

Under The Peppercorn Tree



OLD GIRTONIANS' ASSOCIATION Annual Newsletter 2013



Girton's New Building Blocks of Learning

The continued growth of Girton since its difficult beginnings when it was re-founded as Girton Grammar School some twenty years ago has seen significant changes to its appearance, coupled with an expansion of its facilities. While still enjoying a strong sense of community, today's Girtonians are fortunate enough to experience state-of-the-art learning spaces. Bursar Neville Faulks, details the ongoing, large scale building project that has revolutionised the face of the Senior School.

With a long and proud history of teaching students to "Strive for Excellence", often the best method to achieve this is to lead by example. When our new building on the corner of Wattle and Creek Street North was opened for the start of Term Three in 2012, we witnessed the benefits of working hard to realise this philosophy.

Two years of planning and one year of construction culminated in the unveiling of a superb new building which boasts a radical improvement in pedagogical design. For the time being referred to as the "N" Building (N for "new!"), the construction incorporates extensive use of natural light, open planning and the latest information and communication technology equipment. **These assets combine to create an engaging learning environment that uses colour to tie into the rich history of the school and also to reflect the camaraderie of the house system.**

The building commenced with a vision from the Girton Grammar School Board. This vision was coupled with vast input from staff and students, providing their ideas on what makes the best teaching and learning spaces.

The vision evolved and was brought to fruition through the tremendous creative and technical skills of Mr. Terry Mitton and Mrs. Johanne O'Callaghan from E+Architecture. Former Girton Grammar School Chairman and former owner of Morey and Hurford Builders, Mr. Christopher Morey, consulted on the project and Fairbrother Pty Ltd was contracted with the task of using their building proficiency to turn the dream into a reality.

The concept of environmental sustainability was integrated in the design; the new building incorporates energy efficiency measures such as LED lighting which reduces the electricity consumption by half, an automated heating and cooling system that purges hot air at night exchanging it with cooler fresh air drawn in from outside, double glazing and environmental film to enhance temperature control, and the carpet is made from 70 per cent recycled materials. To construct such an excellent building on a very small block has been a remarkable achievement which has provided a bright and inviting learning facility with a new direction in building design which will benefit students for years to come.

Construction for stage two of the building commenced in December 2012 and is due to be opened by the beginning of Term One in 2014. This will see the remaining Senior School classes permanently moved across the road from MacKenzie Street and allow the Junior School exclusive use of Girton's original campus. In keeping with the innovative and progressive vision of the project, this second stage will house a lecture theatre, art room, careers guidance centre, eight science laboratories and a library.

NOTICEBOARD

OGA Annual Reunion Dinner

Saturday 25th May
7pm for 7.30pm dinner
Moonee Valley Racecourse
Committee Room
Level Four
Gate 1, McPherson Street,
Moonee Ponds, Melbourne.

Book tickets at:
<http://www.trybooking.com/CQJO>

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 13th June
7pm
Girton Grammar School
(Christopher J. Morey Building)

To confirm your attendance
email oga@girton.vic.edu.au

General Meeting

Thursday 7th November
7pm
Board Room,
Performing Arts Building
Girton Grammar School
(entry via Wattle Street Gate)

Year Twelve 2012 'OneYear Out' Reunion

Thursday 19th December
6pm to 8pm
The Rifle Brigade Hotel
137 View Street, Bendigo

More events will be
announced soon.

Check the OGA Facebook page or
<http://oga.girton.vic.edu.au>
to stay informed.

Girton Grammar School Bendigo

Contact Us

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By post:
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OGA Executive Committee

President
Samantha Cordell

Committee Members
Anita Butters
Helen Buttolph
Wendy Meehan
Anne McIntosh

Interact

www.facebook.com/oga.girton

www.linkedin.com/groups/Old-Girtonians-Alumni-4641786/about

<https://twitter.com/OldGirtonians>

Web
www.girton.vic.edu.au
<http://oga.girton.vic.edu.au>

Headmaster's Report

To all our alumni, it has been a splendid start to the year and as I pen these words I am quite staggered on two fronts. Firstly that this year is my fourth as Headmaster of this fine school and secondly, it is week 7 of 2013! Also, Aherne has recently won the swimming for the fourth consecutive time and Frew, tomorrow, attempts its tenth consecutive athletics' victory!

Our twentieth anniversary as Girton Grammar School was celebrated with due recognition to the founding Board, Headmaster, staff, parents and students. I welcome any past students to visit their school and allow me the opportunity to show the wonderful developments that have occurred of late. The most obvious examples are the new buildings which have sprouted but in fact, there have been many

exciting innovations including an ongoing relationship with Yale University to develop the emotional literacy of our students and a range of innovations in the way our teachers are transferring knowledge and culture to our students. As I am oft heard saying, "we stand on the shoulders of giants." **We must honour the legacy of those who have gone before by improving constantly, the learning experience for our students.** Our Mission and Values document sets out very clearly what it is that we stand for at Girton. We are clear that it all begins with our values. Our values inform our attitude, our behaviour, our character and our collective culture. For our students, it is important that between home and school, there are shared values of decency, honesty and integrity. I witnessed these values

when under Mrs Lacey's leadership we hosted the inaugural Past Captains' dinner. What a delight to see the departed Girtonians as such a balanced, bright and caring group. My agenda with you is clear; I would very much like to engage our past students in increasingly active and creative ways. With this in mind, please "like" the OGA on Facebook, make contact with Mrs Lacey and remember, Girton is your school!



Matthew F. Maruff
Headmaster

OGA President's Report

It is with a sense of pride that I sit down to write my first report as president of the Old Girtonians' Association (OGA). I loved school; but as Old Girtonians, whether we loved the school or didn't is immaterial - it is a part of who we are. I for one am very thankful to have had the opportunity to study within the walls of our fine school, and I invite all past Girtonians to reconnect. You may just surprise yourself!

As I stand in Junior School Assemblies these days singing along to the very familiar tune of the school song, when I arrive at the part where we say "The time will come for paths to sever, Memories fade, though never die," I marvel at how true those words have turned out to be! My memories of school have certainly faded (it has been a while!) but they will never leave me. When I catch up with old friends, even those that I see infrequently or have little in common with these days, it is still terrific because we have a special history - we have Girton.

When I walk my three beautiful children through the MacKenzie Street gates each weekday morning, I am reminded about the friendships I made, the teachers that inspired me, the thrill of the sports carnivals, the fun and mischief of the playground... such great memories.

For those of you that have only recently left the school, I urge you to stay in contact with your friends and the OGA. It allows us to maintain lifelong connections to fellow alumni and to Girton's current staff and students. **Perhaps you have a skill or life experience that could inspire our younger students?**

I have personally been inspired by the amazing students that I have had the pleasure of chatting with since my role as President began in June last year. The Year 12 Careers Luncheon, the interviews for the OGA Departing Girtonian Scholarship, Valedictory Dinner, Speech Night, the One Year Out Reunion, the 20th Anniversary Celebrations - all of these occasions were wonderful opportunities to chat with students and parents, both past and present, and all helped to re-establish my faith in our school.

I recently enjoyed a wonderful evening at the inaugural Past Captains' Dinner, a fantastic initiative of our Alumni Relations Manager, Reagan Lacey. This event, along with others like our Movie Night back in November, is a fine example of what today's OGA is about. It really is an excellent time to become involved with your OGA. It is your Association, just like it is your school. The upcoming Annual Reunion Dinner being held in May this year is undergoing some exciting changes, so stay tuned. It would be wonderful to see many faces, old and new, join us for some fun this year.

None of these functions would be possible without the help and support of the Executive Committee, the volunteers and the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Headmaster, Mr Matthew Maruff, for his unwavering faith in me and the support he has shown both myself and the Association. Mrs Mitch Trevena-Vernon, Community Relations Manager, has kept the enthusiasm for the OGA alive in the absence of a President for the past four years and should be commended for her fine work. Our Alumni Officer, Helen Hughs, in her absence

Helen Wood, our Executive Committee members, 1980 alumnae Mrs Anita Butters (Harvey), Mrs Helen Buttolph (Vanstan), Mrs Wendy Meehan (Pilcher) and 1994 alumna Mrs Anne McIntosh (Johnson) and all who have been involved in a voluntary capacity, play an integral role in the running of the OGA. A heartfelt thanks to all. The well known proverb "Many hands make light work" springs to mind!



The OGA's ongoing support to the school and its students is invaluable. It was a true pleasure to be able to hand Thomas Rochford (Frew, 2012) the \$2000 Departing Girtonian Scholarship at Speech Night last year. Tom has plans to purchase a laptop computer with the funds to aid him with future studies.

I urge you to become involved, you will not regret it! Please keep in touch with us via phone, Facebook or LinkedIn. Alternatively, I am confident Mr Maruff would back me in saying, organise to have a tour of the school. The new campus is literally amazing and is well worth a visit. We will see a time in the not so distant future where the MacKenzie Street campus that we all know and love will be the exclusive home of the Junior School. Wow! Come and see what is happening to your school, you will always be welcome.

Samantha Cordell (née Moon, Riley, 1991)
OGA President

Old Girtonian Profile

Matilda Branson (Frew, 2005 alumna)

Occupation: Gender and Organisational Development Officer, Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AusAid)

Qualifications: BA of Arts (Anthropology), University of Melbourne, Masters, Gender and Development, University of Melbourne.

What was it that appealed to you most about undertaking aid work?

I've always thought it is important to do what you love. This is why I work in women's rights, in the field of international development helping women and men to build their own capacities to help themselves and their communities. I strongly hold to oft-used words of wisdom, "To educate a girl is to educate a whole village," that by creating young women leaders and strong feminist movements driven by their own context, that gender equality is most likely to succeed. A girl or boy, regardless of culture, has the choice and knowledge that they can be anyone and do anything they choose. Aid work for me is a way to work in small ways to help this happen.

How did you progress in your career?

After a GAP year travelling and working, completing a Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology) at the University of Melbourne and volunteering in Australia and overseas, I started to realise aid work might be the field for me. I completed a Masters in Gender and Development at the University of Melbourne, did some internships with Amnesty International and the United Nations and volunteered with women-focused NGOs in Mozambique and Brazil during university. I then began work in Nepal with a minority women's NGO in a gender and organisational development role as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development. At this stage my next stop will be a similar role in Myanmar and continued study in counselling in trauma and gender-based violence to help me in my work.

Best bits of the job

It is crazy, and there is never a dull moment. I am lucky to meet interesting people doing inspiring things every day. One day will be spent swanking around shaking hands with Presidents and Ambassadors discussing how to amend a piece of legislation on domestic violence, the next day I might be unable to get to my office due to a mob of cows (which are sacred in Nepal) impossibly blocking the entrance to work. Field trips can involve a two hour flight, an eight hour jeep ride on a "road" (read, goat track), then five hour hike, to talk to a community women's group, to hear their needs, opinions and to get their feedback on how a project is going. The best thing though, is to see individuals and the organisation I work with, strengthen, grow and reach their full potential.

What do you find most challenging in your role?

The most challenging aspect of my role is seeing poverty first-hand all the time, as well as cross-cultural communication and the million embarrassing cultural faux pas I commit on a daily basis.

What happens on a normal day or week at work for you?

Every week is different. This week I am working on a new strategic plan for my organisation, helping run a workshop on leadership development for community health volunteers in rural Nepal, and with March 8th recently held as International Women's Day, I have been coordinating some great programs. The things that do stay the same include the unsexy day-to-day admin stuff; reports, meetings and the like.

Any advice for others wanting to break into the industry...

Before deciding you want to work in aid work forever, decide exactly what area you would like to work in, do some volunteer work to decide if it really is for you and talk to any one you know about it. Make sure you reflect on how you go being a long way from home, away from family, friends and partners, and what you need day-to-day to cope (my crucial coping mechanism is to always have access to a horse when living overseas).

What life skills did Girton provide you with which you still use today?

Girton definitely taught me to treat others as you would wish to be treated. Always have good table manners (a legacy of Boarding House dinner lessons from Ms Kurrle and Mr Jones). Keep your shoes shined. Don't be the one to let the small tragedies or injustices in life pass you by without saying anything; say something. Be yourself, try your best and always strive.

What are some of your strongest memories of Girton?

The canteen cookies, playing soccer out the back of A block, the Langans, supervised Prep sessions in the old Pub as a Boarder, being a part of Girton Singers singing in full force, falling down Morey building stairs, the lights at assemblies gleaming off Mr Jones' head, despairing at using Trangia stoves on Year 9 camp, Mrs Higgs giving the piano what-for at Religious Assemblies playing Lord of the Dance, and Mrs MacCulloch's history classes...



"A girl or boy, regardless of culture, has the choice and knowledge that they can be anyone and do anything they choose."

OGA Events

Past Captains' Dinner

February 2013

Held at historic Girton House on 22nd February. Hosted by the Headmaster, Mr Matthew Maruff and OGA president, Mrs Samantha Cordell.



20th Anniversary Celebrations of Girton Grammar School

February 2013

Cocktail Reception at Bendigo Town Hall, Saturday 2nd February and Girton Grammar School Community Picnic, Sunday 3rd February.



OGA Movie Night

November 2012

Opening night screening of "To Rome With Love" at Bendigo Cinemas.

Our thanks to The Epicurean, Jools for Jim, Make Your House A Home, Purl, Muskerry Farm and Brewhouse Roasters for supporting this event.



Annual Reunion Dinner

March 2012

The Platinum Room, The Foundry Hotel Complex.



Year Twelve Careers Luncheon

June 2012

Girton Grammar School.



Attention all 1993 Alumni!

This year marks your 20 year reunion and the 20th anniversary of Girton Grammar School.

Please make contact with the Alumni Office to ensure we have your updated details and so you can join your fellow alumni at the 2013 OGA Reunion Dinner.

The event will be held on **Saturday 25th May** at Moonee Valley Racecourse in Melbourne.

Book tickets at:
<http://www.trybooking.com/CQJO>



OGA News



OGA Awards 2012 Departing Girtonian Scholarship

I left Girton Grammar with what I thought to be a clear direction in life, with the self-belief and

confidence to pursue my childhood dream of becoming a vet and applying to courses which involved a rigorous application process and interviews. However it was only after leaving my first interview when it dawned on me that becoming a vet was in fact not the pathway for me. It was then, only after Year 12 had finished, my confidence was broken and for once for the year of 2012 I no longer knew my path in life.

But it was in these teary times where it dawned upon me the essence of what it means to be an Old Girtonian, because Girton as an educational facility teaches its students with great enthusiasm and success; however I feel that it's the person that Girton builds and creates to contribute to society that is actually the greatest success. As I believe when you are able to draw upon the skills and experiences Girton gives and allows you to have, is when you are really an Old Girtonian.

I was eventually among the select handful out of the hundreds who applied to receive an early offer for my "dream" Veterinary Science course. However, using the self-belief Girton instilled within me, I was able to decline the offer, with a shaky hand of course. During the period of the interview, results and offers, the seemingly timeless suspension all Year 12s are put into, I was able to reflect upon what I truly loved about Girton and its experiences. And it was this reflection that left me to consider my work experience at the Melbourne Zoo, a time that I loved, but also when I gained a passion for conservation.

It is now, with a strong sense of confidence and faith in myself I aim to study Science Law at Deakin University in 2014, majoring in Environments, eventually hoping to move into an area of legislative law where I can change and affect the growing critical need for cohesive conservation laws and process within Australia and abroad.

I will use the OGA scholarship to assist in supporting my studies throughout my lengthy course by purchasing textbooks and a computer when the time comes. Currently on a gap year, I have recently decided to give something back to my old school and to the OGA by volunteering for the Association, helping to carry out an inventory of the considerable archives collated over the years.

Thomas Rochford (Frew, 2012)
Recipient, OGA Departing Girtonian Scholarship.

Melbourne OGA Report 2012

The year began with our annual Basket luncheon, held Saturday 12th May, hosted by Janice Maddern (Knight-1956). Old Girtonians gathered to share their news and that of Girton. We are always grateful to Mitch Trevena-Vernon, Community Relations Manager, for her unwavering support of the Melbourne branch and her ability to keep us informed. The news of Girton does inspire reflection by the members of the OGA for our own school days. We thank Mitch for this continued support and her attendance at the Melbourne branch functions. We wish her well in her roles at Girton.

The most enjoyable piece of news was to hear Samantha Cordell (née Moon-1991) has taken-up the position of President of the OGA and is passionate about reconnecting past students with the School. We offer our support to Samantha for the continued development of the OGA.

The Melbourne branch continued to support Girton through donations towards Speech Night Awards; the June Todd Prize for Excellence in English/Literature, and the Award for the Performing Arts, in memory of Margot Nolan.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 13th October hosted by Judy Appleton, daughter of Lady Townsend (Jean Smythe-1932). Glasses were raised in the memory of Jean and her birthday. Reagan Lacey, inaugural Alumni Relations Manager, was warmly welcomed to the Melbourne branch AGM to share her story and meet some Old Girtonians.

At this AGM positions were vacated. There were no nominations for the positions of president and secretary for the attendees had, over the years, held the executive positions. This initiated

robust discussion considering options for the Melbourne branch. It was voted for the Melbourne branch as currently structured will cease but as the attendees enjoy the opportunity to meet without formality, Judy Appleton has offered to host an afternoon tea at the same time in October.

It was agreed for Judy and Hilary to collaborate with Reagan on behalf of the Melbourne OGA throughout this transition to the next stage.

We acknowledge Hilary Salmon's (née Ward - 1969) commitment to the Melbourne branch, in the position of secretary for five and a half years, and several years as assistant secretary. Hilary has been a significant contributor to the Melbourne branch and we thank her for her dedication.

We encourage Old Girtonians to support the events arranged by the OGA, to communicate their news, so we remain connected.

To those who have been presidents, secretaries, treasurers and committee members over the 81 years of the Melbourne branch, we say thank-you for ensuring the life and memories have been shared.

Many past Girtonians do come to Melbourne to live for study and work and it will be a different branch without formality and a committee to connect those in Melbourne from the young to the older past students. This is a door opened for all to support and direct in a way which will ensure our memories live on in all who have passed through the doors of Girton.

There are friendships yet to be made which may come about through the attendance at an OGA event...even in our work place it is surprising how one can discover the person I am talking to is an OGA, different era but still can connect, same school song, buildings, teachers...this is a part of being an OGA.

Joy and friendships here abide, Girton may you stand forever....and too, the OGA.

Thank you Girton and thank you to all OGA Members.

Per Aspera Ad Astra

Judy Robbins
Melbourne OGA President (2007 – 2012)

From the Alumni Office

Over the last year, there have been many exciting changes within the Alumni Office and the Old Girtonians' Association (OGA).

At the Annual General Meeting of the OGA held in June 2012, a President was elected for the first time in more than four years. Mrs Samantha Cordell, 1991 alumna and parent to three young Girtonians, is a welcome addition to the Executive and I thank her for the many contributions she has already made and level of enthusiasm for helping grow the OGA.

I commenced the inaugural position of Alumni Relations Manager in late July 2012. It was immediately apparent that the School and in particular, the Headmaster and members of the Board, are passionate about fostering the alumni spirit and strengthening ties with Old Girtonians.

As an Old Girtonian, you belong to a large global network that provides opportunities for networking, career development and mentoring. Below are some of the plans now underway to help our alumni capitalise on belonging to the OGA:

- **A diverse annual alumni events calendar** including the Past Captains' Dinner, recently held on the historic grounds of Girton House, OGA 'Movie Nights', the annual Reunion Dinner and 'One Year Out' Reunion. There are also plans for an OGA networking event to be held later in 2013 so stay tuned for more!
- **New communication tools** have been developed such as regular email alerts and an electronic newsletter with further expansion of our online presence, such as Twitter, a priority.
- **Mentoring Girtonians** through the annual Year 12 Careers Luncheon. Over the next twelve months, it is hoped we can involve more alumni with mentoring of current Girtonians through additional initiatives.
- **Professional Networking** at events, via Facebook and other social networking platforms such as LinkedIn, allowing past students to reconnect with their former school and fellow alumni, share information and ideas.

I wish to thank the Executive of the OGA Melbourne Branch. Ms Judy Robbins, President (Alumna 1975), supported by Branch Secretary Hilary Salmon (née Ward, 1969) and Vice-President Cheryl Payne (née Hickson, 1973), have coordinated various annual gatherings and supported the current student population by way of contribution to Speech Night

awards. From 2013, the Melbourne OGA will no longer hold positions as office bearers, opting to catch up socially without the formal structure of a committee.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet more of the alumni at the upcoming 2013 OGA Reunion Dinner on Saturday 25th May at Moonee Valley Racecourse. This is the first time the event will be held outside of Bendigo and it is hoped that the alumni based in Melbourne or interstate will take the opportunity to reconnect, in particular those due to celebrate their 20 year reunion!

The Alumni Office is always interested in receiving feedback from past students to ensure we are a resource assisting Old Girtonians who wish to stay in touch with one another and their former School. Please do not hesitate to contact me on oga@girton.vic.edu.au or on 03 5441 3114 with any queries or suggestions you may have.

Finally, to help the Alumni Office maintain our records, please provide us with a current email address, or update your information on the postcard included with this newsletter. Alternatively, you can update your details at any stage via <http://oga.girton.vic.edu.au>

Reagan Lacey
Alumni Relations Manager

OGA Financial Report

Finances in 2012 for the OGA were pleasing. The opening bank balance as at 1st January 2012 was \$16,596.79. Our income was \$16,770 (including Term Deposit income of \$481.45) with a closing bank balance at the end of 2012 of \$17,322.26.

Retaining surplus funds not only ensured the ongoing financial viability of the OGA but also ensured that we continued to support Girton via donations, such as:

- Ongoing sponsorship of Annual Speech Night Dux Prizes of \$1,000.00
- Continuing to provide a gift of a personalised farewell coffee mug to each Departing Year Twelve student
- Donation of a valuable raffle prize (iPad valued at \$500.00) for the School's annual Fair
- Commissioning of a painting by past parent and local artist Terry Jarvis to mark the 20th year of Girton Grammar School

During the year the Association has also:

- Purchased a new OGA banner, A-Board and lectern signs
- Distributed the annual printed newsletter, "Under the Peppercorn Tree" to all Life Members
- Produced a digital newsletter for past students
- Awarded the OGA 'Departing Girtonian' annual scholarship (\$2,000) to Thomas Rochford (Frew)
- Hosted the annual OGA Reunion Dinner
- Supported the Year Twelve Careers Luncheon
- Organised an OGA Movie Night at Bendigo Cinemas
- Held the 'One Year Out' Reunion

108 students or 85.7 per cent of the 2012 Year Twelve cohort took up Life Membership last year- compared to 98 in 2011.

Overall Life Membership currently stands at 1,199 past students, staff and Honorary Members. To break the 1,000 membership mark is a great achievement.

Thank you to the School's Business Office staff who assist us in processing Life Membership payments and by accepting payment for OGA events.

I also thank the Headmaster, the School and the Business Office for their continued support of our financial processes.

Should anyone have any queries regarding the financial position of the Association, please do not hesitate to contact me on 5441 2670 or email abutters@kilter.net.au

Anita Butters (1980 alumna)
OGA Committee Member



As an Old Girtonian, you belong to a large global network that provides opportunities for networking, career development and mentoring.



Speech Night Awardees 2012

Gifts Awarded by the Old Girtonians' Association

- Dux of Year Three **Noah Lawrence** (3 Riley)
- Dux of Year Four **Jordan Barclay** (4 Aherne)
- Dux of Year Five **Abbey Saxon** (5 Frew)
- Dux of the Junior School **Paris Bickley** (6 Aherne)
- Dux of Year Seven **Alexander Nielsen** (7 Millward)

Dux of Year Eight **Alexandra Liacos** (8 Aherne)

Dux of Year Nine **Claudia Crawford** (9 Frew)

Dux of Year Ten **Thomas Duke** (10 Riley)

Dux of Year Eleven **Rebecca Holmes** (11 Riley)

The Old Girtonians' Association Scholarship of \$2,000 to a departing Year Twelve student

Thomas Rochford (12 Frew)

Gifts Awarded by the Melbourne Branch of the Old Girtonians' Association

The Old Girtonians' Association Melbourne Branch Award for the Performing Arts (in memory of Margot Nolan)

Victoria Branson (12 Frew)

The June Todd Prize for Excellence in English/Literature

Annabel Livingstone (12 Frew)

New! OGA Newsletter

In late 2012, the Old Girtonians' Association launched its first digital newsletter, an informative and exciting new resource for our past students.

Each issue will include:

- Past student career profiles
- Latest news from Girton
- School Yearbook
- Alumni Events and Noticeboard

To view the newsletter and subscribe for future issues, go to <http://oga.girton.vic.edu.au>



From the Basketball Court to Cycling!

This June, wheelchair basketball player, alumna Shelley Chaplin (Riley, 2002), fresh from London's 2012 Paralympics, will swap the basketball court for the road in the South Pacific island nation of Fiji where she will take on a new physical challenge.

Shelley will join fellow 'Gliders' teammate Leanne Del Toso for Bike Fiji, a 550km ride around the country in just ten days. While on their journey, Shelley and Leanne will stop at local villages and schools to meet people and mentor those with disabilities. Born an incomplete paraplegic, Shelley will complete the ride on a handcycle. Bike Fiji aims to increase awareness and reduce the stigma for those living with a disability and raise money for disability services in Fiji and Australia.

Shelley first represented Australian wheelchair basketball in 2002, winning a bronze medal in the World Wheelchair Basketball Championships. A key player to the Gliders, Australia's Women Basketball Team, she has three Paralympic medals and was recently awarded the Most Valuable Player of the 2013 Osaka Cup Tournament.

To donate or for more information about Bike Fiji visit www.teamb.us/fiji



In Recognition of Past OGA President Miriam Moyle (Alumna, 1942), RIP

The OGA was saddened by the passing of former President, Miriam Moyle (née Jones, alumna 1942) in 2012.

Miriam led the OGA for twelve years from 1966 to 1978 and was a significant contributor to the school community.

Miriam's daughter Jane is also an Old Girtonian and was Head Prefect at Girton College in the 1970s.

The OGA benefitted greatly from Miriam's dedication and passion for Girton.

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Interact



www.facebook.com/oga.girton



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<https://twitter.com/OldGirtonians>