



SCEGGS Moss Vale Old Girls' Union - April 2012

Newsletter

Greetings,

Welcome to the April newsletter. We have the usual reunions planned for the next twelve months:

- Old Girls' Weekend** – July, falls on the weekend of the 4th Sunday - Dormie House, Moss Vale
- Old Girls' Dinner** – November, 2nd Monday - Twin Towers Motor Inn, Pacific Highway, Artarmon
- Queensland Combined OGU** – Gold Coast Breakfast; Brisbane AGM – 28 July – details on (www.sceggs.nsw.edu.au)
- Lunch in the City** – March, first Saturday - Restaurant Mosaic, Westin Hotel, Martin Place, Sydney.

I am constantly amazed, when we get together or we correspond, at your achievements and strength of purpose, was this engendered by the positive attitude to life and the caring spirit of our school? Maybe we didn't all 'get along' at school but we certainly have many shared experiences and common ground when we meet. Keep up the school spirit!

Reports of the various reunions held and are planned below, we will be happy to welcome you.

Luceat Lux Vestra, Anne Worboys, Hon President

Treasurer's Report 2011-2012

8.4.2011	Balance	Debit	Credit	\$8,876.46
31.5.11	Bank interest	\$0.00	\$2.79	
17.6.11	Deposit	\$0.00	\$50.00	
14.9.11	Website fees	\$175.00	\$0.00	
23.9.11	Newsletter postage	\$115.00	\$0.00	
20.9.11	Curtain payments	\$0.00	\$150.50	
20.9.11	DL envelopes	\$8.00	\$0.00	
20.9.11	Curtain postage	\$16.70	\$0.00	
30.9.11	Curtain postage	\$9.05	\$0.00	
30.9.11	Curtain payments	\$0.00	\$89.50	
30.9.11	Bank Fees	\$0.45	\$0.00	
2.8.11	Curtain postage	\$62.65	\$0.00	
25.10.11	Cake for dinner	\$40.00	\$0.00	
7.11.11	website fees	\$110.00	\$0.00	
8.11.11	Dinner payments	\$0.00	\$360.50	
8.11.11	Curtain payment	\$0.00	\$31.00	
14.11.11	Dinner Payments & donation	\$0.00	\$235.00	
14.11.11	Twin Towers dinner	\$630.00	\$0.00	
18.2.12	Curtain postage	\$9.05	\$0.00	
21.2.12	Curtain postage	\$9.05	\$0.00	
24.2.12	Curtain payment	\$0.00	\$21.50	
24.3.12	Term Deposit interest	\$0.00	\$485.33	
	Totals		\$1,426.12	\$10,302.58
	Totals	\$1,184.95		\$9,117.63
25.4.12	Term Deposit	\$8,000.00		
	Cheque Acc	\$961.08		
	Petty Cash	\$156.55		\$9,117.63

After a thorough auditing of the accounts from the past few years, a mathematical error was found that adjusted the final balance to the one shown at the start of this financial statement. Our funds are securely invested in a Term Deposit giving a good return and covering the ongoing costs of website and postage. We made a modest profit on the sale of the curtain lengths and look forward to seeing photos of the craft items that will have resulted from their recycling. Please send your photos to Martha.

Martha Birch - Hon. Treasurer

Old Girls' Weekend at Moss Vale – 20-22 July

We will be welcoming the Class of '62, who will be joining us this year at Moss Vale. Eight 'girls' have already booked– so book early to avoid disappointment! To make your bookings for accommodation or Saturday dinner contact Dormie House: phone: 4868-1800 dormie@mossvalegolfclub.com.au. Contact Anne to book for Saturday lunch at Exeter Store and Sunday Lunch at The Briars.

Room Rates

Bed and breakfast rates for the Friday: Standard room: \$155 single share; Deluxe room: \$165 single share or \$229 twin share; View room: \$175 single share or \$239 twin share.

Dinner bed and breakfast rates for Saturday: Standard room: \$199 single share; Deluxe room \$209 single share or \$315 twin share; View room: \$219 single share or \$325 twin share.

Dinner for outside guests: \$22.50 one course meal; \$33.00 two course meal; \$44.00 3 or 4 course meal.

Program

Friday Dinner Moss Vale, TBA
Saturday Lunch Exeter General Store, Cnr Exeter & Middle Roads, Exeter 12.30 pm
Dinner Dormie House Drinks 6.30 pm
Dinner 7.30 pm
Sunday 9.30 Service and morning tea at Christ Church Bong Bong
Lunch The Briars 11.30am

Alumni Year 1962 Reunion at Moss Vale

Please contact Shane Leddin if you are going to join us at Moss Vale, or send her an update on your life and a recent photo. Shane will have a list of your peers who will be attending.

November 2011 Dinner



Bronwyn (Young) Wolfson '62 and Geraldine (Morris) Bull '64



Cake cutting by Judith Young '45



Ann (Saunders) Bartlett '49 and Margaret Duckworth '48



Margaret Duckworth '48 and Patricia (Joseph) Stiles '64



Shane (Browne) Leddin '62



Trixie (Hermann) Hawke '60 and Judith Young '45



Speech Judith Young '45



Wendy (Warner-Bubb) Smith '72, Anne (Fieldhouse) Nelson '70, Susan Berry '70, Sarah (Thompson) Bursle '70, Robyn (Warner-Bubb) Geale '70

The November Dinner was great fun. It seems that those who went to SCEGGS Moss Vale in any year, understand each other well and enjoy each other's company. One member said it would be her last visit - since she found difficulty with transportation - hopefully she will take a taxi next year or ask for a lift, since we enjoyed her knowledge, conversation and wit.

Margaret Duckworth's table seemed very happy, with Trixie Hawke, Anne Bartlett and Sue Cooper adding to the frivolity.

At my table, I had fun talking with Pat Stiles - her laugh, antics, voice and wit at school, we all remember well - what fun to meet again. Geraldine Morris I also enjoyed meeting again, hearing her stories of Borneo. As with other students from New Guinea, Nauru and other places, Geraldine could only get home at Christmas - so she talked of many visits to other old girls' homes, who offered hospitality. What fond memories they were of the care SCEGGS Moss Vale families provided.

Judith Young had the honour of cutting the cake, being the most mature Old Girl at the dinner. She treated us to a wonderful, impromptu speech, about her time at Moss Vale and what it had meant to her. We were all moved by it and showed our appreciation. We sang the school song and hymn in very fine style. Martha provided the printed words - interesting how well we always sing. The food and table service were very fine.

Many thanks to Martha for organising the SCEGGS Moss Vale November occasion and socially welcoming to everyone. *Shane Leddin (Browne) year of 1962*

Lunch in the City 2012

Dear Anne, Many thanks for all of your organization and planning for such a great lunch last Saturday. On behalf of Lindé (Macpherson) & Suzie Metz (Farren-Price) may we extend our sincere appreciation. We had a wonderful day, and lots of happy memories. Thank you, *Nellie (Janelle Irvine)*



Nellie Irvine & Suzie Metz



Rhondda McCallum & Ann Hardy



Vicki Malone & Margie Kelly



Jill Fisher, Ann Hardy, Sue Cooper, Shane Leddin, Margaret Saunders, Ann Bartlett, Margie Kelly, Vicki Malone, Nellie Irvine, Suzie Metz, Anne Worboys, Sue Entwistle & Morna Staunton



Shane Leddin, Vicki Malone, Margie Kelly, Suzie Metz, Lindé Macpherson & Nellie Irvine



Margaret Dean, Roslyn Currie, Ann Bartlett & Sue Cooper

Apologies and best wishes were received from: Heather Galvin, Robyn Weller, Anne Tyas, Sue Kasper, Darilyn Finn, Denise French 'Chook', Robyn Brierley, Cheryl Wolf (Fitzgibbons) and Margaret Duckworth.

Correspondence and feedback from the web

Dear Anne, Christmas 2011. Old Girls of Wendy Solling's vintage will be interested in her biography "Sculptor of Spirit. The Story of Angela of Stroud" by Faith Reid (excerpt attached with permission of the author, thanks to Shane Leddin for organising this). With my love a gratitude for keeping me in touch with OGU activities. re my Memoir Sr Angela is in my Memoir too and reference to her statue at SCEGGS. *Val Horniman*

Dear Anne thank you for your invitation for annual lunch unfortunately I will be unable to attend. Please pass on my hello to all. Managed to catch up with Prue Hathaway nee Scrivener when Elizabeth Casimir nee Symons came to Perth on her way to the Kimberly for a wonderful cruise with me. Have a great time at the lunch. *Regards Denise French Chook nee Jones*

Hi Annie, (Annie (Sturgess) Brent (Alumni 1977) @ MV up to 1973). Nice to hear from you. I have put you on the mailing list for the newsletter. It is always good to hear from girls from the later years. I have attached a database form for you to complete. Send it back when you have time. I have also attached the latest newsletter. Tell me what you have been up to and whether you keep in touch with any girls from school. They might like to join too. Best wishes, *Martha*

Anne & Martha, I recall that it was me with help from Margaret Duckworth and a few others who resurrected the OGU from almost ashes about early 1955, Sue and I really loved our couple of years at Moss Vale, so I spent a long time going through records, making contacts and got the show up and running, for several years. I typed an annual OGU magazine, I forget who designed the cover. However in the next few days I'll rat through bookshelves and cartons and let you know what I find. The flagpole next to Wendy Solling's (Sister Angela) sculpture was my idea, I had it made and Margaret Duckworth raised the flag with great ceremony. Loved the newsletter as I always do, you'll hear from me soon. Laughed at Robin Brierley's email address as I remember her pregnancies very well. *Gretel Pickering*

I repeated Intermediate year then got sent to UK so did not finish school in Aust. I now live in England - is there an ogu branch here? Would like to know if Ruth Powell nee Cameron is still in UK. *Penny Plaugmann (Clarke) 1956/57 (If you are interested in contacting Penny please contact me and I will forward your email to Penny, Anne).*

Hi Penny, I remember you from school. We have a very active OGU in Australia, but not UK. I don't have Ruth's email address but will copy this to Judy Cameron, and I am sure she will send it to you. *Anne*
Isn't technology wonderful! Thanks for passing on my message to Judy. Now I wish I had thought to look Sceggs up years ago, as I was in Australia, briefly, in 2010. I have enjoyed reading the newsletters - many half-remembered names. My cousin Alison Clarke (Buchanan) asks to be remembered to you - we are agreed we remember your name, but can't add a face! In fact I spent years trying to forget my school years, unlike many of the old girls, I hated school. Dread to think what you remember about me - my reports were always going on about silent insubordination! Thanks again, *Penny*
Penny's response to my request for permission to include her email in the newsletter "OK, but in the interests of impartiality, I would like to add that I loathed school in England much more even than school in Australia. The same stupid bells and idiotic rules, plus terrible weather!" *Penny*

Please send any and all information, newsletters and OG invites ... I look forward to hearing from the organisation in the near future. Thanks. *Patricia Chenery (Meggitt) 1963*

I attended last year's reunion at Dormie House in July as a '61 leaver, and would like to join the OGU. Would you please send me details re payment etc.? *Carolyn Conlon (Johnson) 1961*

Have often wondered what became of all those I was at Moss Vale with. I finished my education at head school Darlinghurst. Maybe that a few have passed away as I quite an OLD girl. *Regards Robin Brown (Ellis) 1950.*

We continue to receive feedback from our website, which is wonderful. Anne

Vale

JANET BOWEN – OLDFIELD



Holy in tea frock



Holy, Carolyn and Louise



On the 2nd of January we lost our much loved friend, Holy.

Known to the rest of her family, friends and acquaintances as Jan, she was always Holy to her school friends. From her home, Gurrwarra near Bourke, she started at SCEGGS in 1950, doing the Leaving in 1956. At school she was a talented rider, swimmer and runner, competing in the All Schools and riding Del Throsby's ponies at the Moss Vale Show.

She subsequently graduated in nursing from Royal North Shore, and her career at RNS stretched over more than 50 years, possibly a record. Her colleagues and staff held a memorial service for her in the RNS chapel, a rare honour and a mark of the love and esteem in which she was held.

In 1962 she married Michael Bowen and they raised three children, Deanne, Peter and Kate. In 1993 Michael suffered an accident which left him a quadriplegic. Holy nursed Michael for sixteen years, as well as travelling by train from the Central Coast three days a week to work at Royal North Shore. Michael died last year, and she was just beginning to reassess her life when she died suddenly, only a few days after she had hosted her usual elaborate and perfect post Christmas lunch for us.

We loved her for her wicked sense of humour, her stoicism, her courage, her unwavering support for Michael, and for her loyalty and friendship over more than sixty years. She leaves a place in our hearts which will always belong to her.

Carolyn Chown (Cropper) Anna Kersey (McGuire), Sue Milliken, Joan Surgeoner (Sutton), Helen Walne (Adams) Geraldine Wegner (Elliott) Louise Ranson (Brooks), Tina Throsby.

KLINEBERG, ROBIN JILL 04.12.1940 - 12.02.2012



Robin (back left) with her classmates at their '50 year reunion.

Our much loved Robin passed away suddenly in hospital. Devoted mother of Jessica and wife of Michael Roll (deceased), dedicated sister of Lesley (Edwards), Peter and Bruce, sister-in-law of Helen and Judith. Adored aunt of Antony, Abigail, Rachael, David, Emily, Timothy, Jemma and Sophie and great-aunt to Sebastian, Maxwell, Oliver, Felix, Gus and Frank.

A long time resident of Balmain and a lover of music, Robin will be sadly missed by her many, many friends. We have been inspired by her great enthusiasm for life. *From SMH Obituary*

In Loving Memory of Robin Klineberg

Robin was a very soft and gentle person although sometimes a bit of a rebel but a truly dear friend to all who knew her. Her life was centred around her daughter Jess and her music She loved to sing and belonged to a beautiful choir in Leichardt she also played the Alto Recorder. These things were very much part of her everyday life but she always had time for friends and family. She will be truly missed by all who knew her. Rest in Peace, *Jan Kirkwood Gluth*

JENNY CUMMING NEE STIGANT



Dear Anne, Just wanted to let you know that Jenny Cumming nee Stigant, class of 61, died early this morning in Prince of Wales Hospital. She had intended to come to our reunion at Dormie House in July but decided not to as she had just a few weeks before been diagnosed with cancer in the liver. Regards, *Carolyn Conlon (Johnson)*. 10/01/12

Jenny's funeral was held at Christ Church St Laurence and she is interred at Christ Church Bong Bong.

(A very old school photo, Anne)

Don't forget the photos are much clearer on the website or email.

Anne (Bennett) Worboys

Martha(Knox) Birch

MOSS VALE AND MARY POPPINS

It surprises many that P.L. Travers, author of *Mary Poppins*, the novel about a magical and mysterious English nanny, was in fact an Australian. It may surprise people further to learn that she was also, in her formative years, a SCEGGS girl.



Bowral Branch School at Woodbine (1906 -1910)

Born Helen Lyndon Goff, she initially adopted the stage name "Pamala Lyndon Travers" when she toured Australia and New Zealand with a Shakespearean company before leaving for England. There she dedicated herself to writing under the pen name P. L. Travers.

As a child, following the death in 1907 of her father, Travers Robert Goff, Lyndon moved with her mother and two sisters to the Southern Highlands. It is generally accepted that it was in Bowral that the character of *Mary Poppins* emanated. As a response to family

tragedies, Lyndon, the eldest of three girls, would create stories around the fire to delight and distract her sisters. She constructed a narrative about a mystical white horse "to enchant them back to happiness and normality" just as *Mary Poppins* flew into the lives of the Banks' family to do the same.

Lyndon attended SCEGGS' Bowral Branch school with one of her younger sisters, Moya.

Bowral was the first of SCEGGS' Branch schools which was established in 1906 with 15 students



P.L. Travers

and later relocated to Moss Vale in 1930. When she joined the school in 1907 she was one of forty students under the care of the headmistress, Miss Constance Smith. She spent the majority of her time at Woodbine, which was described as "a long low house set in an old-fashioned garden, sheltered by a dense mass of pine trees". Classes were punctuated with excursions to Fitzroy Falls, riding horses to Barrima, gardening in the school grounds and participation in local tennis and golf competitions.

So if you have enjoyed the recent production of *Mary Poppins*, consider the contribution of the idyllic surrounds of SCEGGS Bowral to an author's imagination!



Bowral Branch School at Yarembah (1910 - 1929)