



UNDER THE Peppercorn Tree

OLD GIRTONIANS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2011

House Origins of Girton

Aherne House: Aherne House is named after one of the Founding Principals of Girton. Mrs Marian Aherne came to Bendigo in 1884 where, together with Miss Alice Hill (later Mrs Millward), she opened a school for young ladies. By naming the School after Girton College Cambridge, she was declaring that this school was to be a school for academic excellence, for personal striving and for producing students who would know that they could and should make a difference. The first House at Girton was named Aherne House.

House Colour: Originally Yellow, now Green

Frew House: Mrs Charlotte Frew was a member of the Lansell family which had acquired great wealth from their extensive interests in the Bendigo mining industry. She and her sister-in-law, Mrs Edith Lansell, were generous benefactors to the School. The building now known as *Girton House* and an adjoining acre of land were purchased by the two ladies in 1926 for the School. In 1930 Mrs Frew handed over the title and deeds to *Girton House* and the land which is now occupied by the *John E. Higgs Hall* and *The Jan Thomas Building*. Originally the second House at Girton was called School House, but in 1940, in recognition of her outstanding support to the School, it was renamed Frew House.

House Colour: Red

Riley House: The name Riley House acknowledges the close association which existed between the Anglican Diocese of Bendigo and Girton. During his eighteen years as Bishop of the Anglican Diocese, Bishop Charles Riley was a constant visitor to Girton, tending gardens and doing many spare jobs around the School. He was Chairman of the Girton Council for nineteen years. When growing numbers at Girton dictated the need for a third House, it was felt that Bishop Riley's outstanding commitment to the School should be recognized through naming the new House after him.

House Colour: Blue

Millward House: Millward, established in 2000, was the fourth House. At the time it was recognised that there was one person from Girton's history who richly deserved the honour of having a House named after her. As Co-founder of the School, Mrs Alice Millward jointly ran the school for fourteen years with the Founding Principal, Mrs Aherne. Upon Mrs Aherne's death she continued to run the School as Principal for a further fourteen years. At the time the longest serving Principal, (later to be surpassed by Mr Jones) and a woman whose vision led her to see the importance of educating young women at a time when few others saw the importance, the Board felt it only fitting to name the fourth House Millward House.

House Colour: Purple

Jenkin House: Jenkin House is named after one of the School's longest standing members of the teaching staff, Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Jenkin. Twenty seven years of her forty year teaching career was spent at Girton College and Girton Grammar School. To honour Mrs Jenkin for her sustained commitment to the mission and values of the School, for her relentless work in promoting the pastoral care and academic aspirations of students and in recognition of the crucial role of the Teacher in the learning process, in 2002 the Board determined that the fifth House would be named Jenkin House.

House Colour: Orange

Jones House: In 2010, to respond to the demand in the growth of the School, the Board determined that the time had come to create a sixth House at Girton. There



was never any debate over what this new House would be called. Jones House is named after Mr Clayton W. Jones, Founding Headmaster of Girton Grammar School Bendigo. Mr Jones held this position for seventeen years from 1992 to January 2010. On February 3rd 1993 Mr Jones stood on a flat-bed truck addressing the very first Full School Assembly. On that day he articulated a set of principles which would underpin this new school. He left no one in any doubt that he would be a strong leader and that the School under his guidance would indeed be one which would strive for excellence in all aspects—academic, pastoral and co-curriculum. He led fearlessly in those early days when so much had to be managed and navigated, with few resources and a shattered school community to mend. The trust of students, parents and the wider community of Bendigo and beyond had to be won. The success of Girton is a remarkable testament to Mr Jones's indomitable spirit and to the passion with which he approached his role as an educator and leader of the young.

House Colour: White

Message from one of the Inaugural House Captains – Lucy Parks (11 Jones)

The start of a new House: new traditions; a new era. Welcome to the Jones Era.

Despite the scepticism shown by some of our peers over our decision to make the move to Jones House, being elected as the first ever Jones House Captains, only made us more determined to lead the 'baby' House to success and commence our non-defeated streak. This is a task so far which has proved to be not only fun but a lot easier than all of us expected when we first filled out our applications.

We have the ability to create new traditions, don't have to worry about re-using themes that the House has already conquered, and with a team behind us which has learnt from all the best aspects of the other Houses, we're all so grateful for the opportunity to be a special part in the beginning of Jones House.

Lucy Parks (11 Jones)
House Captain 2011

COMMITTEE CONTACT NUMBERS

Executive Officer

Mitch Trevena-Vernon
Telephone (03) 5441 3114

Treasurer

Rebecca Paton
Telephone 0419 359 695

Committee

Sandra Hamilton
Telephone (03) 5439 6179 (Home)

Wendy Meehan

Telephone (03) 5443 3119 (Home)

Anne McIntosh

Telephone 0439 375 367

Anita Butters

Telephone (03) 5441 2670

Helen Buttolph

Telephone (03) 5443 5209

Postal Address

Helen Hughan
Alumni Officer
Old Girtonians' Association
105 MacKenzie Street
Bendigo Vic 3550

Telephone

(03) 5441 3114

Email

oga@girton.vic.au

Website

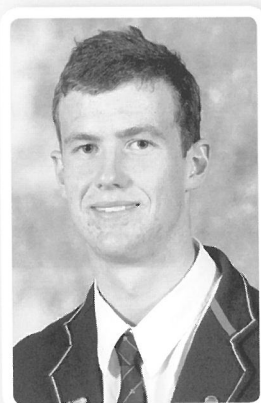
www.girton.vic.edu.au

2011 Winners

Of The Old Girtonians' Association Scholarship

Connor Rochford

A particular phrase that I will always associate strongly with my memory of Girton is "You get what you deserve". I can picture myself now, a dishevelled, naïve, attentive young man, sitting patiently in one of his first school assemblies, looking up at the commanding Mr Jones, who, without battering an eyelid, issued that phrase with such confident authority I immediately took his word as gospel. Since then, I haven't looked back.



With every challenge that I have confronted during my high school years, I firmly believe I have drawn inspiration or found a resolution in the words of Mr Jones. In my earlier years, I took the statement on a more practical level; if I work hard at training, I will be rewarded with a game on the weekend. As I matured, the words began to take on a new meaning – a meaning which is dynamic and complex, subject to constant change depending on the situation and circumstance of events. Throughout Year 12, those words, which I had first heard six years ago, rang loudly in my ears, motivating me to give my final year of schooling the best possible shot in order to fulfill the goals which I had set for myself.

To be a recipient of The Old Girtonians' Association Scholarship is an immense honor, and I can't quite articulate how happy and humbled I was to share this award with Fiona. To have received the Scholarship I feel as if I must embrace fully the ideals on which the Girton community has built itself and I am a very proud Old Girtonian indeed.

As my life moves beyond Year 12, I leave behind the uniform, the buildings and my Year 12 results – but what I will always take with me are the memories and friendships.

2010 Frew House Alumnus

Fiona Heathcote

My schooling days already seem a distant memory, with Year 12 now both endured and enjoyed, and I find myself hurtling towards the next great adventures of my life. I recognise that this means I have inherited a significant new title, that of being an Old Girtonian. Reaching this point has taken seventeen years since I first attended Girton Grammar Junior School assemblies with my older brothers, and joined in on reading time in the Year Four classroom. These fond memories allow me to reflect on the amazing memories of my past at Girton and also inspire me to cherish the opportunity I now have as the joint holder of the Old Girtonians' Association Scholarship.



Girton Grammar has provided me with so much more than just a textbook education to prepare me academically for life. At a rough calculation, I have spent more than ninety percent of my years within its hallowed walls, and the invaluable life lessons unconsciously absorbed during this time are a tangible quality recognisable in all past Girtonians. The emphasis on leadership, community development, extra-curricular activities and academic excellence ensures that those passing through the Girton establishment are ready for a rewarding and fulfilling life.

I am enthused by the energy and passion of the Association, which supports the maintenance of links between school friends and colleagues and contributes so vitally to building a vibrant culture of belonging for old Girtonians. I would like to thank the Old Girtonians' Association for the financial support that this scholarship provides for my University studies in Biomedicine at the University of Melbourne, leading onto post-graduate Doctor of Physiotherapy studies.

2010 Riley House Alumna

Speech Night Awardees for 2010

Gifts awarded by of the Old Girtonians' Association

Dux of Year Three **Abbey Saxon** (3 Frew)
Dux of Year Four **Nikhil Surapaneni** (4 Jenkin)
Dux of Year Five **Alexander Nielson** (5 Millward)
Dux of the Junior School **Hanna Holmes** (6 Riley)

Dux of Year Seven **Claudia Crawford** (7 Frew)
Dux Year Eight **Thomas Duke** (8 Riley)
Dux of Year Nine **Sigrid Petautschnig** (9 Jenkin)
Dux of Year Ten **Anusha Jayasekera** (10 Jenkin)
Dux of Year Eleven **Paige Gordon** (11 Millward)

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

Award for the Performing Arts (in memory of Margot Nolan)
The June Todd Prize for Excellence in English/Literature

Brinley McCredden (11 Frew)
Jack Higgs (12 Millward)



The Old Girtonians' Association Scholarship to the value of \$2,000 to a departing Year 12 Student, awarded in 2010 to two students.

Fiona Heathcote (12 Riley)

Connor Rochford (12 Frew)

Executive Officers' Report 2010



The Old Girtonians' Association has had a strong history with the School since 1914 and now with close to 1000 members worldwide. Our membership has grown significantly this year, 94 of these new memberships are Valedictorians of 2010 and we warmly welcome them all.

The Association provides fellowship and networking opportunities on a global scale. As custodians of the School's history we are committed to supporting the ongoing development of Girton and ensuring that the OGA remains an integral part of the School.

The Headmaster's XI Cricket Match was held in April at Cricket Willow, near Daylesford. It was a wonderful family day with an impressive line up of past students in the Headmaster's team, who competed against the experienced Staff team led by Mr Dean Langley. It must be recorded in the history books that for the second consecutive year the Staff team defeated the Headmaster's XI team. The new Headmaster, Mr Maruff, was left scoreless after being bowled out for two by Mr Mark DiFede, Teacher of Year Two.

The Annual Reunion Dinner, held on the weekend of the School's Foundation Day celebrations in late April was once again well attended. This year we were honoured to present two outstanding recipients with Honorary Life Membership. This very special membership has only been extended to a handful of people in its history. It was our pleasure to present Honorary Life Membership to Mr. Clayton W. Jones (Past Headmaster of Girton Grammar School) and Archdeacon John Geldart (past Religious and Spiritual Guide). We congratulate Mr. Todd Broadbent (12 Aherne, 2009) as the recipient of the Departing Girtonian Scholarship for 2010. This

scholarship supported Todd in his first year attending La Trobe University Bendigo studying Teaching. The popularity of the One Year Reunion has grown significantly with numbers attending averaging nearly 80% of the cohort.

Our use of technology has increased, enabling us to develop our email database and an OGA page on Facebook. Using IT has supported us greatly in reducing our carbon footprint and reaching past students and life members on a much broader scale. Our correspondence to members is predominantly through email and Social Networking sites such as Facebook.

This year the OGA hosted a Year 12 Careers Luncheon where past students, Caitlin Hamond, Sam Hargreaves and Tim Baxter spoke to all of Year 12 about their career pathways.

In addition to these events there have been a number of Archiving Working Bees and an Open Day at the OGA Cottage.

2011 will see the OGA on the move. Although we have become quite at home in our Creek Street Cottage, the School's growth and development means that the site is needed for the construction of new classrooms from around mid-March 2011. For an interim period the Alumni Office and some of the OGA archives and memorabilia will be housed in the Girton Grammar School Bendigo Pub on the corner of High and Vine Streets. The contact number is via the School's switch 03 5441 3114.

It was with much sadness that we said goodbye to our eldest active OGA Life Member. Mrs Jean Watson (nee Cahill) Alumna 1928) passed away in late August 2010. It was lovely that representatives from the School and OGA were in attendance at Jean's Memorial Service held

in Bendigo on the 2nd September.

All of this wonderful work has not been possible without the efforts of many people. I wish to thank Mrs Helen Hughan, our Alumni Officer (maternity leave November 2010 – September 2011), Mrs Helen Wood, our volunteer member of staff and now our maternity leave replacement Alumni Officer, the members of the Executive Committee, Mrs Ann McIntosh (née Johnson - alumna 1994), Mrs Wendy Meehan (née Pilcher - alumna 1980), Ms Rebecca Paton, Treasurer (alumna 1987), Mrs Anita Butters (née Harvey - alumna 1980), Mrs Helen Buttolph (née Vanston - alumna 1980) and Mrs Sandra Hamilton (née Pollard - alumna 1978).

I also wish to thank the Executive of the OGA Melbourne Branch led by Ms Judy Robbins - President (Alumna 1975) for their continued dedication to the development of the Melbourne Branch. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the continued interest and support of the Headmaster and the members of the Board.

2011 promises to be another exciting year. I look forward to welcoming all past Girtonians to join us at the AGM on Thursday 17th March in the Girton Grammar School Pub and at any of the number of General Meetings and events held throughout the year. By coming together we strengthen our networks and enjoy the fellowship which all Girtonians share.

Mitch Trevena-Vernon (Mrs)
Executive Officer

*Invitation to Life Members and Past Girtonians
to attend the*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 17th March 2011 7.00pm

Girton Grammar School Bendigo Pub
Cnr. High Street & Vine Street, Bendigo

Election of OGA Executive Office Bearers and Committee
Treasurer's Audited Report

Treasurer's Report

As I write my fourth Annual Treasurer's Report in the heat of January on Australia Day eve I am grateful that managing the finances of the OGA is a simple matter compared to the matters that have faced many of our loved ones over this past year, culminating in the recent historic and tragic floods across much of the nation. We are indeed a land "Of drought and flooding rains...", like everyone my heart and best wishes go out to all affected by disaster and sadness.

For the OGA, 2010 has again been a strong year in financial terms. Our income was some \$22,000 in 2010 with closing bank balances at the end of 2010 of \$24,996 – our income saw a small decrease of 4% on 2009 but overall balances saw an increase of 19%.

We generate extra income by investing funds that are not required for day to day operational expenses in Term Deposits – in 2010 this alone garnered \$864.72 in interest income.

With the increases in both income and retained account balances in recent years the OGA made a decision to engage a qualified accountant to undertake our annual account audit. For the past two years Geoff Jordan (alumnus 1987) of Keena Jordan & Assoc (a local accounting firm) conducted a full audit of our financial records. These reports are available for any member to peruse at any time and the 2010 Audit Report will be presented to all at the AGM on 17 March.

Retaining surplus funds not only ensures the ongoing financial viability of the OGA but also ensures we can continue to support the Girton community with donations in a myriad of ways.

These have included:

- Increasing the total sponsorship for annual Speech Night Dux Prizes from \$800.00 to \$1,000.00
- For the first time since its introduction in December 2007 the OGA awarded the Year 12 Departing Student Scholarship to two students – each of them will receive \$2,000.00
- Since November 2007 we have provided a gift of a personalised Farewell Coffee Mug to each Departing Year 12 student
- We continue to support the very popular One Year Out Reunion holding the fourth event in 2010
- Headmaster's X1 Cricket Match – was introduced in December 2009 and will be held for the third time on Friday 7 October (for the first time the format will be a twilight match in Bendigo)

Additionally we look forward to funding a special "Project 2011" with a value of \$5-10,000 to support the School in some way. We welcome your ideas and feedback on what form this could take.

Our income is largely dependent on the departing Year 12 Life Memberships which continue to be supported by the School and the Business Office with a more automated process of collecting the Life Membership dues. Additionally their support with accepting payment for events by credit card streamlines

life for those attending our myriad of events (and the fact that it streamlines my life as the treasurer doesn't hurt either!)

94 students or 85.5% of 2010 Year 12s took up Life Membership last year- compared to 92 (80.7%) in 2009.

Additionally there are 6 2010 Year 12 students who have not yet confirmed their desire to become Life Members.

No matter which way you look at it the joining rate has seen fabulous growth – the take up rate from Year 12s in 2006 was less than 60%.

Overall Life Membership now stands at just under 1,000 with 996 members – who knows perhaps by the time you read this we will have passed the 1,000 member mark!

I would once again like to thank the Headmaster, the School and the Business Office for their continued support of our financial processes.

And from me an enormous thank you to our "two Helens" for their diligent attention to our financial records. Their support is invaluable.

Should anyone have any queries at any stage about Treasurer matters please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rebecca Paton (Alumna 1987)
Treasurer



Headmaster's Report To The OGA

Learning is about change, it is about relationships and connections, and it is within this context that my professional and personal motivation is framed. My own belief is that education is a way to liberate and empower, to provide leadership to the broader society and produce wise and prudent adults.

I feel an enormous sense of privilege when reading these words that I penned some time ago. The privilege comes from the fact that I now know personally, such fine, young people at Girton who fit with my beliefs on what matters in schools and education more broadly. "Words sound but example thunders," it is the quality of the staff and the way they provide leadership to our students which also fills me with a sense of privilege and pride. I have every confidence in the staff of Girton Grammar School that, in concert, we can create and sustain a vision of excellence for Girton with an eye to existing traditions and contributions, but cognisant of a future which holds profound challenges, and as many opportunities, for the young people in our care.

2010 was a fine year for Girton Grammar School on so many levels. I commend the Headmaster's report to the community to you all. It can be found on the School's website. The wonderful news to add is that

the graduating class of 2010 had superb VCE results. They achieved a median ATAR of 86.3 which meant that more than 95% got university offers of choice.

I was asked at one of my interviews for the Headship, what I would do first. My answer was then, as it is now; build trust and grow relationships and work very hard for the delivery of the vision. So much of the Head's role is to envision a preferred future and inspire staff and students to move towards it. Or, as I often say, you get to the head through the heart.

My own childhood informs much of my current approach to teaching, learning and pastoral care. Given that so much of what we do, is actually bound up in who we are, it is important to share some of my journey. As the youngest of seven children in a home that had massive upheaval and upset, I saw the power of optimism and joy in the simple pleasures of family life, thanks to my mother who raised us single handedly in very trying emotional and financial circumstances. Values of decency, respect, empathy, compassion and great humour were coupled with an unwavering conviction and clear sense of what was right. Her peaceful strength remains an inspiration

and links directly to my over-arching belief in servant-leadership. It was via the dedication of some caring teachers that saw me enter the University of Melbourne and then to Monash for a teaching qualification; further postgraduate study came after teaching for a number of years. My professional experience includes positions at Geelong Grammar School, Corio and Timbertop, Ivanhoe Grammar School and most recently, St. Kevin's College Toorak.

With the shrinking and to some extent flattening of the world, our students need to be taught to do well everywhere or they will not do well anywhere. It is my role now to honour the great legacy of those who have gone before and to hold the torch higher and brighter as we move into the next chapter of Girton's unfolding narrative.

Matthew F. Maruff
Headmaster



Melbourne OGA Report

This year the Melbourne Branch of the OGA will celebrate 80 years.

On Wednesday 29 July 1931, with twenty-three Old Girtonians present, the Melbourne Branch was formed. One of the purposes for this gathering was to raise funds for the Jubilee in 1934. It was reported in 'The Argus', Thursday 3 September, 1931, the first party of the newly formed Melbourne Branch of the Old Girtonians' Association was held at the Topsy Tearooms, Sugden Place, Melbourne.

The momentum of this group continues today, with annual events for old Girtonians to reminisce, catch up with news of the school and share stories of life since school.

Our annual Basket Luncheon was held Saturday 15 May, at the home of Janice Maddern (Knight - 1956). Twenty eight girls representing many decades gathered to share their news, enjoy the fare and hear of Girton's news. Mitch Trevena-Vernon Community Relations Officer, gave a detailed commentary on the many happenings in Bendigo, including school with the new Headmaster, Matthew Maruff.

Judy Appleton, daughter of Lady Townsend (Jean Smythe - 1932) continues to surprise with memorabilia belonging to her mother from her time at Girton. We thank Judy for her ongoing support of the OGA with hosting the AGM and afternoon tea. Jean is remembered at this time with the raising of our glasses in her memory and her birthday.

At the AGM in October we were pleased to have the opportunity not only to meet Matthew but to hear his story which has brought him to Girton. Matthew graciously responded to our many questions and members were reassured that Girton is in very capable and passionate hands, with Matthew occupying Miss D'Helin's office.

The Melbourne Branch continues to support the academic program with Speech Night Awards. These are the June Todd Prize for Excellence in English/Literature and the Old Girtonians' Association - Melbourne Branch Award for the Performing Arts, in memory of Margot Nolan.

We are grateful for the continued support by the School of the Old Girtonians' Association. We thank Mitch Trevena-Vernon for her continued support of the Melbourne Branch and keeping our members up-to-date with Girton's news and invitations to many functions. We would also like to thank Helen Hughs (current Alumni Officer - Maternity Leave) and Helen Wood, (Acting Alumni Officer) for their assistance.

Sandra Hamilton has now stepped down from the position of OGA President, after several years of energetic and productive leadership. During this time the links between the Melbourne Branch and Bendigo have been strengthened. We look forward to Sandra's ongoing commitment to the OGA as a member of the committee. Thank you Sandra.

The Melbourne Branch of the OGA warmly invite all old Girtonians to attend our events this year as we celebrate our formation, 80 years ago, in 1931.

Dates for 2011 are planned as follows:

Basket Luncheon,
Saturday May 7th, 12:00 pm, at the home of Janice Maddern, 91 Rose Street, Armadale

The AGM and Afternoon Tea
Saturday October 15th, 1.30 pm at the home of Judy Appleton, 13 Burgess Street, Hawthorn

If further information is required contact Judy Robbins 03 98131383 or robbinsj@bigpond.net.au

The Melbourne OGA Committee -2011

President: Judy Robbins (1975)

Vice-President: Elaine Harty (Speirs - 1951)

Secretary: Hilary Salmon (Ward - 1969)

Vice-Secretary: Jo White (Nunn)

Treasurer: Yvonne Osborn (Hickson - 1970)

Committee

Helen Alexander (McKelvie)

Kath Bentley (Lipsett)

Sue Fairbairn (Gillin - 1958)

Ekko Mitchell (Gadong - 1966)

Jenni Rutherford (Grady)

Lorraine Webster (McLean)



Chairman's Report

At the start of 2010 we welcomed our new Headmaster, Mr. Matthew Maruff, his wife Kirsten and their three children. They have settled well into Bendigo and the Girton community. Mr. Maruff has continued to build on the foundations of excellence in teaching and relationship based learning laid down by his predecessor, Mr. Clayton Jones.

Student achievements in 2010 were again excellent across all Year levels and in both curricular and co-curricular activities.

In recent years, we have been deliberate about broadening the demographic base at Girton, beyond those families who are willing and able to pay the fees

In 2006, we introduced means tested scholarships. This has seen some outstanding students come into the school. The scholarships are administered to strict and transparent guidelines.

At the 2010 Valedictory Dinner, a number of parents approached me and expressed their appreciation to the School for offering means

tested scholarships. Without the scholarships, their children would not have attended Girton.

For a number of years we have partnered with the Rotary Rose program to provide students from Thailand with a Girton education.

A number of Karen refugees have settled in Bendigo. In 2011, a student from the Karen community has entered Girton.

Recently, we have established the Girton Grammar School Scholarship Fund. This is a tax deductible fund which has been seeded with a generous donation of \$23,000.

Through the scholarship fund, we intend to provide the Girton opportunity to the disadvantaged, the orphaned and the abandoned across a range of cultures.

Why are we doing this?

1. Because to do so is totally consistent with our Mission and Values.

1. Because there are some outstanding young people in the community, and all they need

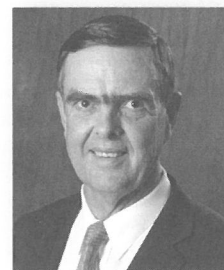
is for someone to give them an opportunity.

I invite you to consider making a donation to the Girton Grammar School Scholarship Fund.

In 2011 we are commencing the year with 1141 students. Shortly, we will commence the construction of a multi-story building to be located on Creek Street.

We thank you for your continuing interest in Girton. You are invited to visit the School at any time, meet the staff and students and inspect the campus. Please phone Mrs. Mitch Trevena-Vernon, Community Relations Manager on (03) 5441 3114 or 0407 846 667 to make arrangements for your visit.

Don Naunton
Chair



Girton over the years

On St Patrick's Day in 1968 I was ordained as a Deacon in the Anglican Church. The very next day at All Saint's Cathedral (now View Hill) I was introduced to the Girton College community, where in those days the boarders worshipped at All Saints every Sunday. It was a sight to see, all these girls clad in brown uniforms. It was my task to pick up all the paper planes that littered the church floor that had been made from the pew sheet. It was not until the Wednesday that I had my opportunity to speak to them when once again they marched up the hill to worship. This was always a joy over the next two years.

I returned to Bendigo in 1986 and occasionally shared with some individual classes, as invited to do by their teachers, but not on a permanent basis.

It was not until Girton Grammar School was about to commence and I was invited to be involved with the school to provide a Christian input that new opportunities came along. This was an exciting time as the school was new and I had not had a ministry like this before. Speaking at assemblies each week created new challenges but students and teachers made me feel welcomed.

With everything new it meant that it was necessary to design a service of worship for the first Foundation Day service to be held at St Paul's Cathedral, as well as prepare a sermon for the occasion. I was aware of the tension between the school and the church and this was understandable. The service was a wonderful occasion as have been all those that have followed. None of the three venues have detracted from the occasion; however, the size of the congregation has continued to grow.

The same procedure followed for the Carol Service, beginning at St Paul's until it was necessary to have each school House attend one of the churches in the city. Although it would have been good to keep the school together here was an opportunity for the school community to impact on the wider church community.

The development of the Valedictory service for Year Twelve provided me with the privilege of leading students in a time of thankfulness to God for the school and all who had supported them, teachers and parents, during that time.

As the school grew and new buildings were opened there was a time in proceedings



when it was possible to ask for God's blessing upon all who would use the new facilities.

Upon retirement it seemed that it was time to make way for a younger person and I thought that that would be the end of my association with the school. However the Old Girtonians' Association put an end to that and I am grateful for the honor they bestowed on me.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the School and my God.

Girton may you stand forever!

John W Geldart
Archdeacon Emeritus

Where Are They Now?

Erinn Arnel

(Alumna 2009)

Erinn toured with the Australian Ballet's Dancers' Company in *Don Quixote* in 2010

Matthew Beavis

(Alumnus 2002)

Matthew was recently named Box Hill Institute's Apprentice of the Year. He was also a Finalist in the Victorian Apprentice of the Year. In April 2011 he will be a fully qualified Light-vehicle mechanic, after completing an apprenticeship with BMW Technical Support.

Isabelle Hourigan

(Alumna 2008)

Isabelle featured in an article in the Bendigo Weekly, "Off to the War". Isabelle is an Able Seaman and will be manning machine guns aboard HMAS Stuart in the Gulf of Aden for a period of six months. Isabelle will be the second youngest, at nineteen years, in the 180 strong team.

Pablo Newton-Farley

(Alumnus 2002)

Pablo has been working in the south of France in a vineyard, learning the French Language and culture. He has a twelve month's working visa and before he left he completed a TESOL course so is hoping to do some teaching of English as a second language. Pablo completed his Arts degree at La Trobe University, Bundoora and then did a Tafe Diploma in Media Studies, majoring in Radio. He has been producing community radio programs in Melbourne for the past twelve months.

Jack Pang

(Alumnus 2002)

Jack completed his degree at Melbourne University in 2008 and is currently working in the Department of Surgery at the Royal Melbourne Hospital as a Resident Medical Officer.

David Reaburn

(Alumnus 2004)

David (son of Jane Reaburn, teacher on Staff) is working for Microsoft in Silicon Valley (Seattle USA).

Edward Smelt

(Alumnus 2003)

Edward was presented with his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award at Government House in 2010. He is currently working as an Engineer in Taralgon, but is based in Melbourne.

Patrick Tucker

(Alumnus 2006)

Patrick is working for the Eagles Nest Theatre Company. Currently he is appearing in the TAC Drink Driving advertisement on Television

Drew Stanmore & Phoebe Taylor

(Alumni 2002)

On Christmas Eve 2010 Drew got down on one knee in New York (Strawberry Fields) and proposed to Phoebe. Congratulations to them both.

Cheryl Payne (nee Hickson)

(Alumna 1972)

Cheryl has been working on an Aus Aid project in Fiji called The Australia Pacific Technical College was created to deliver courses for people who have been working for a number of years who have never had the opportunity to gain very much trading. Her youngest student is 22 and her eldest is 76. (Should you wish to read Cheryl's very newsworthy and informative letter please go to www.girton.vic.edu.au)

Adrian Currie & Amber Canfield

(Alumni 1995)

Adrian and Amber have placed their new daughter's name on the waiting list for Senior School in 2023. Emily was born mid January 2011 and has a big brother Dylan who is already 2.

Inaugural Headmaster's XI Cricket Match 2010



After the much embarrassing defeat of 2009, the time had come for the Headmaster's XI to take their revenge. Months of training, team meetings and heavy recruiting had passed, including a new Headmaster and Captain Mr. Matthew Maruff. What he lacked in age-old cricketing wise, he made up for with youthful enthusiasm and more hair than the previous Headmaster had ever had.

The sun was shining over the Cricket Willow ground, a somewhat rare occurrence in the Daylesford region, and the Headmaster's XI finalised their team list with the hidden talents of Mr. Stuart Manderson and Mr. Shaun McCarthy (overlooked by the Staff XI). The Headmaster's XI were so confident that they decided they could whip through the Staff XI with ten men. The ever-cunning Mr. Dean Langley won the toss and sent the Headmaster's XI into bat.

The Headmaster's XI managed a solid first over through openers Sam Brewin (12 Aherne 2007) and Marcus Smalley (12 Aherne 2005). The innings looked destined for a much stronger performance than last year's big hitting attempts. However, the lure of the Twenty20 format soon stimulated a rush of adrenaline. Brewin was victim of the somewhat slower than normal pace of Paul Flannigan. He was out caught by Joe Monro in just the fourth over.

Drew Stanmore (12 Aherne 2002) replaced Brewin at the crease, but soon joined him back in the pavilion after a dubious LBW decision sent him walking. Smalley continued to dominate with the bat as he anchored the innings for the Headmaster's XI.

Ben Beckerleg (12 Aherne 2007) and Andrew Biggs (12 Aherne 2007) welcomed the bowling change and took an innings high 17 off Dennis Garoni's first and only over. As Maruff came to the crease, his staff colleagues were happy to use all their means to intimidate him. This proved unnecessary, as Maruff showed he is better off sticking to teaching English than swinging the English willow; he was bowled out for two. The Headmaster's XI finished the twenty overs with a respectable 135 runs, including six sixes.

After a short lunch both sides returned to the field, the Headmaster's XI were determined to keep the pressure on. Mark DiFede and Jamie Turner opened the batting for the Staff XI, while Biggs and the surprise but tactical spin of Brewin came from the other end.

Biggs started strongly, dismissing the dangerous Turner for a duck. Brewin followed suit a couple of overs later, capturing the prized wicket of Don Thompson. Despite the

early wickets, the students were unable to contain DiFede as he raced to 39, earning a man of the match performance (although no one is sure if he spent longer at the crease or in front of the mirror).

As Dan Slater and Paul Flannigan built a strong partnership the Headmaster looked to Stanmore to slow down the run rate. The run rate was contained but the conservative staff showed little signs of throwing away their wicket (nor did they attempt to put on a big hitting display). At the end of the 18th over, the staff needed just 13 runs to win. Slater and Flannigan managed with ease, as they won the match in the 19th over with six wickets to spare. The students could only dream of what might have been, if not for wayward bowling and undisciplined performances with the bat.

Once again thank you to all those who organised a terrific day, including everyone who came along to watch. The students were left bewildered by the surprising talent of the staff. It is only fair that the baton be passed on to a new group of students, to whom we can only wish better luck than us!

Josh Naunton
(Alumnus 2006 Frew)

HEADMASTER'S XI CRICKET MATCH

Can you remember playing cricket for Girton?

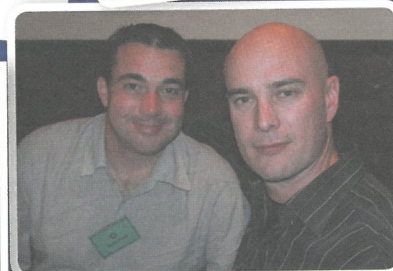
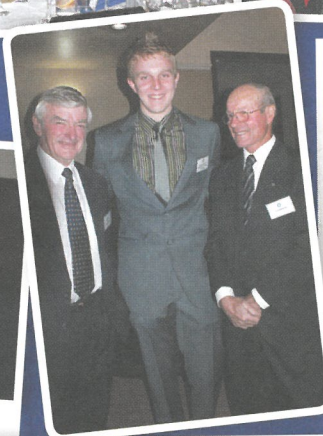
We know that a few years have passed since you last lay foot on the Astroturf, however the opportunity has arisen where you may put bat to ball again and join the Headmaster's Team at the Old Girtonians' Association Headmaster's XI Cricket Match 2011.

This Twilight match will take place at Ewing Oval, Bendigo, on Friday 7th October from 4.30pm

For more information or to register your interest to play in the Headmaster's XI team, please contact Helen at the OGA on (03) 5441 3114 or via email oga@girton.vic.edu.au.



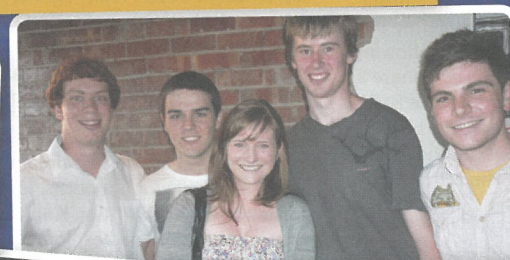
Reunion Dinner



Inaugural Headmaster's XI Cricket Match



One Year Out Reunion - Alumni 2009



Alexia Higgs (Alumna 2000)

From Girton to the world

My brother and I were part of a small cohort of people who spent their entire school lives at Girton. We started with Prep at Girton College on St Aidens Road and made it through the traumatic closing and reopening of Girton Grammar, sweated through the first day under the Peppercorn Tree and completed Year 12 still standing in the old style brown uniform.

My years at Girton filled me with a special kind of joy. I was able to feel nurtured, encouraged and pushed to succeed in whatever I chose, and I made friendships that will last a lifetime.

I was able to realise I loved Shakespeare, could giggle in Methods with Mr Evans and dream of visiting Paris whilst learning my French verbs. Music has always been my love and a lot of my schooling revolved around the various music ensembles I was involved in, orchestra practice after school and the dreaded Assembly performances. My family were a constant presence at Girton, with both my Mother and Father heavily involved, but I was also able to follow my own path and carve out my own niche. My last few years were especially unforgettable when my 60 odd classmates rallied around each other, and I'll never forget the tears at the final Speech Night in 2000.

After Year 12 I was accepted into a Bachelor of Music at the Conservatorium of Music, Melbourne University, and I lived on Campus at Queen's College. I majored in Violin Performance, moved into Voice, and completed my honours degree with a strong desire to pursue singing. After assisting my singing teacher with a series of concerts at the newly opened Federation Square during my final year of study, whilst completing my final exams and thinking about the following year, I was offered a position at Fed Square as Events Coordinator, specialising at the BMW Edge, the theatre there. I couldn't pass up this opportunity so jumped at the chance and spent three years managing the venue and working with some of the best music and arts organisations in Australia.

I soon realised that I loved working in arts/events management, a career I possibly would have looked towards at a later point in my life, but after being thrown into this world and being determined to make my mark I was able to move into the position of Program Manager – Events at Fed Square, overseeing the entire events program of around 2,000 events per year, managing a team of 4 event coordinators and managing relationships with all the big events in Melbourne and Australia such as the Melbourne International Arts Festival, the Comedy Festival, Fashion Festival, Melbourne Food and Wine, the Grand Prix and the AFL.

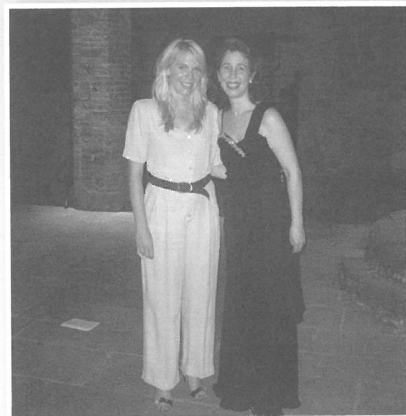
After 5 years at Federation Square I felt it was time for a change and some new challenges and I started to look at possibilities overseas.

I have always had a love affair with Italy. I adored everything about the country, so looked at the option of spending a few months over there working as well as travelling. Through some contacts from Melbourne I contacted the well known Bach pianist Angela Hewitt, regarded as one of the best piano soloists in the world, to see if I could come and work with her on the chamber music festival she founded in Perugia, Italy, 6 years ago. After a quasi-interview on Skype on Australia Day when I had been at the beach all day and she was waking up in London, she said yes, come and work with me in Italy. I left Melbourne in March 2010 and immediately loved Italy. I lived in a house in the centre of Perugia with three Italian girls, where I was forced to speak to people who didn't understand English, and the friends I made took me to weddings, parties and to meet their families, as I worked on this fantastic festival in Italy, the Trasimeno Music Festival. I managed to pick up the language in around 3 months after going mad on some days feeling like I couldn't understand anything, and spent days visiting towns around Italy, talking in Italian and feeling like a local. At the Festival I assisted Angela, liaised with the artists, ensured all the programme was on track and managed the front of house during the week-long event in July.

Before the Festival had finished I started to look at jobs in London as this was where I wanted to go after Italy, and my number one choice was to work at the largest arts centre in the world, the Southbank Centre in central London, so couldn't believe it when I saw an ad for Events Manager-Classical Music advertised. I wasn't really sure of my chances, but I worked on my application for a week, sent it back to old colleagues in Melbourne to look at, and sent it off. After flying to London twice for interviews, I got the job, and moved to London in July.

I still feel like I am living a dream, but I have been in the role for 6 months, love living near Holland Park and Notting Hill, work in the centre of London, and explore a new city in Europe at least once a month. At Southbank I manage two of the major orchestras in London, the Philharmonia Orchestra and the London Sinfonietta, and work on some of the biggest projects that are held at Southbank during the season. I am working with agents and the BBC, am getting to see lots of concerts and am slowly getting to know my way around this fantastic city. I'm not sure when I will return to Australia, but want to give this a big shot and see what the possibilities are for me in Europe.

I miss my family, friends and gorgeous sunny Australia very much, but am so excited about this time in my life and know that jumping into difficult but extraordinary situations would not have been possible without the solid and inspirational start I had at Girton.



Careers Breakfast 2010

On Friday 25th June the OGA held the Year 12 Careers Luncheon in the Girton Grammar School Bendigo Gymnasium. Leading on from the success of the Careers Breakfast in 2009, the School decided that all Year 12 students would benefit greatly from this event so deemed that as of 2010 attendance was to be compulsory. 113 students and approximately 20 guests including Board Members, Staff and three guest speakers attended the Luncheon.

This Luncheon would not have been possible without the generous support of our guest speakers on the day (profiles below). They volunteered their time to share with our students their life journeys since becoming Old Girtonians and we thank them for their involvement.



Tim Baxter (Alumnus 1987)

Tim successfully completed his VCE (HSC) at Girton College in 1987 after starting at Girton in Year 3. He was a Frew House Captain, Senior Prefect and Sports Captain during this time.

Tim deferred University for two years to work in Bendigo and London; after returning to Bendigo he then moved with his wife to Melbourne from 1992 - 2008. Tim and his wife now reside in Bendigo with their two daughters, Stellina (Year 2, 2010) & Amelita (2 years old).

Overtime Tim has developed a deep love and interest in all things to do with food & wine. Tim has spent the past 20 years learning about various forms of drinks of the world by reading, studying and tasting them. Tim's passion and vision has seen the opening of his Bendigo business, The Dispensary Enoteca.

Caitlin Hamond (Alumna 2007)

Caitlin successfully completed her VCE at Girton Grammar School in 2007. During this year Caitlin was a Senior House Prefect for Millward and in 2006 was Millward House Captain. Upon receiving an outstanding ENTER score Caitlin moved to live at Ormond College and is currently in her 3rd year of Medicine at Melbourne University.

Caitlin has 2 brothers who are both past Girtonians and her sister is currently in Year 11 at Girton (2011). Caitlin absolutely loves her study and thinks living in College is brilliant!

Sam Hargreaves (Alumnus 1998)

Sam is a past student of Girton Grammar School. He successfully completed his VCE in 1998. During this year Sam was also the Boarding House SRC Representative & Captained the Senior Football Team.

Sam is very passionate about the opportunities that Girton Grammar School gave him during his time here. Sam claims he wasn't the most attentive of students but certainly looks back with a sense of appreciation for what Girton offered him as a student. He spent his first few months at Girton trying to "get-out" and just when he thought his wish would come true, he realised he actually needed, and more importantly wanted, to stay. This started a round of intense negotiations with Mr Jones about why indeed Sam should be a Girtonian! Of course he graduated so the rest, as they say, is history.

In recent years Sam has worked in the local real estate industry and currently works in sales for Southern Cross Media.

Jane Chandler

(Alumna 2006)

The upcoming 5-year reunion for the class of 2006 will be a gathering of a group of young adults who have spent the past half-decade doing their old school hat proud. When I reflect on what my class has achieved since graduation I am struck by the fierce independence and enterprise of my peers. Forced to leave the comforts of home to forge the futures we were taught were ours, my classmates have spread across the country and across the world in search of the adventures and experiences that will bring vibrancy and colour to this reunion.

I've dusted off my old House spirit skills at College, slummed it in Fitzroy and dominated the Arts students' greatest test of 4-research-essays-of-2500-words-due-at-5pm-on-the-same-day. With an undergraduate degree under my belt and a collection of stamps in my passport I am now looking towards the next chapter of my life; post-graduate study and the terrifying prospect of confronting my fear of sunburn and funnel web spiders in a move to Sydney. I remain ridiculously close with my friends from school with whom I've shared too many coffees, drinks stronger than coffee, nights on the couch or nights on the town to count.

Thinking back on my time since leaving Girton, it is the continued sense of comradeship amongst my class that strikes me as so significant. Through personal adversities and achievements, the forming of new friendships and the tyranny of distance, our high school ties remain strong. This I credit to a morality instilled in us during our time at Girton, which renders us the greatest support system for each other as we face the daunting task of becoming adults. Consequently, our forthcoming reunion will not just be a meeting of high school classmates, but the reunification of a family in celebration of our success.

Honorary Life Members

Mr Clayton Jones

Archdeacon John Geldart

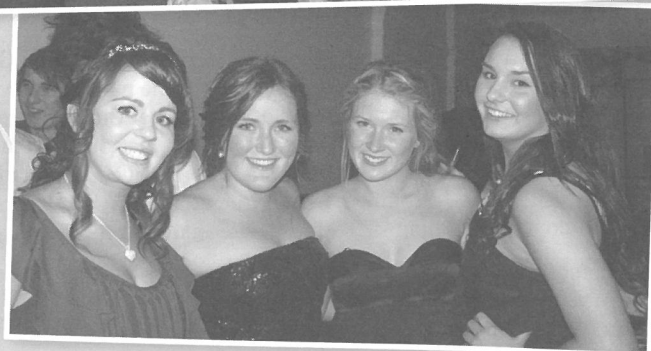
New Life Members 2010

Samantha Cordell (Alumna 1991)

David Tarrant (Alumnus 2006)

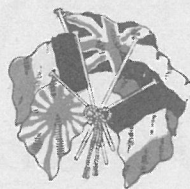
Year 12 2010 Life Members

Stuart Aitken, Matthew Allan, Darcie Apostolou, Jack Ashman, Matthew Bacon, Tara Bailey, Lucinda Barty, Daniel Beard, Sarah Boddy, Elizabeth Caltabiano, Katherine Cameron, Alexandra Campbell, Daniel Carew, Jordan Cavallaro, Darren Colley, Declan Delahunty, Annalisa D'Ortenzio, Alexandra Egan, Ashlee Elliott, Rachel Enders, Charles Fist, Jack Flood, Amelia Fox, Christopher Garoni, William Garvin, Timothy Gibson, Daniel Goode, Luke Gregory, Monica Hanna, Rhys Harris, Fiona Heathcote, Madeline Hellsten, Jack Higgs, Marcus Hinneberg, Alexandra Hommelhoff, Catrin Hopper-Lewis, Georgie Howie, Carla Ietto, Felicity Jarvis, Drew Johnson, Anthea Johnston, Cassandra Jordan, Ashleigh Jones, Rhiannon Judd, Nickolas Kaladis, Chalat Kanjanaratanakorn, Latifa Karmay, Bronwyn Keech, Hayden Kerr, Kirrilly Knight, Tanya Koch, Hiu Fung Lam, Brenton Lester, Stuart Luke, Spencer Little, Anne Lorrigan, Annabel Luscombe, David Lyall, Cassandra Mawby, Scarlett McCarthy, Daniel McKenzie, Siahna Mosier, Colleen Melton, Nicholas Oliver, Alexander Palmer, Caitlin Peters, Ewen Pickles, Caitlyn Pryse, Korie Richards, Connor Rochford, Gareth Rudock, Callum Russell, Skye Rutledge, Bianca Sherman, Natalie Simpkin, Callum Stewart, Kobi Stratford, Kieren Sutton, Britnee Swan, David Symons, Stuart Thornton, Davis Tolley, William Tonkin, Erynn Trewartha, Alexander Turnbull, Eliot Walton, Brianna Waterson, Selina Weragoda, Laura Whatley, Bridget White, Phillippa Wiener, Danielle Wilson, Caitlyn Woodcock, Tahnee Woods.



Archives

As an addendum to "Postcards" from France that featured correspondence from Reg Bush to his sister Merle Bush in our 2010 "Under the Peppercorn Tree", the following is a letter he penned to the students of Girton whilst in the trenches of Gallipoli.



The Anti Turk
Dig out.

Kangaroo Beach
Anzaco Bay
Gallipoli Penin.
Sunday Sept 12th 1915

Firstly.

I propose that the Honorable,
the Head, be liable to be
called upon to act as Censor
to this distinct Breach of
Neutrality.

With her kind permission
I've begun.

Dear Girton Girls.

In this first
Australian Note I will
endeavour to come to the point
at once.

(In this the Turkish shells
are making a point of coming
at me)
To continue.

Girls. again. Ahem.

I desire to place on record
my keen appreciation of your
most welcome expression of
greetings, scribed indelibly on
parchment bearing the glorious
arms in Mediterranean Blue.
(reminds me of Shelley.) of the
above College.

With this necessary and extremely
pleasant duty over I'll bring
my scribble to a close (seeing
that the Turks have failed)
with the desire that the
autographers of my highly
prized "Greetings" accept my
best wishes and love & all.

That sort of thing, etc.

I beg to remain

Madame,

Your most sincere &
obliging servant.

Reg. F. Bush.

P.S. Turkish shells form an
automatic punctuation to
this, as they invariably give
us a reception on Sundays.
Makes up for the good dinners
we don't get.

P.S.S. You mere Australians ought
to feel proud that this paper
comes from his Britannia
Majesty King George V's Royal
Navy. none of your "Australians"
about this, except the
ink. pen, & writer.
R.F.B.

Our Girton Archives throw up these treasures from time to time but sadly because of financial and time constraints we only discover them by accident and not design. Our Archives will be going into hibernation, possibly for a period of up to two years and it is sincerely hoped that upon their emergence, once again, that time and expertise can be given to bringing all our wonderful historical records, trophies, photographs etc. into a safe environment and be far more accessible to all who wish to avail themselves of this resource.

VALE

Jean Watson (née Cahill) (Alumna 1928)

On August 28th 2010 our esteemed oldest Old Girtonian died in her 98th year. Jean was born in Bendigo on January 6th 1912 and lived most of her early family life at Epsom opposite the Golf course. She attended Girton in 1928 and described her days as happy ones where there was a wonderful bond between teacher and pupils. She realized how fortunate she was to have been a pupil at Girton and had many happy memories of her Girton days.

On leaving school, for seven years she worked for her father who was a Solicitor in Bendigo. During this time she enjoyed the social life in Bendigo, participating in tennis, swimming, golf and attending balls and parties. Later she moved to Melbourne and worked for the Vacuum Oil Company including the war years. During the war, in 1942, she married her husband Derrick who was in uniform with the Commandos (1st Independent Company). For nearly sixty years Jean lived in Melbourne. During this time she belonged to the Melbourne Branch of the OGA.

When her husband died in the late 1990s Jean took up residence at the Mandurang Retirement Village, returning to her girlhood home of Bendigo. Thus began her close association with the OGA in Bendigo and she established links with Girton Grammar School. She regularly attended OGA meetings, working bees and loved attending Reunion Dinners. She also attended, with pride, a number of official school functions. Jean is remembered as an active and alert, special lady who kept abreast of current developments. She was totally immersed in Village life where she lived independently and continued to follow her cultural interests. Her active involvement with the Cahill extended family was a source of great happiness and inspiration to her.

Jean endeared herself to many people. She was a loved and respected lady. She had a special place in all our hearts because she could identify with people from all walks of life and all ages. Her memory of people, events and places was historically significant and a source of entertainment. Jean will be remembered for her wonderful sunny personality and her sparkling humour. Many of us feel privileged to have experienced her "joy" and to have shared her friendship.



'One Year Out' Reunion

To think that a year has already passed since we last donned the Girton school uniform, sang the School Song and spent those last few days of Year 12 2009 worrying about VCE exams and what would come after. But yes, it has indeed been a year. A year of new challenges and experiences, but now a time to catch up with old friends.

The fourth annual 'One Year Out' reunion saw about 40 of the 113 of the class of 2009 meet up at the Rifle Brigade Hotel for a casual catch up.

There were many shrieks of joy and shaking of hands as the familiar faces of the class of 2009 arrived at the Rifle Brigade Hotel for the fourth annual "One Year Out" reunion. Even with about 40 alumni attending, the room felt more packed as it buzzed with excitement and joy.

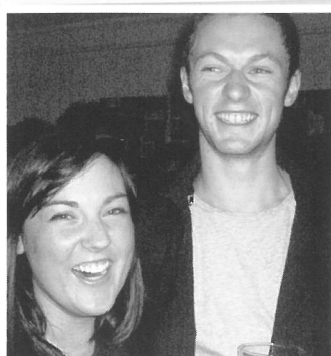
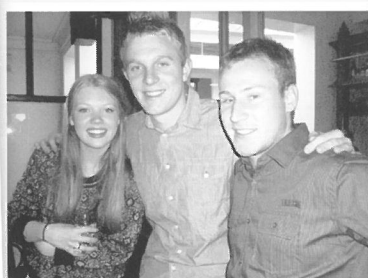
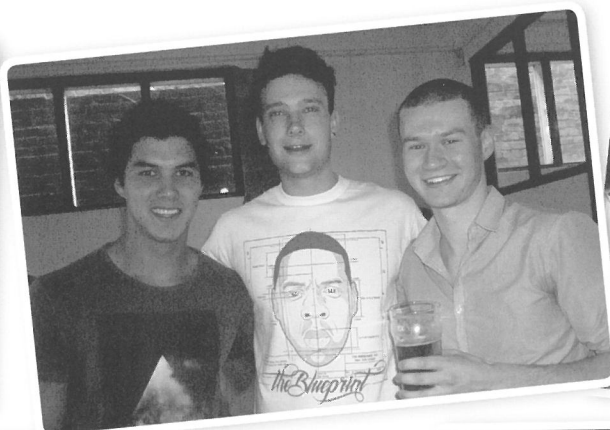
Although a year had passed since leaving Girton, it seemed as nothing had changed as we found ourselves casually chatting amongst old friends that we hadn't seen for months, reliving favourite memories of school years past, numerous inside jokes

and enjoying each other's company. But one thing had changed, we were all another year older and now had our own new stories to tell. Stories of a year's happenings, either at University, TAFE, working or travelling, of new experiences and new plans for the future. Much excitement was experienced throughout the evening.

This event could only have been created by the dedicated organisers of the Old Girtonians' Association, and on behalf of the Alumni of 2009 I wish to thank them and all those involved.

A check of current email addresses and mobile phone numbers at the door meant that there was to be no escape for the Old Girtonians' Association in the months and years to come, and nor could we want any. Although some ties will fade over the coming years, there will always be the Old Girtonians' Association to allow us to reconnect.

Trent McNeil
(Alumnus 2009 Millward)



2011 Reunion Dinner – Will you join us?

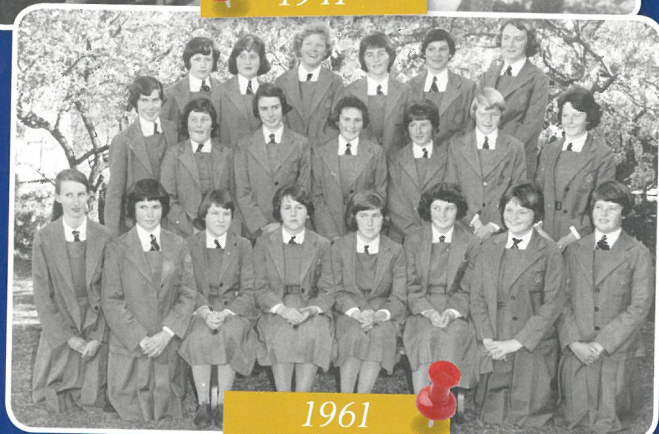
Saturday 14th May



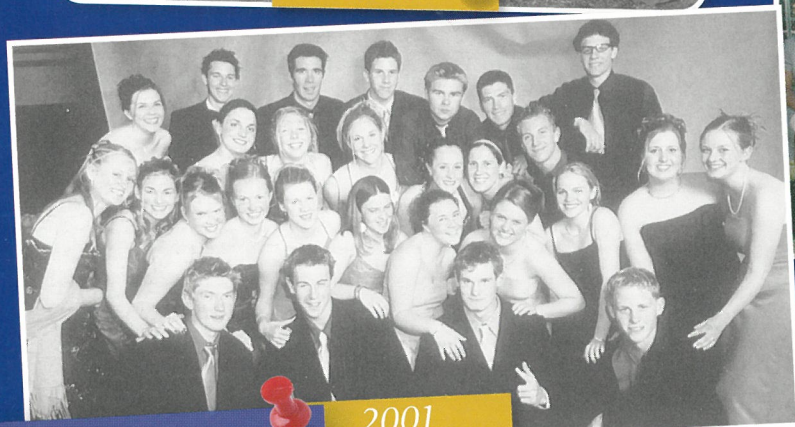
1941



1991



1961

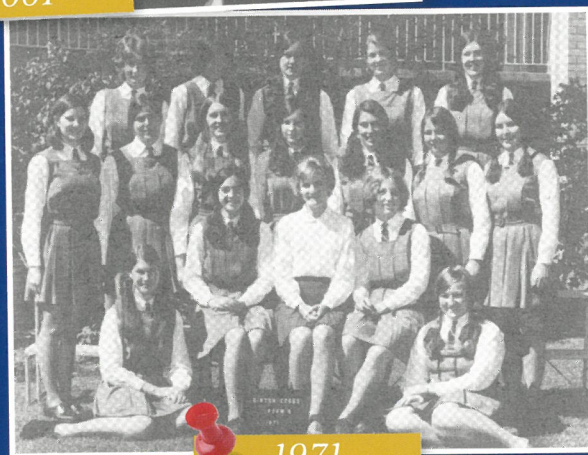


2001

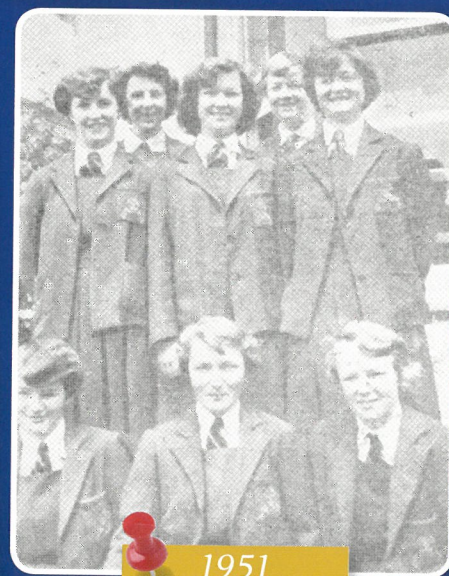


1981

Do you
recognise
yourself?



1971



1951



Postal Address

Old Girtonians' Association
c/- 105 MacKenzie Street, BENDIGO VIC 3550

Telephone (03) 5441 3114

Email oga@girton.vic.edu.au **Website** www.girton.vic.edu.au