in the School courtyard, the Year 12 video was playing in the background: a nice touch! Feeling nostalgic, some of us wondered about the School, surprised by how beautiful it was. I think we spent much of our time wishing we were elsewhere, or being mocked by other school groups for having “no grounds” to run around on. SCEGGS really is a stylish place, especially these days. More like a business centre than an educational institution!

Moving away from School, down the hill to a local bar, the fun continued (despite some issues with our function room). Everyone mingled, laughed, photo-snapped and caught up on 10 years’ worth of travel, jobs, weddings, babies (some imminent) and future plans. It was relaxed, comfortable and we stayed so long, the bar staff had to boot us out!

I suspected I might be a little overwhelmed at the reunion. However, I didn’t realise I would be overwhelmed with pride! Everyone not only looked stunning, but was somewhere on the path to their dreams, having achieved so much already with their friendships, careers, travel and by simply being decent, caring people.

Ten years ago, I couldn’t wait to leave. Ten years on, and I am honoured to know these ladies. Thanks to everyone (including the visiting teachers) who made it such a fantastic night.

Esther LURIE (2001)

CLASS OF 1991

Our 20 year school reunion was a brilliant night enjoyed by all. Of the 90 or so girls in the year, 50 attended, which was a great turn out considering many of us are living overseas and interstate. Being at the school was both surreal and nostalgic, and there were smiles and laughter everywhere. Seeing all the girls mingling and reconnecting was wonderful. I feel all would agree that the evening was just too short to catch up with everyone. On behalf of those who attended, a big thank you goes to the Alumni team for hosting this special evening for us.

Kristyna Elsley (1991)

The Class of 2001’s Katerina MASTROCOSTAS, Laura STEVENS, Clementine JOHNSON and Nancy Glass (BRACE)
**DAAUGHTERS, GRANDDAUGHTERS LIST**

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**Legend**
- **Year**: Year of graduation.
- **Mother**: Name of the mother.
- **Great Grand-Mother**: Name of the great grandmother.

**SCEGGS OLD GIRLS’ UNION NEWS**

**CLASS OF 2011 - Where are they now?**
BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

BIRTHS
Joanna Balcomb (BULL 1997) and her husband Charles have a boy, Nicholas Charles. A nephew to Kate Mullumby (BULL 1994). A grandson to Joy BULL (ELLIS 1965).

Katie Mullumby (BULL 1994) and her husband Simon have a boy, Henry Howard. A nephew to Joanne Balcomb (BULL 1997). A grandson to Joy BULL (ELLIS 1965).

DEATHS
Michelle BOLAND (1981)
Patricia Bryant (BECKETT 1934), mother of Sally Fellows (BRYANT 1965), sister of Joan England (BECKETT 1937),
aunt of Maryann ENGLAND (1967) and Karen ENGLAND (1964).
Juanita (Nita) Bungate (HOQUE 1939).
Lucy Capel (MCDOUGALL 1952), mother of Katherine Walker (CAPEL 1969) and Nancy CAPEL
1971, sister of Patricia Limburg (MCDOUGALL 1935) and Margaret Lammore (CAPEL 1937).
Judith Cohen (SEILS 1943)
Jean Cracknell (HAWKER 1942)
Jenny Cumming (STIGANT 1960)
Eula Patricia Dickins (GEORGE 1942)
Joan Dracott (WOODWARD 1949)
Rachel Ellis (1932)
Beryl Green (BERMAN 1951)
Lenore Patricia Henry (PHILLIPS 1955)
Gillian Hirstman (FERRIS 1955), sister of Rosalie Gilbert (FERRIS 1957)

Ngaire Hollingdale (HERON 1943)
Alison Ruby Jennings (MURCHISON 1947), grandmother of Daniella JENNINGS (1988)
Nancye Johnson (LEES 1943)
Patricia Cameron-Kkie (KINGSELL 1944)
Anthea KERR (1990), daughter of Katherine Kerr (RADFORD 1957) and niece of Elizabeth Flanagan (RADFORD 1960)
Jeanette Leahy (BEST 1937)
Jocelyn Legg (SMITH 1950)
Jill Mackenzie (LYNN 1945), mother of Fiona MACKENZIE (1973) and Shauna Henderson (MACKENZIE 1976)
Lauree McFadden (STEWARD 1940)
Beryl Elizabeth Mary (LEES 1945)
Diana Murray (PARKINS 1958)
Anne Paton (BRAY 1945)
Cynthia Mary Prescott (BACKHOUSE 1938)
Pamela Rodgers (WATSON 1947)
Anne SIMDULIN (1952)
Margaret Whitlam (DOVEY 1937)
Elizabeth Wilkinson (RALSTON 1946)

ENGAGEMENTS
Cathy ABOUD (1988) to James MacDonald

MARRIAGES
Louisa ARLOTH (2001) to Sam Parker Bowles
Skye SIMON (2002) to Andrew Hanson

DEATH OF HUSBAND
Elizabeth McAuley (WINDENER 1950) and father of Libby McAULEY (1983)

DEATH OF FATHER
Cicely Boyne (BUCKERIDGE 1985)
Lynda Halliday (BUCKERIDGE 1988)
Judith HAGUE (1962)
Anna MACLAiNE (1997)
Laura MACLAiNE (2000)
Judith WEBSTER (1977), grandfather to Isobel GOLDVIN (2010)

DEATH OF MOTHER
Judith HAGUE (1962)

FOR THE DIARY
BACK TO SCEGGS DAY
To be held on Saturday 21 July. Guest speaker at the luncheon: SKY News Reporter, Celina EDMONDS (1988).

MELBOURNE
Melbourne’s Foundation Day Luncheon will be held on Saturday 14 July at the R.A.C.V City Club, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

BRISBANE
The AGM and Luncheon of the Brisbane Branch of the OGU will be held on Saturday 28 July at Tattersalls Club, Queen Street, Brisbane.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS
The Southern Districts Branch of the OGU will hold their AGM and Luncheon in Canberra on Friday 19 October.

REUNIONS
The Class of 1972 will celebrate their 40 Year Reunion at school on Saturday 20 October.
The Class of 1992 will celebrate their 20 Year Reunion on Saturday 13 October.
The Class of 2002 will celebrate their 10 Year Reunion on Saturday 3 November.

For further information: Michelle Kadi
Alumni Relations
PH: (02) 9339 9439
M: 0400917 322
E: michellekadi@sceggs.nsw.edu.au
As part of our graduation from SCEGGS, Year 12 participated in many farewell ceremonies and receiving our Old Girl badges in our final assembly was perhaps the most special and symbolic part of our transition from school to the real world.

Each one of us walked up one by one to the President of the Old Girls’ Union, Judy Caldwell, and took our new badges with delight and immediately proceeded to place them on our tunics so we could finally claim that we were “Old Girls”. For all of us these badges represented the start of our journey outside of SCEGGS, but yet also demonstrated we would always be connected to the school that we had become so fond of.

Just to make us feel that bit older, in February we attended our first Old Girls’ Union function - the Year 13 Cocktail Party. Here we were able to mingle with our friends, excitingly telling everyone what adventures awaited us in the year to come from University degrees to gap years in England and beyond.

And particularly special was the opportunity to see our Year 12 teachers to thank them once again for their efforts and to let them know that all their advice and help had resulted in us achieving our goals to attend uni and do the courses we were most interested in. It was a highly enjoyable time, and undoubtedly we are all waiting to be notified of our next reunion!

Lizzie Miller
Class of 2011