Saturday 20th July 2013

A special reunion day for SCEGGS Old Girls of all ages.

Gather your classmates and join us for lunch in the SCEGGS Great Hall and enjoy our special guest speaker, Sally Dominguez (COLEMAN 1987), Inventor, Adventurer and Educator.

Recently named one of Advance Australia’s “50 for the Future”, Sally has won more than 7 international product design awards, has work held in the Powerhouse Museum, and has judged innovation and design around the world.

Sally is an ambassador for Engineers Without Borders Australia, a friend of Tourism Australia, and is passionate about guiding more girls to the industrial design and engineering spotlight.

It promises to be a great day and we hope many of our Old Girls, particularly Sally’s classmates from ’87, will join us for this event.

For bookings and enquiries:
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Alumni Relations
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I go to many Old Girls’ Reunions, both here in Sydney for alumni year gatherings, or in places further afield, such as Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane, and in country areas of NSW from time to time, and occasionally overseas. They are always a great pleasure to attend as SCEGGS girls are always interesting, warm and lovely.

Sometimes I joke that you can tell the age of an Old Girl by which building at SCEGGS she calls “The New Building.”! I was looking at all the girls in Assembly the other day, knowing that they will call the Joan Freeman Building, “The New Building.” And what a beautiful building it is. Girls and their parents frequently comment on the spaciousness and grace of the building, the sheer architectural beauty of it, and what an exciting place it is to be in. Teachers too, just love it, providing, as it does, such wonderful facilities and opportunities for our girls. As well as many new classrooms for Art, Science and Technology, there is a very large and stylish cafeteria with lots of indoor seating, which opens on to a large outdoor terrace surrounded by beautiful gardens. The traditions of the school have been incorporated too, with the inclusion of the “Heritage Wall” - a segment of bricks from the old Assembly Hall, preserved and sponsored thanks to the generosity of Old Girls. It is the most wonderful, warm and lovely place it is to be in. Teachers too, just love it, providing, as it does, such wonderful facilities and opportunities for our girls. As well as many new classrooms for Art, Science and Technology, there is a very large and stylish cafeteria with lots of indoor seating, which opens on to a large outdoor terrace surrounded by beautiful gardens. The traditions of the school have been incorporated too, with the inclusion of the “Heritage Wall” - a segment of bricks from the old Assembly Hall, preserved and sponsored thanks to the generosity of Old Girls. Also reflective of our past are the four Light Boxes, each displaying photos from the eras of the first four Headmistresses.

Art Teacher, Heidi Jackson said of her Art Room: “It is the most remarkable classroom in so many ways, the facilities are so beautifully appointed and the space itself, open and sunlit, leading out onto the wonderful courtyard and garden, is incredible. I was in my room last lesson and I sat looking out onto the city skyline and it just felt so wonderful. The space and light are certainly impressive but it is the effect these qualities have on my classes that is so interesting. There is a serenity that these new spaces inspire, a sense of quietness, calmness and contemplation… I feel reenergised and the students are quite in awe and so motivated to create and learn.”

But of course, SCEGGS has never been about buildings or views. People have always been at the heart of a SCEGGS education and the importance of values and relationships pivotal to all we teach. SCEGGS girls continue to be natural, not pretentious; confident and articulate, wanting to make a difference to our society. The sense of service and contribution, indeed a generosity of spirit, continue to be valued most highly by the school and the staff and students within it. I am determined that this will continue whilst I am Headmistress.

I hope that many of you will have an opportunity to visit SCEGGS sometime soon, perhaps for Back to SCEGGS Day on July 20 or for the Festival on Forbes on August 18, or for another reunion or Old Girls’ Union function. I hope you explore and enjoy “The New Building” and I hope you see, too, that SCEGGS hasn’t really changed – it remains a school about people, about society and service, and about providing the best education for girls and young women.

Jenny Allum
HEAD OF SCHOOL

5 10 14 18
**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Set amongst the old and familiar is the new and exciting. Old Girls visiting the school are relieved to find that those places that evoke special memories, such as ‘Peanut Alley’, the Chapel, Barham and ‘The Fig Tree’, remain. And yet they are often equally overwhelmed by the sensational new developments within the school.

As well as being an excellent facility for teaching and learning, the Joan Freeman Science, Art and Technology Centre (JFSATC), named after an Old Girl who made a significant contribution to the school, also provides a wonderful venue for school events. In fact, there was a real buzz when our newest Old Girls arrived at the JFSATC on February 1st for the first OGU event of 2013, celebrating 50 years. The event which arrived at the JFSATC on February 9th has taken responsibility for ‘Crested Ware’, which is available for purchase at school events and through the school shop, and Anna Carr (DEMONS 1974) is responsible for co-ordinating the Old Girls’ Devonshire Tea at the School Fair. The Committee has representatives on the School Board, Sharon Cook (BARTLETT 1976) as Chair and Elizabeth BUTCHER (1955); on the Trust, Gabby Porteous (THOMAS 1984) and on the P & F, Kate Barraclough (Caldwell 1986). Members of the OGU Committee work extremely well together, meeting each term to review and plan events to support the school and strengthen relations between Old Girls. Last year was the first Old Girl Mother and Daughter Breakfast. It was great fun and is to become a regular event on the alumni calendar. The Old Girls’ Union also contributes to specific prizes at Speech Night and the Old Girls’ Union Scholarship, which is open for Year 7 entry to a girl whose mother or grandmother attended SCEGGS. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of application and interview and covers 50 % of tuition fees. Any contribution the OGU makes to the school could not be done without the support of Jenny Allum and staff. A big ‘Thank You’ to all. Let us continue to celebrate being a SCEGGS girl for ‘Once a SCEGGS Girl, always a SCEGGS Girl.’

Judy Caldwell (Rogan 1962) OGU PRESIDENT

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**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 2015 Scholarship will be available from the SCEGGS website in October, 2013 and applications will close in early February, 2014.
- For further information please contact The Registrar's Office on 9332 1133.

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**FOLLOWING IN THEIR MOTHERS’ FOOTSTEPS**

A glorious, sunny morning and the city skyline provided the perfect setting for this year’s Annual Old Girls’ Union Mother and Daughter Breakfast when two generations of SCEGGS girls shared breakfast on the terrace of the new Joan Freeman building.

Over 45 Old Girls joined their daughters, who are currently students at the school, to attend the event on April 11th. Old Girls’ Union President, Judy Caldwell (Rogan 1962) welcomed them back to school and Jenny Allum expressed her joy in seeing so many girls follow in their mothers’ footsteps and share in the experience of a SCEGGS education. “We love to have Old Girls back as mothers of current students, and we hope that girls whose mothers are Old Girls appreciate the sense of history and tradition in belonging to the same school community as their mothers before them,” said Ms Allum.

Kindergarten mother, Margot Andrea (Rutherford 1991) said “My daughter Zoe and I had a truly memorable morning. It’s nice to be back in the fold!”

Held for the first time in 2012, the breakfast is hosted by the OGU and organised by committee members, Gabby Porteous (Thomas 1984) and Kate Barracough (Caldwell 1986). As the photographs clearly demonstrate, a great morning was had by all.

Amelia and Susan McIntosh (Antill 1983), a fourth generation family.

Louise and Kate Barracough (Caldwell 1986) with Christiane and Keira Niahos and Francine (Somerville 1996).

Alexandra Condonis-Goodman and Jemima Smith, Year 2.

Alessandra Condonis-Goodman and Jemima Smith, Year 2.

Keira Niahos and Francine (Alexandrou 1988).

Benila Sene (Wesi 1988) with Bianca and Isabelle.
FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

The Heritage Wall is a special feature of the JFSATC, and it was great to meet some of the Old Girls who contributed to it. The Heritage Wall plays an important role in linking the past to the present, and the twenty bricks saved from the Barbara Chisholm Hall and generously sponsored by Old Girls, ensures we stay connected with our past, bringing together the old and the new.

The Shining Light Program, the umbrella that encompasses all of the Trust’s fundraising efforts, continues to grow, and this year, as in 2012, the Trust’s focus has remained the Scholarship Fund. The commitment Old Girls have made to building the Scholarship Fund has been most appreciated and their generosity has made much possible for SCEGGS. Old Girls, together with the wider SCEGGS community, have already raised $600,000 for the Fund.

The Trust engages the SCEGGS community in a number of ways, one of them being the Annual Calling Program. This year, for the first time, members of the School and Trust Board, along with almost 30 current parents, rang each current family within the School, raising awareness and funds for the Shining Light Program. The Calling Program aims to engage all of our current parents, helping to build a culture of annual giving within the School, and it was with much delight that the Program’s second year was so successful.

This year has also seen the Trust host its first SCEGGS Wine Auction and Tasting Night. The evening was a great success, with guests having the opportunity to taste a range of wines from the NSW and New Zealand regions and be entertained by three Wine Masters, who shared their expertise and knowledge of the industry. The night raised important funds for the Scholarship Fund and we look forward to it becoming a permanent event on the SCEGGS calendar.

It was also with great excitement that SPAN (SCEGGS Professional Alumni Network) launched the first digital edition of SPAN News, landing in inboxes in April. This designed-for-digital edition provided readers with a completely new and interactive reading experience and in due course, will replace the printed version for those who prefer it. SPAN brings together our current students, Old Girls, parents and friends of SCEGGS for career focused networking, while providing a range of professional contacts for support and mentoring. A number of dynamic Old Girls, as well as current parents were featured in the most recent edition, sharing with us their inspiring careers paths. SPAN will be hosting an event towards the end of the year and we look forward to sharing more details with you in the next edition of SPAN News, due out soon.

It has been a fantastic six months getting to know the wide network of SCEGGS Old Girls and I look forward to meeting many more Old Girls in the second half of the year. If you have any questions regarding the work of the Trust, fundraising or would simply like to say hello, I welcome your call and can be contacted on (02) 9339 9428 or via email at DaisyBahen@sceggs.nsw.edu.au.

I look forward to seeing you at the next SCEGGS event!

Daisy Bahen
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
Art students at SCEGGS will have an opportunity to learn from renowned artists today under the direction of Jenny Sages. Jenny approached the then Department of Public Instruction with the request that Art be included in the syllabus. Since 1913, when Miss Badham and Roberta Bell Allen (1942) were appointed to the Art Department and the support of Visual Arts has been an integral part of a SCEGGS education, providing students with the skills to explore the world around them and to express their creativity with confidence.

In recent years, the Roberta Bell Allen Fellowship has enabled many Old Girls such as Agatha Gotthe-Snape (1997) and Louisa Dawson (1997), to become young Australian artists. In fact, many Old Girls will remember the inspiring Enid Cambridge, an Art Mistress at SCEGGS from 1933 to 1968, and her annual student art exhibitions. A respected Australian water-colourist, Miss Cambridge recognised the value of working with practicing artists and provided girls with a chance to work with distinguished contemporary artists such as Rowland Wakelin, Margaret Preston and Thea Proctor. The opportunity to learn from renowned artists continues today thanks to a dynamic and passionate Art Department and the support of a very generous Old Girl, Roberta Bell Allen (1942). A successful artist herself, Roberta has had work hung in the Sulman, Wynne and Blake Prizes, and established the Bell Gallery in Berrima. She continues to mentor young Australian artists.

In recent years, the Roberta Bell Allen Fellowship has enabled many art students at SCEGGS to model professional art practice, gaining an understanding of how an artist thinks, sees and works.

For Year 10 students in 2012, ‘learning how to look and how to see’ the environment around them was one of the benefits of their workshop with much loved painter Jenny Sages. Jenny invited the girls to her studio where she talked openly about her ideas and outlook, showed them work in progress and shared her work practices. She then spent a day with them at Cockatoo Island, demonstrating techniques and giving advice as they embarked on creating a series of experimental works based on the industrial forms of the site.

“Jenny was amazing and really inspiring” said student, Stella Maynard. “She taught me how to consider all the elements of the landscape and find beauty in everything around me, from the grandest building and 40ft tall industrial constructions to the textures of the rocks and tiny pieces of trash washed up on the shore.”

Based on their interaction with Jenny, the girls created a body of work that was later exhibited in the new JFSATC’s exhibition space. It was a wonderful event, attended by the students, their parents, the artist and Roberta Bell Allen. Roberta was most impressed with the students’ work, saying “Without exception, the works of each girl were well structured, with exciting textures, lights and darks and brilliantly interpreted the spirit of Cockatoo Island.”

In 2011, Year 10 students had a workshop with renowned Portrait Artist, David Fairbairn. David had a retrospective of his portraits at the Mosman Art Gallery at the time, visited by the girls. Also an exciting teacher, David challenged and inspired students to extend their skills, to explore new materials and new forms. It too, was a successful collaboration that encouraged students to take risks and explore different art making practices.

“Visual Arts is an exciting, challenging and rewarding subject that stretches students at the same time as enabling them to focus and refine skills” says Head of Visual Arts, Katrina Collins. “It is a subject where students can explore their creativity, use their imaginations, problem solve, analyse, interpret and learn about history, culture and the world around them.” And as that world becomes increasingly visual, with the ever-progressive use of computer technology, an ability to make and decipher visual imagery and to know and understand its history, is invaluable. Indeed, learning the way in which imagery and objects are constructed to communicate with an audience is a skill not to be underestimated.

Visual Arts is a very strong elective at SCEGGS and with the exciting new facilities afforded by the JFSATC, there is no end to what the girls can achieve. Whilst many may go on to art related study at a Tertiary level or indeed, join Old Girls such as Agatha Gotthe-Snape (1997) and Louisa Dawson (1997), as successful Contemporary Artists, Art students at SCEGGS will have acquired knowledge and skills that will enhance their lives well beyond the Green Gate.
THE TRAVELLING WTA CIRCUS

CATHERINE SNEDDON (1998)

It’s a balmy mid-March day in beautiful Miami and the centre of the tennis universe is right here in Florida. Surrounded by the international sports media, the world’s most recognisable female athlete, Maria Sharapova is to my right and the current Australian Open champion, Victoria Azarenka is to my left and I am watching both of them like a hawk, hanging on their every word.

Welcome to the world of media relations in women’s professional tennis. I’m lucky enough to follow the woman’s tennis tour, otherwise known as the WTA (Women’s Tennis Association), around the world as a Communications, Marketing & Sponsorship Manager. In my “rookie season” with the WTA in 2012 I spent 150 days working at tennis events in countries such as the USA, Russia, Canada, Portugal, Turkey, China and Japan amongst others, managing media and PR, global branding and sponsorship activities for our leading athletes.

Here at the Sony Open Tennis in Miami, regarded by many as the ‘fifth Grand Slam’, I am the onsite Communications Manager (or point person) for the WTA and will oversee every press conference, media interview, autograph session, photo shoot, sponsor meet and greet that a WTA player participates in over the next 2 weeks, as well as acting as a liaison between the media, Tournament staff and players. It is essentially an enabling role, which means trying to get the best result for the players and Tournament - which can include everyone from sponsors to fans - the media and the WTA itself.

Striking a good balance between so many competing interests is the most challenging aspect of the role.

Every day on site at an event is different, but today just happens to be one of the busiest and most stressful of any WTA Tournament. Back to Maria and Vika and I am at the Ritz Carlton hotel nice and early, ready to coordinate our media availability hour with 7 of the top 8 players in the world. With over 50 journalists and photographers and TV crews in attendance, my team and I will manage the players through the maze of 11 print interviews, photos, Twitter takeovers and TV interviews for the next 60 minutes. Before we get started though each player gets a quick briefing on some of the key issues they can expect to be drilled on. This week it’s a new anti-doping program and a recently announced increase to US Open prize money. All the players are very receptive to briefings and understand the importance of communicating the WTA’s key messages through the media.

With all interviews wrapped up by midday, its time to head to the site for the day where matches have already got underway.

My first port of call is the women’s locker room where I catch up with one of our WTA Physios, Sam Stosur had sadly had to withdraw from the event so it is my job to get the official medical reason and communicate this to the media. I also chat briefly to Sam herself who happily agrees to some media interviews and a Facebook interview for the Tournament the following day.

I then move on to see Serena Williams’ agent and we go through a detailed schedule for Serena’s media hour the following morning, which will no doubt attract plenty of interest as she has just reclaimed the world No.1 ranking.

You would imagine that in a profession such as this that there would be plenty of time for tennis-watching - sadly not as the day flies by after numerous interviews and press conferences, and chats with players and the media. Having your ‘tennis-brain’ switched on is essential as the media regard us as a walking, talking tennis encyclopaedia - How do you spell Caroline Wozniacki’s father’s name? Is Petra Kvitova left or right-handed? How do you pronounce Hlavackova and Hradecka?

The list is endless.

Maintaining good relationships with the players and communicating with them regularly is an important aspect of the job. Adapting their different personalities and understanding their quirks and habits has been an experience. Approaching a player after a tough loss for instance, is never easy and knowing when to push them to do an interview and when not to have caused plenty of stressful moments. But at the end of the day, they are all professionals and respected the job you are trying to do. In most cases, I’ve become good friends with players and their support teams - it’s hard not to when you are on the traveling WTA circus.

Finding part-time legal practice difficult. Judith turned to further study to keep intellectually stimulated, completing a diploma of education at Melbourne University. She then taught at a local high school for nearly three years. Whilst Judith’s career was more active than for many women of that time, her family’s life revolved around her husband Sam, an Australian Labor Party Senator.

That life was shattered by Sam’s sudden death in October 1969. She was 43 years old, a widow with school age children, in a city where she had no family. With support from a large network of friends, she went on with what was to become the second half of her life.

Judith returned to work as a solicitor and in 1975, was appointed as a solicitor for the Women Lawyers’ Association of New South Wales. In 1973 she married Sam Cohen, and moved to Melbourne where she practiced as a solicitor until her first child, Susan, was born. Her second daughter, Sally, was born three years later.

Returning to the workforce when her children were at school, Judith became a firm advocate for part-time work, to give flexibility especially for women with school age children – a decade before she was actually setting conditions of employment.

THE TRAVELLING WTA CIRCUS

CATHERINE SNEDDON (1998)

A TRIBUTE TO JUDITH COHEN (SELIG 1943)

Dux of the Class of 1943, Judith Cohen AO went on to pave the way for working women throughout the country. As the first female commissioner appointed to the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, she furthered the cause of working women, playing a significant role in the introduction of maternity leave and parental leave, and opening awards to allow for part-time work.

Her death last year, at the age of 86, was a great loss. Lawyer, teacher, judge and mother, Judith Cohen was an inspiring role model to all women and will be sadly missed. Her daughters, Susan Cohen and Sally Scott pay tribute to her life.

Raised in an extended Jewish family in Sydney, Judith Cohen acquired her values of family and community, together with a strong social conscience, from her parents, Abraham and Esther Selig, and some very strong-minded aunts.

Her schooling at SCEGGS was influential in encouraging her to go to university. She enrolled in a combined arts-law degree at Sydney University, and entered law in 1946 - one of only a handful of women, among hundreds of men. In 1952, Judith was a founding member of the Women Lawyers’ Association.

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Judith returned to work as a solicitor and in 1975, was appointed as the first female commissioner of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. Five years later, she was appointed as a deputy president, giving her federal judicial status and the title of “Justice”. During her 16 years on the Commission, Judith was involved in many significant decisions, including making the first federal nurses’ award, and the introduction of maternity and later parental leave into federal awards.

When she retired from the Commission, Judith helped establish a new process to resolve complaints about insurance claims. She chaired the first panel of the General Insurance Enquiries and Complaints Scheme for five years.

While Judith sat on several committees during her life, particularly enjoying the National Library Council, she was reticent about receiving awards. She did however, appreciate being appointed an officer of the Order of Australia for her services to industrial relations, and being entered on the Victorian Honour Roll of Women in its inaugural year.

Judith Cohen achieved much and influenced many. She was both a mentor and a role model before either term gained prominence.

Judge Susan Cohen and Sally Scott
**2012 ARCHIVE REPORT**

The Archive has had another busy year. In this report we focus on events and activities connected with Old Girls that may be of interest to you!

Thank you to the many Old Girls who sent us contributions about the ‘Save SCEGGS’ Campaign. The varying perspectives tell very moving and at times, amusing stories of this period. They will be put up on the Archive section of the SCEGGS Intranet for current students to enjoy. If any of you have more stories to share, we would love to hear from you.

The whole school enjoyed following the journey of sailor and SCEGGS Old Girl, Lucinda WHITTY (2007) at the 2012 Olympics. Naturally at times like this, we also reflect on the achievements of other past students, so library staff Helen Giles and Tamzin HUGHES (1988) prepared a display about Lucinda and our other Olympian, swimmer Jane CORTIS (1980) who competed in the 2012 Commonwealth Games in Bresatsu.

You will find many parts of the Newsletter, the completion of the Joan Freeman Science, Art and Technology Centre has been very exciting for all at SCEGGS. Four in-ground displays were included in the floor of the new building. After much thought, and some excellent professional help, we have made a ‘light box’ for each display that depicts a collage of archive photographs printed on glass representing the era of each of our four previous Heads. Do come and have a look the next time you are at the School.

Thank you for the many generous donations to the SCEGGS Archives this year. Your gifts make a rich resource for research and benefit not just the School but the wider community. Donations received this year include:

- Clare Cambridge, Merle FULLAGER’S (1947) daughter and Miss Enid Cambridge’s niece, donated a selection of photographs including a rare staff picture from 1954 and a painting by Miss Cambridge of SCEGGS Sports.
- Jan McLellan (GABLE, 1956) donated some letters with a particular highlight being a note from Miss King listing a range of humorous reasons for not being able to attend a school dance.
- Judith WEBSTER’S (1971) adorable ‘Handy Mandy’: A clothes stand, made by her mother, in the shape of a SCEGGS girl to help teach Judith how to neatly store her uniform!

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the first School Archivist professional development meeting. It was held at the library at Shore and among the attendees were SCEGGS librarian, Mary Maltby, and several SCEGGS students. Forty years on and the NSW School Archives Group is now the most active special interest group within the Australian Society of Archivists.

Early in 2012 we met at Sydney Grammar School to discuss “Building Relationships: Archives and Alumni.” Michelle Kadi, our Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, very kindly agreed to speak about how archives and alumni work together to engage the Old Girl Community at SCEGGS. Although Michelle has long-standing connections with the School and its wider community, she had only recently returned to work at SCEGGS. Michelle’s talk was much appreciated and very well received. Thank you Michelle for rising to this unexpected challenge!

Prudence Heath
SCEGGS ARCHIVIST

The whole nation is eagerly anticipating the commemoration of the centenary of the Gallipoli landing and Australia’s involvement in the Great War. The Archives and the History Department want to work together to develop teaching materials to investigate this period and particularly any SCEGGS Old Girls’ involvement. If you know of any Old Girl or have an Old Girl family member who was involved in WWI in any capacity, we would be very interested to hear their story. This could involve nursing, VAD, ambulance driver, war related industries or supporting the war effort on the home front through organisations such as the Red Cross or the various Comfort Funds. Please contact the Archivist, Prudence Heath on 9332 1133 or prueheath@sceggs.nsw.edu.au.

**BUILDING A COMMUNITY**

The SCEGGS community was deeply saddened on the 30th August 2012 when one of its members, Joyce Ryerson passed away, aged 95. It is thanks to women like Joyce that SCEGGS has such a strong Old Girl community. For many years, Joyce scoured the newspapers for notices from the daily newspapers, allowing us to actually know who our Old Girls are, and quite rare amongst girls’ schools. In a letter to Joyce from our first School Archivist, Mary Maltby wrote:

“I write formally to express our thanks for your outstanding contribution – the Married Names Index of SCEGGS Old Girls. This index of 12,300 card slips is a wonderful reference resource to the School and to the Archives. Maybe it could be classified as a ‘Guinness Record’ for I believe this could be the first such index made by any Girls’ School.”

Joyce’s love for SCEGGS also saw her establish the first branch of the Old Girls’ Union, the Queensland Branch, formed in 1955 with fellow Old Girl, Mildred Stephenson (COX 1919). Joyce was actively involved in the group as Treasurer until returning to Sydney in the 1980s.

As a School, SCEGGS is very fortunate to remain in contact with so many of its alumni, the same cannot be said of all independent girls’ schools. Thanks to the efforts of Joyce, and many women like her, SCEGGS is enriched by a strong, supportive and very proud Old Girl community.

Joyce Ryerson on the Archives Stall at the School Fair in 1984, wearing a ‘Moss Vale’ straw boater

SCEGGS OLD GIRLS’ UNION NEWS

Jane CORTIS in the Australian Women’s Swimming Team XVIII Olympiad, Tokyo, 1964. Jane is standing fourth from the left next to Dawn Frazer at the Tobruk Pool in Townsville

Year 6 student, Mia Stapleton, dressed as Joan Freeman as part of her research into an Eminent Woman

Joyce Ryerson on the Archives Stall at the School Fair in 1984, wearing a ‘Moss Vale’ straw boater

Prudence Heath, SCEGGS Archivist

A TRIBUTE TO JOYCE RYERSON (LOTHERINGTON 1933)

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Old Girls, young and old, returned to SCEGGS in 2012 to enjoy our annual alumni events. More than 120 Old Girls from the Classes of 1936 to 1962 boarded buses, trains and aeroplanes to take part in a special Chapel service and luncheon to celebrate Ascension Day on May 17th.

For the Class of 1962, this was their first Ascension Day event and a chance to celebrate their 50 Year Reunion. To share in the excitement and laughter that marked this special anniversary, girls travelled from all over Australia, some as far as Perth and the United Kingdom.

Randi Maloney (BYE 1962) from London said “Thanks for a memorable day. It was well worth the travel down under”.

Among the highlights of the day was a tour of the new Joan Freeman Building and an amazing vocal performance by student, Michaella Edelstein, then in Year 12, accompanied by flautist Chloe CHUNG (2011). So superb was this recital that one Old Girl was moved to say “That young girl will be a renowned opera singer someday.”

But perhaps most moving was a tribute to the late Margaret Whitlam (DOVEY, 1937). A memorial plaque was unveiled in the Chapel and an audio visual presentation, screened in the presence of her daughter Catherine Dovey (1971), provided an insight into the life of this strong, intelligent and compassionate woman.

The highlight of Back to SCEGGS Day on July 21st was undoubtedly the entertaining and inspiring accounts of guest speaker and SKY News National Affairs Correspondent, Celina EDMONDS (1988).

Celina gave us a rare peek into the world of television journalism, the pressures and the triumphs. Her candi account of major events was enlightening and her funny stories about the trials of juggling work, travel and family life provided scenes that resonated with many in the audience.

“Listening to Celina telling us about her work whilst sharing pictures of her travels, made us almost feel as though we were there with her, from being in Rome for the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, to hearing of the tragedy of Port Arthur,” said Old Girl Gabby Porteous (THOMAS, 1984).

Common to both Ascension Day and Back to SCEGGS Day was a sense of joy as Old Girls celebrated what it means to always be a SCEGGS Girl.

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Common to both Ascension Day and Back to SCEGGS Day was a sense of joy as Old Girls celebrated what it means to always be a SCEGGS Girl.
REPORTS & REUNIONS

MELBOURNE BRANCH REPORT

We are saddened in this report to record the deaths of three members of this Branch, who each in their own way were very special Old Girls. The Hon. Judith Cohen AO (BELLS 1943) passed away on the 10th May 2012, aged 86. Judith was a very involved member of our Branch, always interested and empathetic. Her daughter, Sally told us how much she valued the encouragement SCEGGS had given her and how much she enjoyed her involvement with our Branch of the Old Girls’ Union. A tribute to Judith’s life appears elsewhere in this magazine.

Our Foundation Day Luncheon was held on the 14th July 2012 at the R.A.C.V. City Club, 501 Bourke Street Melbourne on Saturday 13th July at 12pm. Invitations will be sent out by the school to all Old Girls in the area, whose addresses are known. Wendy Aiken (SCOTT 1955) and I share administration of the Branch and we may be contacted on: Wendy - Ph: (03) 9585 1043 E: wendyaiken@yahoo.com Cita - Ph: (03) 9589 4775 E: citamieog@gmail.com

Newcastle Harbour; an impressive sight for those less familiar with this spectacular view.

Queensland Branch Report

Our Annual General Meeting was held once again in July at the Tattersall’s Club, Brisbane. Our Head of School, Jenny Allum and her husband Terry Gagen joined us – how much we always enjoy their company! Our new Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Michelle Kadi also attended and was delighted to meet our Old Girls and put faces to those who were previously just names.

SCEGGS Old Girls’ Union News

Melbourne Branch Report

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Ms Allum chaired our meeting which was fairly short as usual and the same executive were elected for 2012/13 with Lucy Crowley (WOOD 1952) as President, Rhona McKay (CRAWFORD 1981) who does a tremendous job as Secretary/Treasurer, and Robin Wright (MENOGUE 1957) as Vice President. After the meeting, a delicious lunch was served and the noise level increased with the happy chatter of old friends catching up and new acquaintances being made, a very happy time. A highlight of the day was a video shown by Ms Allum, SCEGGS “Then and Now”, made by current students. How times have changed since many of us were at school!

It was a very enjoyable day for those present, and it was great to have Beryl Biggs (JOHNSTONE 1961), Sabrina Yuille (SMITH 1963) and Penny Campbell-Wilson (GREEN 1959) join us again.

We hope to have a different venue for this year’s luncheon and that Michelle’s husband George, along with Terry and a few other husbands, also take part.

What has not been quite so happy this year for some of our members are floods and in some places continuous rain, fires and continuing drought in others. We wish those of you who have been adversely affected, better days to come.

Throughout all our vicissitudes we continue our attempts to “Let our Light Shine”, although sometimes this is difficult!

Lucy Crowley (Annabelle WOOD 1952) HON PRESIDENT

Queensland Branch of the SCEGGS Old Girls’ Union
The Southern Districts Old Girls’ Luncheon was held in Canberra on Friday, 19th October 2012. It was attended by a large gathering of enthusiastic Old Girls, all of whom appeared to enjoy the day immensely.

We were delighted to have Jenny Allum attend along with Michelle Kadi, our new Alumni Relations Coordinator. Also travelling from Sydney were members of the SCEGGS Old Girls’ Union Committee, Pam Coull (HALL 1953) with her husband Ian, and Camilla Sheridan (HOMER 1965). Camilla was joined by her daughter and fellow ACT resident, Narelle ANDERSON (1993) who attended our luncheon for the first time.

So many Old Girls had travelled great distances for the luncheon. It was a delight to see them. The chatter of voices throughout the room demonstrated the happiness of the day, recalling ‘good old school days’. This was encouraged with an enlarged photo of the invitation placed at the front of the function. So many tried to date the photo of the SCEGGS Pageant held on the school lawn. Annette Harrison (COOPER 1962) was the Old Girl who correctly dated it and told a hilarious story of how she was forced to swallow a fly that had landed in her open mouth just as the folk dance began! Thus began the opening of ‘Pandora’s Box’ with other funny happenings being recalled around the tables.

We concluded 2012 with afternoon tea at The Hyatt Canberra in mid-December. Again there was lots of laughter and friendships made and renewed with a resolve to repeat this again near Christmas 2013. Encouraged by our first water colour lesson and luncheon earlier in the year we have ventured forth to have another happy water colour art class at Nell Anderson’s studios, a friend of Trish Magnussen (TAYLOR 1961). Held in late April, it was another fun gathering of Old Girls and friends.

It is Canberra’s 100th Birthday this year and along with many celebrations such as the opening of the National Arboretum (a forward thinking creation of 100 forests for generations to come) and our majestic Floriade, we will ourselves be celebrating 53 years since a small group of SCEGGS Old Girls gathered together in Canberra to celebrate being proud ‘Old Girls’ of the school. The tradition continues each year. Someone stated to me a year or two ago when numbers were a little down at a function “Well, we will just continue on until the ‘wheels fall off’, no matter how few of us gather together. We are SCEGGS Old Girls!” What a wonderful approach.

The annual luncheon for the Southern Districts Old Girls will be held in Canberra on Friday, 27th September 2013. All Old Girls are most welcome, as are their friends and family. Until then, LUCEAT LUX VESTRA.

Donna Driver (JACKSON 1968) SCEGGS SOUTHERN DISTRICTS PRESIDENT

We, the alumni of 1957, have been meeting every five years since 1977 and as time becomes more precious, we have decided that that is just too long between meetings. So now we celebrate our milestone birthdays together as well, the next being our 75th Birthdays in September 2015!

Last year we celebrated our 55 Year Reunion with a luncheon at the Westin in Martin Place. Although some were unable to attend due to travel commitments or grandchildren babysitting duties, it was a wonderful day. Each get together we choose a different venue and so have dined at some of Sydney’s most splendid eateries.

Our reunion meetings have made our year very close, and friendships have formed independent of our school friendships and class groupings. Although we have lost quite a few from the year over time, it has made our affections stronger.

Our reunion meetings have made our affections stronger.

Jill Osborne (NANCARROW, 1957)

This sensational new building was the venue for our second 50 year anniversary celebration and here, we enjoyed a delightful High Tea in the new cafeteria on a lovely Spring afternoon in September.

Surrounded by gorgeous gardens, exciting new buildings and old familiar places like Peanut Alley and The Fig Tree, we enjoyed having the school to ourselves and leisurely exploring the grounds as we renewed old friendships and enjoyed seeing familiar faces once again. We were particularly pleased that those unable to attend Ascension Day were able to join us for the High Tea.

Michelle Kadi did a marvellous job organising our 50 Year Reunion celebrations – so a big thank you! Whilst we now look forward to our 55 Year Reunion, we are pleased to know we can catch up with old friends every year at Ascension Day.

Roz Blair (CARPENTER) and Pam Munro (GILES)
The 20 Year Reunion for the Class of 1992 was welcomed with a beautiful Spring day, a reminder of how lucky we were to have attended such a wonderful city school. I think many of the alumni of the Class of 92 would agree that we were also fortunate to be part of a great year at school with so many friendships continuing until this day.

Determined not to miss the occasion, classmates travelled from as far as Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States, New Zealand, Western Australia, Queensland and North-West NSW. We shared stories of our studies, careers, family, travel and adventures. We were touched that some of our favourite teachers joined us. Mrs Titterton, Mrs Mara and Mrs Collins, to name but a few. And whilst some friends were unable to make it, they were very much in our thoughts as we shared stories of what they too were up to. It was a great day, a day to remember.

Renee Bennett (STRAESSER)

Some buildings had had a dose of Botox and a facelift, whilst other buildings and resources had disappeared completely, such as the Barbara Chisholm Hall, pool and tennis courts. It was also amazing to feel so comfortable with a group of women, some of whom had not been together for many decades. I guess life is a great leveller in many ways. When we were growing up at SCEGGS, we were all developing backgrounds created by our parents. And whilst school was our common denominator, we were only there for a short time compared with how long we have lived - nearly 60 years. Yet, it was at SCEGGS that our bond it is. It was wonderful to come together again to celebrate our 40 Year Reunion. Determined to remain connected, we have set up a 1972 Alumni Facebook page and are hoping to meet for our 60th birthdays!

Cathy Egan (MILLER)

The 2002 ten years on

On Saturday, 3 November 2012 - almost ten years to the day since we graduated - 50 girls from the Class of 2002 returned to SCEGGS for their reunion. Entering through the Green Gate, we sipped champagne outside the General Office where we had once drunk juice boxes. With a number living overseas, those able to make it learnt of the various paths each had taken, including motherhood, with two expecting Mums in the mix.

On a big screen was a compilation of video footage from the SCEGGS archives, spanning the Kindergarten years to our Final Assembly. For some it was heart-warming, for others a little cringe-worthy, but for all it brought laughs and memories of years past.

A tour of the grounds showed things have changed - a new canteen, an Arts centre, the green lawn had even had a facelift. But after a decade there was still some evidence of us - a Year 12 major work hanging on a wall, a name on an honour board.

After drinks we walked the once forbidden streets to Kings Cross where we continued the catch up over music and dancing at a local haunt. Most were relieved to find we still recognised each other, hopefully we still will at our 20-year reunion! A big thank you to Michelle Kadi and SCEGGS for organising a great event.

Claire COGSWELL

It was so good to see so many of my class mates and the old school after an absence of more than 40 years. About the classmates enjoyed gathering together as if the passage of time was yesterday - amusingly, I thought the school had ‘buried’ under the hall) that we all knew and loved!

2012 marked five years since our Class left SCEGGS. Although many would think this is a relatively short time to have a reunion, I was approached by so many girls keen to see it happen, that we decided we must...and I am so glad we did!

We had 45 attendees, many who had not been ‘behind the Green Gate’ since 2007. We all gathered for drinks and canapés at School where we wandered around the amazing new Science, Art and Technology Centre, as well as the cafeteria...worlds away from the tiny tuckshop.

It was great to see so many girls at the reunion, five years on and we all still feel very much attached to SCEGGS and the wonderful time we had there. Despite technology allowing us to keep tabs on each other these days, it was so great to talk to those we hadn’t seen since school finished, and so encouraging to hear all the different things everyone is doing. It was a wonderful night and many thanks must go to Michelle Kadi for organising it so brilliantly, and to Ms Allum for giving up her time on a Saturday night to be our ‘tour guide’!

Charlie BROWN

Girls from 2002 ten years on

On a beautiful Autumn night, in April this year, the faint sounds of laughter were carried on zephyrs of wind around Darlinghurst. The 2008 Old Girls’ 5 year Reunion had begun.

Held in the lovely new Joan Freeman Science, Art and Technology Centre, more than 60 girls from the Class of 2008, reminisced fondly about, “the good old days”. Perhaps we were feeling prematurely nostalgic because we were drinking champagne on what would have been the stage of the old Barbara Chisholm Hall! A novel scenario indeed!

Reminiscences aside, it was reassuring to see that SCEGGS is, true to form, constantly updating but never forgetting. That strong connectedness comes from the people behind the Green Gate; the ever-friendly and inquiring Ms Allum; and the ever-giving teachers. Teachers who gave up their time at school, offering wise words about our essays and sleep patterns; and teachers who were now staying back late on the last day of term to see how we were doing. An ever-demanding year group are we, but very appreciative!

After enjoying champagne and canapés at SCEGGS we wandered over to The Commons, a lovely small bar in Darlinghurst where the laughs continued and the dancing began!

It was lovely to see everyone in person and not through online social media like Facebook. To see the funny quirks that remain unchanged with time. The night was a great opportunity to catch up with girls doing interesting things. It was not a competition about who had become famous, or an astronaut, as some might fear. This Reunion was a show of how varied everyone’s interests were. Who knew how many different life paths could come from a white and navy school uniform?

Rose DAVIES

CLASS OF 1992

CLASS OF 1992

CLASS OF 2002

CLASS OF 2007

CLASS OF 2008

CLASS OF 1972

CLASS OF 1972

CLASS OF 2007

CLASS OF 2008

CLASS OF 1992

CLASS OF 2002

CLASS OF 1972

CLASS OF 1992

CLASS OF 2002

CLASS OF 2007

CLASS OF 2008

CLASS OF 1972

CLASS OF 1992

CLASS OF 2002

CLASS OF 2007

CLASS OF 2008

Olivia LEE, Laura GRANT, Lucinde WHITTY and Brooke RUSH

Imogen HARRPER and Nilla RUPHEE

Madeline ZAGAMI, Jessica HEDSTROM, Jayne LONGSTAFFI, Sophia GIARDINI

Lucienne GUYOT, Felicity RAYES

SCEGGS OLD GIRLS’ UNION NEWS
## CLASS OF 2012 - Where are they now?

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Every effort has been made to check accuracy. We apologize for any errors.

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**Once a SCEGGGS Girl, Always a SCEGGGS Girl!**

After what felt like the longest period of separation in our many years of friendship, Year 12 2012 were finally reunited in February at the *Year 13 Cocktail Party*, hosted for us by the Old Girls’ Union. The night was a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and teachers and find out everyone’s plans for the year ahead, be it further study, work or travel.

The cocktail party was our first official event as members of the Old Girls’ Union and we were warmly welcomed into the group by Judy Caldwell and Ms. Allum. It was comforting to know that although we were leaving behind the Green Gate, we were still part of the larger SCEGGGS community.

Personally, I was a little anxious about leaving the safety net that is SCEGGGS to embark on further study at University but I am comforted to know that although I may no longer see my classmates every day, we will always be united as the Class of 2012. We will still see each other and enjoy the chance to catch up at alumni events each year until our first Ascension Day. And for many years beyond that. After all, once a SCEGGGS girl, always a SCEGGGS girl!

Elizabeth Cobden  
CLASS OF 2012

Olivia BOYAGES, Josephine BAUER and Samantha KIRBY

Ms Inga Scarlett and Lauren MOSTYN

Evangeline Gibson Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Media, Communication & International Studies)

Evangeline Chalwell Bachelor of International Studies UNSW

Elizabeth Cobden Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts USYD

Madeleine Cox, Talitha SALIER, Louise YEH, Samantha DAVID and Elizabeth KILEY

SCEGGGS OLD GIRLS’ UNION NEWS

Claudia HAMILTON, Michaela EDELSTEIN, Philippa BURLEY, Isabella DELAHUNTY and Madeleine COLEMAN
Three generations celebrate a happy coincidence

Although exciting, the first day of Year 7 is also quite daunting for many. But for one Year 7 student, Ella McCutcheon, and her family, the first day of school this year was a particularly happy occasion that was filled with fond memories.

Ella McCutcheon on the first day of Year 7, with her mother Vanessa Liell (1988) and her grandmother, Carol Liell (MAUDE 1957)

Ella is delighted to have commenced Year 7 at SCEGGS - all exactly 30 years apart! Joining us in 2013, Ella followed in the footsteps of her mother Vanessa Liell (1988) who started at SCEGGS in 1988, like her mother before her, Carol Liell (MAUDE 1957) who began in 1953.

Ella is delighted to have commenced Year 7 at SCEGGS and is very happy with the way she, and the other new girls, have been embraced by the school community. Having joined the Choir and String Ensemble, and enjoyed a term of Touch Football, Ella, like many of her peers, has settled in nicely to the rigorous pace of school life.

Carol Liell (MAUDE 1957) said “A SCEGGS education has served both myself and Vanessa very well and we are so pleased that Ella has the opportunity to benefit from the wonderful education that SCEGGS offers.”
BIRTHS

Nikki CARTER (1999) and her husband Rob Scott have a girl, Sophie Joy.
Karen Guscelli (ROBINSON 1986) and her husband Christopher have a girl, Jessica Elizabeth.
Sally Patman (KEAST 1998) and her husband Brett have a girl, Heidi April.
Karen Luck (PERKINS 1989) and her husband Chris and daughter Eloise welcomed the birth of a baby boy, Alistair John Luck on the 8th January 2013.
Davina Thomas (FRASER 1997) and her husband Matthew have a boy, Felix William. A nephew to Sarah Lachlan. A grandson to Christine Fraser (SHIMMIN 1968) and her husband Rob Scott have a girl, Jennifer Strike (CONDOR 1972) and her husband Michael Gaskin have a boy, Alistair John Luck on the 8th August, 10am to 3pm. As is tradition, SCEGGS Old Girls will be running the Devonshire Tea Stall and school memorabilia will be available.

DEATHS

Margaret Apted (WEST 1940)
Janet Ash (TOMKINSON 1942) sister of Lorna Scott (TOMKINSON 1936)
Pamela Audsley (JENNINGS 1948)
Jill Baker (WARE 1961)
Elizabeth Baitussen (TREWEKE 1945)
Evelyn Bateman (NETHEIM 1949)
Betty BLOMFIELD (Redlands OG)
Joan Castleden (SEARL 1941)
Marie-Louise Clifton (ALMA 1956) mother of Beatrice CLAFLIN (1989)
Una Crosthwaite (PETTIFER 1943)
June Farrell (HILL 1947)
Shirley Fitzhardinge (SMITH 1952) and sister-in-law of Margaret Roxburgh (STENNING 1948) and Kathleen STENNING (1950)
Dorothoea Stokes (ROSNER 1950) and grandmother of Kathleen Sloan (TAYLOR 1937) and Sheila Stone (CAMERON 1950)
Butcher’s daughter, Lorna Scott (TOMKINSON 1936) sister of Janette Osborne (CLARKE 1952) who recently published Helping Babies Help expressing their feelings and demonstrating their needs at different developmental stages.

MARRIAGES

Suzanne Richardson (QUIDDINGTON 1958)
Christine Fraser (ROLFE 1960) to David Jolly
Suzanne MOSELEY (1993) to David Jolly
Margaret Rogers (NORDEN 1940) and Dagmar Sevil (RICHARDSON 1954) in Year 8
Deborah Gooch (SCHOLEFIELD 1935) and sister-in-law of Margaret Roxburgh (STENNING 1950) and Kathleen Sloan (TAYLOR 1937) to David Jolly
Nikki CARTER (1999) and her husband Christopher have a boy, Alistair John Luck on the 8th August, 10am to 3pm. As is tradition, SCEGGS Old Girls will be running the Devonshire Tea Stall and school memorabilia will be available.

DEATH OF HUSBAND

Gwynne Bowley (THOMPSON 1947)
Elizabeth Efinger (GREINER 1951)
Christine Fraser (ROLFE 1960)
Suzanne Richardson (QUIDDINGTON 1958)

DEATH OF MOTHER

Christine Fraser (ROLFE 1960)
Imogen Harper (2007)
Rosemary SHIMMIN (1965)
Meredith Armstrong (SHIMMIN 1968)
Jennifer Sheedy (SHIMMIN 1968)

DEATH OF FATHER

Jennifer Strike (CONDOR 1972)
Davina Thomas (FRASER 1997)
Nikki CARTER (1999)

DEATH OF STEP-MOTHER

Jennifer Strike (CONDOR 1972)

DEATH OF BROTHER

Dagmar Sevil (RICHARDSON 1954)

Marriage

Suzanne MOSELEY (1993) and to David Jolly

For further information:
Michelle Kadi
Alumni Relations Co-ordinator
PH: 02 9339 9439
M: 0400 971 322
Email: michellekadi@sceggs.nsw.edu.au

REUNIONS

The Class of 1953 will celebrate their 60 Year Reunion with a luncheon at school on Saturday 2 November.
The Class of 1963 will have another gathering to mark their 50th anniversary on Saturday 12th October with lunch at the Amora Hotel, Jamison St, Sydney.
The Class of 1973 will celebrate their 40 Year Reunion with lunch at school on Saturday 7th September.
The Class of 1982 will celebrate their 30 Year Reunion with lunch at school on Saturday 19th October.
The Class of 1993 will celebrate their 20 Year Reunion on Saturday 14th September with a fun night out that starts with champagne and canapés at school.
The Class of 2003 will kick off their 10 Year Reunion at school on Friday 15th November, with the “real party” following at a nearby venue.

NEWS BRIEFS

• Whilst decade reunions dominate the alumni calendar, there are always a number of unplanned gatherings which are equally fun. Such was certainly the case for old friends Wendy Morrice (1969), Meg Scott (MEYER 1957) and Naomi Hallett (REYNOLDS 1957) when the three boarders caught up on Norfolk Island in March. Although not all at SCEGGS at the same time, their shared boarding experience ensures lots of laughs whenever they are together.

• Congratulations to Old Girl, Janette Osborne (CLARKE 1952) who recently published Helping Babies Help themselves, with fellow pediatric physiotherapist Vickie Meade. The book provides a helpful guide for first-time parents, explaining in straightforward terms how babies express their feelings and demonstrate their needs at different developmental stages.