THE EVENTS DIARY

BACK TO SCEGGS DAY
All Old Girls are invited to celebrate the School’s 120th Anniversary at a special Back to SCEGGS Day evening, held on Friday 17 July - Foundation Day. Afternoon tours, twilight drinks on the terrace and a grand dinner in the Great Hall are set to mark the occasion.
Your invitation to this special event is included with this magazine. Do join us for this Back to SCEGGS Day celebration. It is sure to be a memorable evening and certainly a must for those year groups celebrating their own anniversaries. We look forward to seeing you there!

120TH ANNIVERSARY
Of course, Old Girls and their families are most welcome to attend other occasions held to mark the 120th Anniversary. For instance, the Drama and Music Departments are both commissioning works that reflect our school’s history.
The Drama Department has commissioned former parent and P&F President, Linden Wilkinson, to create an immersion theatre production celebrating the 1970s Save SCEGGS campaign. Old Girls, former parents and teachers have shared their stories with Linden and these stories edited together will make the script. Parts of the school that still echo that time of crisis will provide the set. So step back in time! We would love you to join us for this special production and see this pivotal story in our school’s history brought to life. Tickets will be available through the SCEGGS online payment system. Saving SCEGGS will be performed from Wednesday 18 to Saturday 21 November.
The Music Department is holding the Series 120 Concerts, four concerts each in part celebrating 120 years of music at the School. The two remaining concerts will be held on 24 July and 18 October and are open to all.

SCEGGS FESTIVAL ON FORBES
The fun of a fair will be enjoyed by all on Sunday 23 August as the entire SCEGGS community gathers together for its biennial Festival on Forbes.

MELBOURNE
The Melbourne Branch of the OGU will hold their Annual Foundation Day Luncheon on Saturday 11 July at the RACV City Club, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

BRISBANE
The Queensland Branch of the OGU will hold their Annual Luncheon and AGM on Saturday 25 July at the Queensland Headquarters of the CWA in Brisbane.

CANBERRA
The Southern Districts Group Annual Luncheon will be held again at the Commonwealth Club in Canberra on Friday 25 September.

GOLD COAST
This year’s second Gold Coast Breakfast will be held on Sunday 1 November at the Emerald Lakes Golf Resort.

REUNIONS
The Class of 1965 will gather again to celebrate their 50 Year Reunion with a luncheon at school on Saturday 17 October.
The Class of 1975 will mark their 40 Year Reunion with lunch at Club Rose Bay on Saturday 31 October.
The Class of 1985 will also get together on Saturday 31 October and enjoy lunch at school to celebrate their 30 Year Reunion.
The Class of 1995 are returning to school on Saturday 24 October for twilight drinks on the Terrace and will continue celebrating their 20 Year Reunion at a nearby bar.
The Class of 2005 are celebrating their 10 Year Reunion in a similar fashion with twilight drinks at SCEGGS on Friday 30 October.
The Class of 2010 will do the same to mark their 5 Year Reunion at SCEGGS on Friday 4 September.

For further information regarding alumni events and reunions, please contact Michelle Kadi, Alumni Relations Co-ordinator at SCEGGS on 02 9339 9439 or email: michellekadi@sceggs.nsw.edu.au

The Reunion Calendar can also be found on our website www.sceggs.nsw.edu.au at SCEGGS Community/Alumni or you can follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/SCEGGS-Old-Girls/707819032587001

SCEGGS Darlinghurst Limited Old Girls’ Union
215 Forbes St Darlinghurst NSW 2010
For any enquiries, please contact:Michelle Kadi - Alumni Relations: (02) 9339 9439
michellekadi@sceggs.nsw.edu.au
Most of you would know that it is the school's 120th birthday this year. What a time of celebration! It's also a time of reflection – to look back and be thankful for 120 years of SCEGGs – for the life-long friends made, the knowledge and skills learnt, and the nurturing and inspirational teachers found here.

Whenever there are reunions at SCEGGs, Old Girls talk about their friends – those they see regularly, those they have lost touch with, and those with whom they had special bonds. They also talk about the teachers – the quirky, the funny, the passionate, those who ignited a spark for them in some way. I wanted to share some of those memories, and encourage you to do the same – we love to hear your stories of life at school.

Julie MCCROSSIN (1971) remembers her teachers...

Now, it is an understatement to say that the teachers at SCEGGs in the 1960s operated equally diverse role models for being a woman – as do the women on Good News Week – the 1960s teachers were the strongest, strangest and most varied group of women I've ever met! These amazing women taught me two big things that I've carried with me through life: a genuine love of learning for its own sake – and the strong message that it is OK to be idiosyncratic, quirky, and unusual - in short, it is OK to be yourself. It was an ideal preparation for a job on ABC radio in the 80s and for Good News Week in the 90s – and for a life of independent thinking in general.

Anne Judd (ROBINSON 1972), comments on the teaching staff, particularly people like Mrs Miller, Miss Spencer, Mrs Peterson, Mrs Estlin...

A lot of women who taught there were really dedicated and loved what they were doing. They were characters in their own right and I think what came across was how much they liked what they were doing. They were very good at it.

Gabby Porteous (THOMAS 1984) remembers one particular teacher...

Mrs Mara taught me Biology when I was in Year 10 in 1982. I think this may have been her first year at SCEGGs. Mrs Mara opened my eyes to Science and was probably one of the people who most influenced my choice of a career in Nursing. From the very first class Mrs Mara had worked out what type of learner I was and had me and my very chatty friend Verity sit in the front row right under her nose. Mrs Mara gave me the confidence I needed to be good at Science and helped me believe in myself. I will always be grateful that she was my teacher.

Enid Cambridge was a favourite of many Old Girls, including Camilla Sheridan (HOMER 1964) and Kaye Morrison (MAHLER 1964). Camilla noted that Miss Cambridge was bright and bubbly and allowed her to express herself in whatever field and medium she chose to work in. And Kaye remembers:

Miss Cambridge would occasionally come into the art room, slump against the door, hand to head – look very dejected and say “Girls, paint how I feel!” Also, “Hats and gloves and art boards” and off we would all head down the hill two by two to the Woolloomooloo docks to sketch what we saw.

SCEGGs Old Girls’ Union News

The teachers’ involvement, particularly in the senior years, is outstanding. I recognise and appreciate the extent that teachers will go to help me achieve my best. The staff are always willing to clarify or go over things I do not understand, whether it be through my countless emails, lunchtimes or before/after school. This applies not only for classwork but also to discuss any issues bothering me in general.

Annelies Crane, one of our current Year 12 Prefects, sums it up this way...

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So, who was YOUR favourite teacher? You may know of the Old Girls’ drive to celebrate our birthday and give a substantial gift to the school - the $120 for 120 years initiative. I like to think of this as a tribute to the teachers – the dedicated, the inspiring, the quirky, and the funny – those special teachers who touched our lives and made a difference to us, who made us who we are today. Thank you to the teachers of SCEGGs!

Jenny Allum
HEAD OF SCHOOL
This year we celebrate SCEGGS’ 120th birthday. It is a time for looking forward and looking back. We have come a long way and there is much to celebrate, particularly the relationship between SCEGGS Old Girls, the School and one another.

‘Once a SCEGGS Girl, Always a SCEGGS Girl’, a short film produced by SCEGGS TV students a few years ago, is one of my favourites. The Old Girls featured in this production demonstrate how the present we celebrate is built on the past and though the world is changing in terms of trends, technology and modern discoveries, we are strongly rooted in our traditions.

Every SCEGGS girl is invited and welcomed to share in the story. School publications illustrate the joy of generations of SCEGGS girls as they participate in the story of school events, class reunions (at home and overseas) and work and travel networking.

Networking in the wider SCEGGS community has been greatly facilitated through social media and we are very grateful for the initiative and efforts of our Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Michelle Kadi, and support of Old Girl, Amanda Lintott, in establishing our own SCEGGS Old Girls’ Facebook Page. The School dedicates much time and resources to developing and maintaining links between girls gathered and parted throughout the world, across generations and within year groups, and for this we are indeed thankful. As Jenny Allum so often says ‘people have always been at the heart of a SCEGGS education and the importance of values and relationships are pivotal’.

No matter what the school-leaving year, there is always a sense of belonging and shared experience among Old Girls because of our common traditions. From our youngest Year 13s to our oldest Old Girls, we are bound together by our common heritage. One such group of lively older Old Girls have been regular attendees at SCEGGS events and we shall truly miss the company of Pat Hutcherson (TRINDALL 1939).

The desire to remain involved in the School and participate in the organisation of events is demonstrated by the large number of Old Girls on the OGU Committee. The Committee for 2014/2015 includes: Jenny Allum, Kate Barraclough, Roz Blair, Elizabeth Butcher, Judy Caldwell, Anna Carr, Eva Condonole, Sharon Cook, Joy Crowther, Ruth Evatt, Margaret Herman, Rosemary Humphrey, Vanessa Liel, Amanda Lintott, Beverly Everett-McQueen, Kaye Morrison, Gabby Porteous, Gillian Rozenberg, Camilla Sheridan, Jessica Singer, Denise Sneddon, Sue Steventon, Jo Whiteman and Pam Coull as Member Emeritus.

Jessica Singer has recently completed her term as Treasurer; her efficient and conscientious approach to the task has enabled a smooth transition for Jo Whiteman to take over the role. I am very grateful for the support of Secretary, Roz Blair and welcome the enthusiasm with which Eva Condonole has taken on credited ware. Her plans for new items this year, especially for the Fair, are to be applauded. A tradition at the Fair is the Old Girls’ Devonshire Tea Stall in Barham and no doubt co-ordinator, Anna Carr, will soon be on the lookout for helpers.

Members of the OGU Committee work extremely well together, meeting once a term to review and plan events to support the school and strengthen relations between Old Girls. My sincere thanks to all members of the OGU Committee who give of their time and skills to contribute to a cohesive committee that effectively and joyfully supports the SCEGGS community and the goals of the OGU.

The Trust and P&F do a wonderful job fundraising and it is a privilege to work with them in support of the Shining Light Scholarship Fund and their various events.

The OGU has been very proud of our scholarship, the Old Girls’ Union Scholarship.

Applications for the 2017 Scholarship will be available from the SCEGGS website in October, 2015 and applications will close in early February, 2016.

For further information please contact The Registrar’s Office on 9332 1133.
Instruments of Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

The beautiful prayer of Saint Francis is more commonly recognised by our school community as Hymn number 607, Channel of Peace, and is regularly sung at Assembly and Chapel. It took on a more powerful significance for our Year 10 students last year when they heard Donna Mulhearn every evening. “Where there is darkness, let me bring your light”, until she literally heard the call for human shields around the clock and marked the beginning of her extraordinary journey.

In the same week that Donna Mulhearn addressed Year 10, the girls and many teachers engaged in a number of other social justice activities, the theme of the week being “From little things, big things grow.” They visited the Jewish Museum and were privileged to hear firsthand accounts of Holocaust survivors and the experiences of being a human shield during the war in Iraq and of her return as an aid worker and human rights activist.

Unsettled by media coverage of the Middle East conflict at the time and feeling helpless about the immensity of the problem, Donna would pray the words of Saint Francis “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” This is so fitting of a SCEGGS educated person and of the world’s two primary imperatives. Of an educated person and of the world’s injustices he challenges that “you may choose to look the other way but can never again say you did not know”. This is so fitting of a SCEGGS context: constantly invited to be our best selves, constantly drawn to be people of conviction, constantly called to walk in others’ shoes.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”
Matthew 25:35-36

*Thanks to Sophie Reams, Director of Peace and Rev. Garry Lee-Lindsay, School Chaplain for their assistance with this article.
A HISTORY OF SERVICE

WITH THE CENTENARY OF WORLD WAR I LAST YEAR AND THE CENTENARY OF ANZAC DAY THIS YEAR, THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN REFLECTING ON THE SERVICE OF SOME OF OUR OLD GIRLS DURING THIS PERIOD. OUR RESEARCH REVEALS A STORY OF BRAVERY, COURAGE, SELF-SACRIFICE AND THE GREAT REWARDS THAT COME WITH HELPING OTHERS.

Below is an edited extract originally prepared by our History Department for our ANZAC Services.

With many having family and friends who served in the war, the SCEGGS community certainly felt the loss and pain that came with the Great War. To help, the School and Old Girls raised funds to support war refugees, knitted socks and sewed shirts to send to soldiers at the Front. Copies of Lux from this period contain many references to the war, including the names of servicemen connected to the school community, Miss Badham, who was Head of School at the time, often wrote articles reflecting on the war and its effects on those around her. In July 1915, she wrote “since the landing at Gallipoli, Australia has recognised quite plainly that she is at war.”

During the war a number of SCEGGS Old Girls worked as nurses or volunteers and served overseas. Alice Joan Twynam, who attended SCEGGS from 1897-1898 and Olive Kelso King, at SCEGGS from 1899-1901, were two such examples.

Alice Joan Twynam trained as a nurse from 1906 to 1909 at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Her early years were spent working in rural NSW as a “Bush Nurse”, part of a pioneering nursing association that brought quality nursing to rural communities. When war broke out in 1914, Joan was 31. She quickly enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS), and was one of the first 25 nurses to leave Australia for overseas service, thus becoming one of the original ANZAC Girls.

Joan left Sydney on board the HMAT ‘Euripides’ on October 20, 1914. She arrived in Egypt in December 1914, around the same time the first Australian soldiers arrived. Working in a hospital in Cairo, Joan nursed many soldiers who were wounded at Gallipoli before being posted to a hospital ship stationed off the coast of Gallipoli. Serving on this hospital ship meant that Joan was close to the battlefield, conditions were difficult, and hardships many. Joan’s dedicated service during the Gallipoli Campaign was recognised in 1916, when she received the award of Mention in Despatches.

After the Gallipoli Campaign, Joan, like many ANZAC soldiers, went on to serve on the Western Front in France and Belgium, working in hospitals and casualty clearing stations located close to the battlefields. Some of these hospitals were made up of tents, others were wooden shacks. During her time on the Western Front, Joan faced intense cold, the threat of bombing raids, illness and the difficulties of nursing men with severe battle injuries. Once again, she was recognised for her dedicated service when she was awarded the Royal Red Cross Medal (1st Class) in 1919 for her service in France and Flanders.

Joan arrived home in April 1919, four and a half years after she began her war service. She received her Red Cross Medal at Government House in Sydney in June 1920 from the Prince of Wales. In 1923, Joan’s local community, Taralga in the Southern Tablelands of NSW, erected a War Memorial to commemorate those who served in World War One.

When war broke out, Olive was visiting her sister in England and soon decided to purchase her own ambulance and join the Allied Field Ambulance Corps as a driver. She travelled to Belgium with the ambulance she nicknamed “Ella” where she was temporarily arrested on suspicion of being a spy. After being released, she joined the Scottish Women’s Hospital and worked in France during 1915. Her unit was transferred to the Balkans later that year, and it was here that she served for the remainder of the war. By 1916 she had enlisted in the Serbian Army as a driver, and eventually rose to the rank of Sergeant. During this time, Olive learnt to speak Serbian, evacuated patients from hospital under enemy fire, and regularly drove the 12 miles from her hospital to the front line, transporting men to battle and carrying the wounded back to the hospital. As a result of her war work, Olive was awarded the Serbian Silver Medal for Bravery and the Serbian Gold Medal for Zealous Conduct.

In June 1921 Olive Kelso King, on a visit to SCEGGS, reflected on what the war taught her: “The war brought a terrible amount of suffering and evil, which seems almost interminable, but it did at least bring one blessing. It taught us the value of cheerful, self-sacrificing service. Speaking personally, I was never happier than during those six years of hard work for others, from August, 1914, until August, 1920, and I am sure that there are thousands of other girls who felt the same.”

Before the war, probably most of us had lived perfectly useless, idle, thoughtless lives, keenly interested in the things that amused us best, but scarcely giving a thought to anyone outside our immediate intimate circle that ministered to our pleasure; not necessarily because we were more heartless or selfish than others, but simply because we didn’t think … (service for others) trains us to think, and to realise that it takes all sorts to make a world, and that there are many others in it besides ourselves …”

Olive’s and Joan’s stories are just some of the many stories of women and men who served in World War One, and who we remember in the centenary of ANZAC.

*Thank you to Jo WHITEMAN (1979) whose research and writing on Joan Twynam formed the basis of this material, and to the Mulwaree High Remembrance Museum for supplying photos of Alice Joan Twynam.
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

SCEGGS Old Girls have a long and rich history of philanthropic generosity, providing valuable contributions that have helped enable SCEGGS to provide the best possible education for girls. As we celebrate the School’s 120th birthday this year, it offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the heritage of SCEGGS and the many Old Girls, who in recognition of their affection for the School, have helped SCEGGS develop into the school it is today.

Since its foundation in 1895, SCEGGS has helped shape the lives of so many girls, and to acknowledge this, the Trust, together with the Old Girls’ Union, are asking Old Girls to band together and give SCEGGS a birthday present - donating $120 for its 120th birthday.

Each $120 donation will be directed to the SCEGGS Scholarship Fund. And, if every Old Girl donates $120, it will enable the School to create a new, means-tested scholarship in perpetuity, helping to ensure that the diversity of the student population that makes SCEGGS so special continues.

As a way to thank all those who contribute to this project and to mark the 120th Birthday, all donors will be acknowledged in a very special 120th Birthday artwork to be displayed in the Joan Freeman Centre.

Scholarships have been central to SCEGGS since its foundation and the recent expansion of the Scholarship Fund underlines the strong SCEGGS tradition of including girls and families from all backgrounds.

Scholarships have the ability to change lives and your support of the Scholarship Fund allows SCEGGS to provide more girls with an opportunity to access a SCEGGS education, who would otherwise be unable to attend due to financial circumstance.

Your help really can make a difference.

If you would like more information or would like to donate to this project please do not hesitate to contact Daisy Bahen, Director of Development on (02) 9339 9428 or email DaisyBahen@sceggs.nsw.edu.au

FROM THE ARCHIVES

With the centenary of WWI in 2014 and of ANZAC Day in 2015, we have been reviewing how the SCEGGS community dealt with these difficult years. Lux, which was then published four times a year, seemed to fill a need for Old Girls, students and staff to share their collective emotions, reactions and news in response to the war. The magazines are full of Old Girls’ letters and stories, student efforts, and most poignantly the names of every man and woman who was in some way connected with the school who served in the armed forces.

Using this material, we have been able to share some of these stories with our current students. Our ANZAC Day school services related some of our Old Girls’ contributions during WWI, an edited extract of which featured earlier in this magazine.

Year 9 Drama students used the very candid letters published in Lux during this period to create and a highly moving piece of verbatim theatre.

For Foundation Day Assembly, we celebrated the people behind the names of the School Houses. With the help of the newly digitised Australian newspapers at the National Library of Australia, we were able to find out much more about these founding figures and their involvement in groups as diverse as the 1908 Women’s Commonwealth Conference to the Wharf Labourers’ Union. House Prefects presented short biographies on them and a video reflecting House events over the years was shown.

The Library celebrated the Commonwealth Games with a display that included our SCEGGS competitors: swimmers Samantha Marshall (2010), Jane Cortis (1965) and Margaret Dovey (1937) and track and field athlete Beverley Hill (1952). We all particularly enjoyed seeing Beverley’s beautiful Empire Games blazer which was presented to the School in 2003. Thank you for the many donations that arrived in 2014 from Old Girls, staff and our wider community. Some highlights included:

- 53 photos of Ella Buswell’s (Trindall 1916) school days, showing new and unusual views of school life in this period.
- Dr David Howell donated Ruby and Edith Bulkeley’s [1914 and 1916] photos of their school days. The archives holds an oral history conducted with Ruby in 1985 giving additional colour and depth to this collection.
- Sue Zilpfinger donated some charming SCEGGS crested tea cups found in an op-shop;
- Sue Rae [Wood 1968] donated her school badge collection which will beautifully complement her school uniform, already in the collection;
- And, the Riordan family donated a very special collection of memorabilia belonging to Frances Riordan (1954) and Beatrice Dun (1918), including Miss Dun’s medals awarded for her work as Matron of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Many thanks to all the Old Girls and the wider SCEGGS community who have so generously supported the Archives during the year.

Prudence Heath
ARCHIVIST
Hundreds of Old Girls returned to School last year for our two major alumni events, rekindling old friendships and forging new bonds.

At Ascension Day in May, Old Girls were entertained by the lively tunes of Cole Porter’s musical, Anything Goes as a cast of 40 plus students took to the stage, singing and tapping with great energy and enthusiasm.

At Back to SCEGGS Day in July, it was the swinging sound of the 60s that got everyone’s attention when guest speaker, Sarah LAMBERT, Class of 1987, shared her experiences as creator of the hit television series, Love Child. Sarah’s vivid account of the traumatic story that inspired the show, the enormous effort taken to get the project off the ground and her own joy at finding herself pregnant during production certainly played with the emotions of all.

Both events proved a great success and were much enjoyed as the following photos will attest.
THE LONDON REUNION

On Saturday July 21, 2014, 25 Old SCEGGS girls descended upon The Goring Hotel in London to share memories, compare experiences of their days behind the Green Gate and discuss how the ensuing years lead them to England. Some moved here for love, some for work and some, like me, by accident, vowing only to stay for three months and never actually leaving (sorry, Mum). Despite the vast and varied roads that lead everyone here, we all agreed our time at SCEGGS laid a good foundation for life’s challenges and adventures.

Between us we were at SCEGGS under the leadership of four of the five principals in the school’s history (from Miss Wilkinson to Ms Allum) and all six houses were represented. We ate delicious tiny cakes and cucumber sandwiches, we laughed and as we took a photograph of Joan Peacock (ASSHETON) from the Class of 1944 with my 15-month old daughter, we were so pleased to welcome Michelle Kadi and Daisy Bahen from the School in Sydney. Their updates on what is happening at School and planning for the future are always welcome.

- Rachel Miller (SMITH 1994) gave us the exciting news that her daughter Lauren had been awarded the Old Girls’ Union Scholarship and would be a Boarder at SCEGGS, beginning in 2015. Our good wishes go with her as she enjoys all that SCEGGS has to offer.

- Jan Morgan (STEPHENS 1939) made the comment that while we are often aware of individual successes, there is so much more to learn about the contributions we make in our own communities, be they large or small. We shall focus on this more when we meet so as to get to know each other even better.

- Janet Bell (HEATH 1955), our resident pianist, accompanied us in the singing of our school songs to conclude the day. Again, the RACV did us proud, their catering and service is excellent and as always, a joyous afternoon was had by those in attendance.

In November, a small group of us caught up with Suzanne Shead (HICKEY 1968), who now lives in Timaru, New Zealand. Suzanne had returned to Melbourne to meet her new granddaughter and it was lovely to see her again.

Our Christmas Party held at the home of Roz and Rob Milne on December 6th was again a cosy get-together with friends who know each other well.

- I have been giving some thought to the future of our Branch. Unfortunately, our numbers are declining through natural attrition. Our annual subscription is $20 and this goes to supporting two prizes at School Speech Night; one for Dux of Year 10 (instigated in the 1950s when Beth Taplin was President) and the other a prize for Overall Contribution to School Life for Year 9 (this is often shared amongst three girls). I am constantly amazed when reading the “thank yous” I receive on behalf of the Branch, at the variety and amount of activities the girls are involved in. Their enthusiasm for school life is infectious and it is a delight to read. So, I am rethinking about the Old Girls in Victoria to get in touch with either Wendy or myself to let us know what functions you would like to attend – time, venue, cost – we are open to all suggestions. If our Branch is to continue, it needs younger Old Girls to participate and we wish to share tales of their days at SCEGGS, an activity we hope to continue in coming years. We all enjoyed a delightful lunch with Hunter Valley wines overlooking the Newcastle Harbour, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

If you have recently moved into our area to live, please let Michelle Kadi at SCEGGS know of your new address, so that you will receive an invitation to our next luncheon at Customs House Hotel on Saturday 5th March 2016.

I am looking forward to celebrating the School’s 120th Birthday this year amongst old friends at Ascension Day and Back to SCEGGS Day. I hope to see you there.

Meg Scott (MYERS 1957)

NEWCASTLE, HUNTER, CENTRAL AND NORTH COAST DISTRICTS BRANCH REPORT

On Saturday 7th March 2015, we welcomed 22 guests from the Hunter, Lake Macquarie, Newcastle, and Central and North Coasts at Customs House Hotel in Newcastle, as we met for our 15th Annual Luncheon.

Our special thanks go to Michelle Kadi, Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, and Daisy Bahen, Director of Development, for coming from Sydney to be with us, and for telling us the latest news from SCEGGS.

Past students and some partners travelled from Barrington, Bannells Bay and Fishing Point on Lake Macquarie, Clarence Town, Dungog, Black Hill, Newcastle, Berkeley Vale, Pretty Beach, Salamander Bay, and Sydney to be with us. We were particularly pleased to welcome four past students who had not attended our luncheon before; Betty Rennie (HANCOCK 1944), Shirley Rae (1945), Angie Williams (1976), and Rebecca Healey (DANIEL 1996).

This year we were delighted to have several Old Girls stand and share tales of their days at SCEGGS, an activity we hope to continue in coming years.

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QUEENSLAND BRANCH REPORT

Last year (2014) we again held our annual general meeting and luncheon at the Queensland Headquarters of the CWA. Our husbands/partners were also invited, a bonus for those of us who have to drive the couple of hours from elsewhere to get to Brisbane; also it is always a delight to have Michelle Kadi’s husband George at the luncheon with us.

Among the attractions of this venue is that parking is available, buses run past the door and accommodation is also available for those who live out of town. While the food may not be quite as upmarket as other venues, enquiries at the United Service Club recently, discovered that a booking fee of $2,000 is required. Thanks to Penny Campbell-Wilson for her enquiry at the Club. However, we decided that our finances were better spent on the awards (prizes) which this branch donates towards girls in Years 12 & 7. The letters we receive from these students are a delight to read. The older girls, apart from the thank-you, tell of their hopes and aspirations for after school life, whilst the younger ones write of all the extra-curricular things they are able to do and how much they appreciate the school.

Their use of English in all cases is excellent, unlike an English Garden magazine given to me, which proudly states: FREE ROSE OFFER FOR EVERY READER WORTH OVER £27. No punctuation! How does a reader assess his/her worth?

At the meeting the same executive was elected, and whilst our Treasurer/Secretary, Rhona McKay, was away on business she had said she was happy to continue in that position. In her absence Nadia O’Carroll took the minutes and read the Treasurer’s report. Thanks Nadia. The Committee wishes to thank all Queensland Old Girls who continue to support our annual donation to prize giving for Speech Night and warmly welcomes younger Old Girls to attend our annual luncheon. We are also happy to assist our younger members in reconnecting with fellow SCEGGS girls.

We think of the members who have lived through cyclones (only one so far this year?) or are still in areas without any rain for more years than can be contemplated. Please, if you know any of these Old Girls a prayer for them would not go astray. While some areas have had some rain, we hope that this year will bring rain to those areas which have not had any and which will take years to recover.

This year (2015) our AGM & Luncheon will again be at QCWA on Saturday 25th July. Hope to see you there with your lights shining (Lucrat lux vestra).

Lucy Crowley (Annabelle WOOD 1952)

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS BRANCH REPORT

Two delightful Old Girls were guest speakers at our annual luncheon on Friday 10th October 2014, Roberta Allen (BELL 1942) and Helen Kelleher (FISHER 1961).

These two wonderful Old Girls mesmerised us with their stories of life inside and outside of SCEGGS. Sounds of laughter and astonishment could be heard from all as they recalled stories of years gone by through the eyes of young students.

Helen told of her boarding days at Moss Vale, of the horrific shooting in their school chapel, and of a romance observed by innocent boarders.

Roberta shared memories of her love of art and expressive dance classes after school at Taylor Square. One afternoon, dressed in school uniform, she talked her way into a public art exhibition yet to officially open. Later cancelled due to concerns it was unsuitable for public viewing, Roberta was the only person to see it.

Gathered together at this luncheon, Old Girls were united in the thought of how each and everyone’s life experience ‘beyond the Green Gate’ has become an invaluable thread in a SCEGGS tapestry, rich in memories and experiences.

For the first time a group of us gathered for lunch at the Royal Canberra Golf Club to commemorate Ascension Day on 29th May. It was poignant to be gathered together as other Old Girls did the same at SCEGGS. Everyone enjoyed the occasion so much that we plan to do it again in 2015.

A group of us travelled to Sydney for ‘Back to SCEGGS Day’ in July and although it was a cold day, we had a happy gathering of Old Girls renewing old friendships and seeing faces not seen for many years. We concluded the year in December with another gathering of Old Girls at an afternoon tea, again, at the Royal Canberra Golf Club.

We welcome all Old Girls who can come to Canberra to enjoy our city and be part of our luncheon or other functions. I am sure you will not be disappointed. Canberra is a ‘Hidden Treasure’. Well, we who live here think so! Michelle Kadi at SCEGGS will be happy to inform you of our forthcoming events.

As the school celebrates 120 years, as Old Girls we are all part of the history of SCEGGS. The threads of our school life there will forever remain entwined together.

“Long shall the memory linger, thoughts of our school days there”.

Lucrat lux vestra

Donna Driver (JACKSON 1968)

Old friends Merrilyn SERNACK (1963), Denise GOBES (1964) and Alison Brinkley (HALL 1964) and Lyn Butz (Redlands OG)

Donna Driver, Michelle Kadi, Carolyn Morrison (WEBB 1953)
On Saturday 3rd May 2014, Old Girls of the Southern Highlands hosted a luncheon at Annesley in Bowral.

We were delighted to have Jenny Allum and her husband Terry join us for the day. Jenny always gives an interesting talk about the school and its progress, the subjects that are available and all the sporting activities - so many more options than when we were at school. Our luncheon was held in the Garden Room at Annesley Retirement village where three of our Old Girls live. This private entertaining area provided an ideal place for plenty of chatter. We had four tables, interchanging between courses so we all had a chance to talk to each other and we did until quite late that afternoon. Unfortunately the weather was a little inclement but it did not spoil the day by any means.

Our thanks to Michelle Kadi, Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, for all her help with the organisation and to Daisy Bahan, Director of Development, who was a delight to meet.

We look forward to next year’s gathering.

Shirley Marshall (LIPMAN 1944) Bowral

THE GOLD COAST BREAKFASTS

The first of our Gold Coast Breakfasts for 2014 took place on Sunday 4th May at the Emerald Lakes Golf Club in Carrara and was another huge success.

All the girls just love getting together. The venue is so pleasant and relaxed and the food, excellent. It was then followed by a second get together on a beautiful Gold Coast morning on Sunday 2nd November. Both occasions were marked by the usual “chatter” and enjoyment we share when you get lots of “Old Girls” together.

Lynne SHAW (1977)
CLASS OF 1974

In November last year we reunited for a wonderful lunch back at school. Forty years on and it was like no one had missed a beat. It was fabulous to be reminded of our school days, old friendships and the wonderful time we had at SCEGGS. It was great to see our favourite parts of the school (some went up to look at the Chapel again after so long), while others admired the many amazing changes made to the school over the years. We all enjoyed a wonderful lunch in the old boarder’s dining room (now the teacher’s dining room) and the conversation flowed!

Anna Carr (DEMOS)

CLASS OF 1984

On a beautiful sunny day in August 2014, the Class of 1984 joined together for their 30 Year Reunion.

The lead up to the day was punctuated by emails and calls from old friends. A number advised they were overseas, outside Sydney or otherwise unavailable on the day, and were regretful that they would miss out on all the fun. Others had now returned from overseas and used the occasion to make contact with old friends. Some of us hadn’t met everyone there, as we had not overlapped at school, starting and leaving in different years. But whatever the circumstances, it was fabulous to be reminded of our school days, old friendships and the wonderful time we had at SCEGGS.

It was great to see our favourite parts of the school (some went up to look at the Chapel again after so long), while others admired the many amazing changes made to the school over the years. We all enjoyed a wonderful lunch in the old boarder’s dining room (now the teacher’s dining room) and the conversation flowed!

So much fun was had by all that many later wandered down to a local hotel to continue the celebrations.

We are all grateful to SCEGGS for helping us to renew old friendships and look forward to the next occasion!

Kate Dixon (IRELAND)

CLASS OF 1989

Around 25 Old Girls from the Class of ‘89, excitedly gathered in East Sydney’s trendy Pocket Bar last September to celebrate our 25 Year Reunion.

Our fantastic organiser Bronwyn Jones, had set up a Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCEGGSClassof1989 in the lead up to the reunion which provided us with a fantastic opportunity to swap photos (old and new) and share stories with our classmates. Those who live in the UK, Israel and Hong Kong and other exotic destinations were able to join in the pre-event conversation, allowing many of us to reconnect.

The reunion itself was wonderful. As only 5 years had passed since the last gathering, we were pleased that we didn’t seem a day older! We still look like we are 20, right? Smartphones made for easy sharing of photos of children, pets and special moments! By the end of the night, we were all keen to make this an annual gathering.

We are all grateful to SCEGGS for helping us to renew old friendships and look forward to the next occasion!

Roll on the 30 year reunion!

Trina Bawden-Smith (MARKANDU)

CLASS OF 1994

It was a night of much laughter for the Class of 1994, as they celebrated their 20 Year Reunion in November last year with twilight drinks on the Joan Freeman Terrace followed by further fun at The Passage in Darlinghurst.

CLASS OF 2004

In October last year the Class of 2004 kicked off their 10 Year Reunion with champagne and canapés at SCEGGS and partied on at The Darlo Bar.

CLASS OF 2009

The Class of 2009 leapt at the chance for a catch up at our first proper SCEGGS reunion in October last year, with a great turn out at the school’s stylish new terrace area. None of that ever-feared competitive story-topping school reunion nonsense, our night was for learning about and celebrating the vast collection of successes a cohort of SCEGGS Old Girls can put together in five years.

While a few did confess to some nerves in the lead up to the event, they were soon reassured in the friendly familiarity of being back in our old school, surrounded by people with whom we’ve passed such formative years of our educational lives. It’s interesting but comforting how quickly we can feel at home back in an environment we knew so well for so long, despite the time away.

A wonderful chance to touch base with our old school community, we thoroughly enjoyed the night and look forward to sharing more exciting stories after another five years of collecting them.

Olivia Watson

Class of 1974

Helen Harrowell (TAYLOR 1974) receives a warm welcome

Class of 1984

Class of 1984’s Keena Hudson (SHANNON), Tanya Costello (COLEMAN) and Jan Heap (GILBERT)

CLASS OF 1989

not all from Canada. A brilliant day was had catching up on many years but I must say, it was a very comfortable feeling for all, just another at school!

Anna Carr (DEMOS)
In February this year, the Class of 2014 were reunited behind the Green Gate at the Year 13 Cocktail Party. It was our first function as SCEGGS Old Girls and after three months spent recuperating from the stresses of the HSC, everyone was excited to catch up with teachers and friends and to hear each other's plans for the years ahead. Whether we were going to uni, taking a gap year, or starting work, the wide range of plans reminded us of how diverse our year group is, having a huge assortment of skills, talents and aspirations.

With champagne in hand, watching the sun set over the Joan Freeman courtyard, we now felt like Old Girls and seeing the whole year group together again reminded me of how special it was to share my SCEGGS experience with such a great group. I hope we will maintain this bond well beyond our days at school. Despite following different, individual paths beyond the Green Gate, we will always be SCEGGS girls at heart and I look forward to seeing the Class of 2014 again at our five year reunion, and, although it is barely imaginable now, at Ascension Day in 50 years!

Emma Yates (2014)
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|フランスのText: トレーニングクラスについて、以下は一部を示します。お問い合わせは、以下のWebサイトをご確認ください。www.sceggs.nsw.edu.au

No further information is available on the Registrar’s Office on 9332 1133.
We wish to thank Old Girls for supporting the SCEGGS Old Girls’ Facebook Page. Whilst we were a little late to this party, your warm response to our efforts has been most encouraging.

Being able to share some of the wonderful photos we have in Archives and witnessing the joy that these images evoke is one of the many advantages Facebook provides. Old Girls are able to relive some of their funniest school day antics and gain an insight into the activities of current students, providing a connection between past and present SCEGGS girls.

Another benefit we trust more Old Girls will embrace is the Page’s events section. Here Old Girls with a class reunion approaching can chat with classmates before the event and follow who’s attending, a great advantage for settling those pre-reunion nerves.

Whilst new to the world of social media and not quite ready to give up our “L-Plates”, we hope the SCEGGS Old Girls’ Facebook Page provides another way you can remain an active member of our school community. And we trust that with your contributions to the Page, we can continue to share exciting news, great photos and items of interest to all Old Girls.

Thank you again for your many wonderful reviews and lovely comments. We love hearing your stories so please, keep them coming.

If you haven’t checked it out yet, like us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/pages/SCEGGS-Old-Girls/707819032587001

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

BIRTHS

Luisa Gurr (FORD 1992) and her husband John welcomed the birth of a third son Fletcher Thomas, brother to Felix & Sebastian.

Casey Hawthorn (MAYO 1999) and partner Rohan had a baby girl, Tilly.

Hannah Madill (BLUE 1995) and her partner John welcomed a baby girl, Adelaide Leda in September 2013 and earlier this year, another girl, Phoebe Isobel Florence.

Fiona Esplin (DOBBRICK 1995) also has two baby girls, Charlotte in 2013 and Saskia in 2014.

DEATHS

Beatrice Bardsley (CHESNUT 1955), grandmother of Anna (2013) and Talitha SALIER (2012)

Judith Christie (CHAMPION 1941)

Joyce Crane (OLSEN 1936)

Angela McGregor (MUMFORD 1959)

Merle Mitcham (BROMBERGER 1946)

Robyn Hansman (BRACKELL 1958)

Pat Hutcherson (TRINDALL 1939), sister of Alie Horne (TRINDALL 1944)

Joan Jones (BAYNES 1938)

Thelma Karet (BEAR 1950)

Helen Kemnis (ST VINCENT-WELCH 1961), sister of Gillian Fraser (ST VINCENT-WELCH 1958)

Helen Lee (WONG 1951)

DEATH OF MOTHER

Sisters, Patsy COOPER (1958) and Annette Harrison (COOPER 1962)

Colleen Keys (ORR 1963)

Katya Quinn (POPOV 1963) - Mrs Zina Popov was a much loved Ancient History teacher at SCEGGS (1955-1967)

Sisters, Ann Storm (MILLAR 1957), Elizabeth Millen (CORT 1972) and Julie CORT (1977)

DEATH OF DAUGHTER

Helen Campbell (MAY 1949) lost her daughter-in-law Anne Campbell, mother of Lucinda Campbell (2010)

DEATH OF BROTHER

Emily Craig (BUSBY 1997) lost her brother Andrew Busby (Class of 1995, St Andrew’s Cathedral School)

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Gabriella SAID (1986) on her marriage to Cynthia Dixon on October 2, 2014 in Missouri, USA.