

Old Girls' Association



Newsletter

Issue 1 – April 2015

From the OGA President



Welcome to the first edition of the OGA newsletter for 2015, especially our newest members – the senior class of 2014. This being the 120th anniversary of St Margaret's Anglican Girls School, we are proud to look back over our educational achievements and growth in all areas of the school to where we are today and what our associations have contributed during that period of time.

Your new OGA Committee, who were elected at our Annual General Meeting held in December 2014, consist of the following members and office bearers pictured below:



BACK ROW: Harriette Watson, Alison Black, Madeleine Schlyder, Dipti Shankar - Treasurer, Nikki Johnston, Jacky Garnsworthy (nee Roebuck), Anne Muggleton (nee Schmidhauser), Nicole Devlin, Isabelle Slipper.

FRONT ROW: Sally Thomson - Secretary (nee Harris), Denise Foley (nee West), Janice Moody - President (nee Biddulph), Deborah Love - Vice President. Absent: Jillian Scott (nee Mills).

The OGA committee members have assisted in many areas of the school as evidenced by their support and attendance at both school and OGA functions including the 2014 Reunion Weekend, which saw six very successful reunions for the classes of 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994 and 2004. Additionally, the VIP Luncheon (for past students who left St Margaret's over 60 years ago) was held in June, and the Sydney Reunion Lunch took place in May, and was attended by the current Principal, Ms Ros Curtis, and Past OGA President Mrs Libby Black.

These reunions give members the opportunity to renew old friendships, support one another and familiarise themselves with news of the school through updated information and school tours.

The annual OGA Brunch was held in October 2014 with guest speakers Ms Elspeth Barker and The Rev Sarah Leiseman (nee Plowman). **Notable Past Students** spoke of their days at St Margaret's and where their lives and careers have taken them today. Other notable women in attendance were Annabelle Chaplain (then Chair of School Council), Dr Rosamond Siemon, Doune Macdonald, Sheena Dyason, Natalie Wright, Sarah Derrington and Prue Galley. It was a well-attended, happy and informative function enjoyed by all.

2015 will be a very busy year within the school community and I am confident the Old Girls will contribute to and attend many of the functions and activities set out in the date claimer provided in this issue.

Jan Moody

OGA Overseas Scholarship 2015 - 2016

Scholarships are available for St Margaret's past students wishing to study overseas. Application forms are available online and are due by **Friday 26 June 2015**. The Overseas Study Scholarships provide funds of up to \$5,000 a year. Preference will be given to students studying at an overseas tertiary institution/university for one or more semesters. Candidates studying overseas but not at a university are also welcome to apply.

APPLY ONLINE WWW.STMARGARETS.QLD.EDU.AU

From the Principal

It has been an exciting start to the school year, particularly with the opening of St Margaret's College next to the school grounds, with four very brave tertiary students happy to be part of this history making venture. When I look back on the school's history, I note that St Margaret's began with three students and look where we are today, 120 years later. It is exciting to wonder where and how the College will grow and develop over the next 10 to 20 years.

2015 also saw the opening of a new facility for our Year 7 boarders, taking over the bottom of West Wing and converting this into rooms for 23 boarders. It is a wonderful area for Year 7 where they can walk down the Barley Sugar Stairs, straight into the Barley Sugar Garden. Currently, the old science labs in Avoca are being converted into Hospitality/ Home Economics facilities and this project is due for completion in April.

It was great to see so many Old Girls at the Open Day in March this year. I hope to catch up with more as the year progresses. We not only have reunions in the July St Margaret's Day weekend, but this year we are having an inaugural 120 year Community Ball, where the recipients of the Past Student Awards

will be announced and, of course, there are our four Professional Women's Network events throughout the year. We love to see our Old Girls visiting the school and I hope you can find the time to support these events.

The school will also be holding a Sydney reunion on Friday 25 September – so if you are living in Sydney, I do hope you can attend.

The Old Girls' Association has supported the project to restore and preserve the Reredos in the school chapel. It is thanks to the generosity of the Old Girls' Association and the community that the project has been completed and the Reredos looks stunning – cleaned, framed and under glass. A Thanksgiving Service was held on March 8, to celebrate the work of Father David Binns and staff member Jane Wilson for their talents, which created the Reredos and for their legacy to the school.

As always, I remain grateful for our past students' support of the school; as you not only had a significant role in the school's past, but your generosity and support help build the school's future.

Ros Curtis

OGA Prize Winner



Congratulations to **Annabelle Traves**, who was announced as OGA prize winner at Speech Night in November last year. Annabelle was a Prefect, Music Captain and Strings Captain. Annabelle is a very talented violinist and from the age of 14 travelled to Sydney on a weekly basis on scholarship to attend the Raising Stars Program at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. This year, Annabelle is excited to be moving to Sydney to study a Bachelor of Music Performance at the University of Sydney.

Sisters' News and Events

Join us for Reflection Day

This year Reflection Day will be held on Saturday 16 May at the Sisters' house, 'Cairnmore', at 18 Petrie St, just opposite the main school entrance (Gate 1), from 9.30am to 2.30pm.

If you have never been to a Reflection Day, please consider joining us. If you think you would like to join us, you might like to bring a friend to share this special day.

There will be two short talks about faith and Christian life. You can bring your own lunch or we can provide it if you let us know. There will be adequate time for you to sit outside and quietly reflect.

We celebrate a Eucharist as part of the day. There is no cost but of course donations are always welcome. Sr Gillian will be the conductor, but the other sisters will also be in residence if you wish to speak with them as well.

If you have any enquiries, please email Sister Gillian Gillian@stmargarets.qld.edu.au



Every year, the executive of the Old Girls' Association come for afternoon tea before Christmas. They come bearing afternoon tea and gifts and it is always a joyous occasion, with the Sisters and the executive spending a happy afternoon reflecting on the events of the year. We even managed a 'group selfie' last year to record the happy event!

Sister Gillian SSA

Inaugural Past Students Award

St Margaret's is proud to announce the inaugural Past Students Awards. This marks a new tradition of ceremony whereby any current or past member of the St Margaret's community can nominate a Past Student for either the Distinguished Past Student Award or the Young Past Student of Distinction Award. Both awards will be reviewed by the selection panel and assessed on their significant contribution or achievements in the profession, community or volunteer work.

The St Margaret's Past Students Awards have been established to:

- recognise the many achievements of St Margaret's past students, both professionally and personally
- celebrate the diverse achievements of past students and provide an opportunity to share stories of success
- increase connections between the school and past students to honour their legacy.

Engaging with our valued Old Girls' community and recognising the achievements and contributions of past students creates a significant impact on our current students, as they seek and gather the inspiration they need to fly upwards.

Details on how to nominate yourself or a worthy recipient are outlined in the nomination forms which can be downloaded from the website, or by clicking the following the [link](#).

Applications close 5pm (AEST) Wednesday 6 May 2015 and winners will be announced at the 2015 St Margaret's Community Ball on Saturday 11 July 2015.

Nicole Devlin (1990)

Chair – Past Students Awards Committee

From the Director of Development and Community

Having recently journeyed from St Joseph's Nudgee College, I truly understand and appreciate how the St Margaret's school community stands taller in the presence and connection of their much valued past students. The history shared by our Old Girls keeps stories strong and memories well cared for – as though those days of school-yard fun were just yesterday. It is important that these passionate, challenging and fun memories are given the space to be heard as these create the layered history of the school. St Margaret's values the connection of the past to the present, and as such, welcomes all Old Girls to attend reunions, social functions and Professional Women's Network events.



Every past student that attends an event, volunteers or donates to St Margaret's is demonstrating to our current girls what it is to be a St Margaret's Old Girl. The mentoring and role modelling is such a gift to the girls who are still experiencing daily school life.

In support of highlighting career achievements, the Professional Women's Network saw current parent Maxine Horne speak to the appreciative audience who filled the Arts Centre Foyer in March. The three other PWN events for 2015 will feature St Margaret's Old Girls – Annabelle Chaplain (15 May), Amanda Lacaze (19 August) and Keri Craig-Lee (16 October). Your support of these events will see the Professional Women's Network events go from strength to strength and help them become the 'go to' women's events for networking and support in Brisbane.

Communications are largely driven via email, so please let us know if you would like to add and/or update your email address: OGA&Alumni@stmargarets.qld.edu.au. The integrity of our database relies on notification from past students to keep us up-to-date.

Thank you to all our St Margaret's Old Girls who have supported the school through donations and attending all manner of events offered by the school. Your participation makes our school community richer.

Lu Wishart

OGA Overseas Scholarship Recipient (2014/15)



In the last OGA newsletter, we featured the 2014/15 overseas scholarship recipients. When we went to deadline, we were awaiting a photograph of one other winner, a modest Pamela Hendry!

We are delighted now to publicly congratulate Pamela and also add her details to the website.

Pamela Hendry (1998–2009): (Undergrad) for subjects in Bachelor of Property Economics (QUT) at Stellenbosch University, South Africa, one year.

OGA Notable Past Students Project Launch

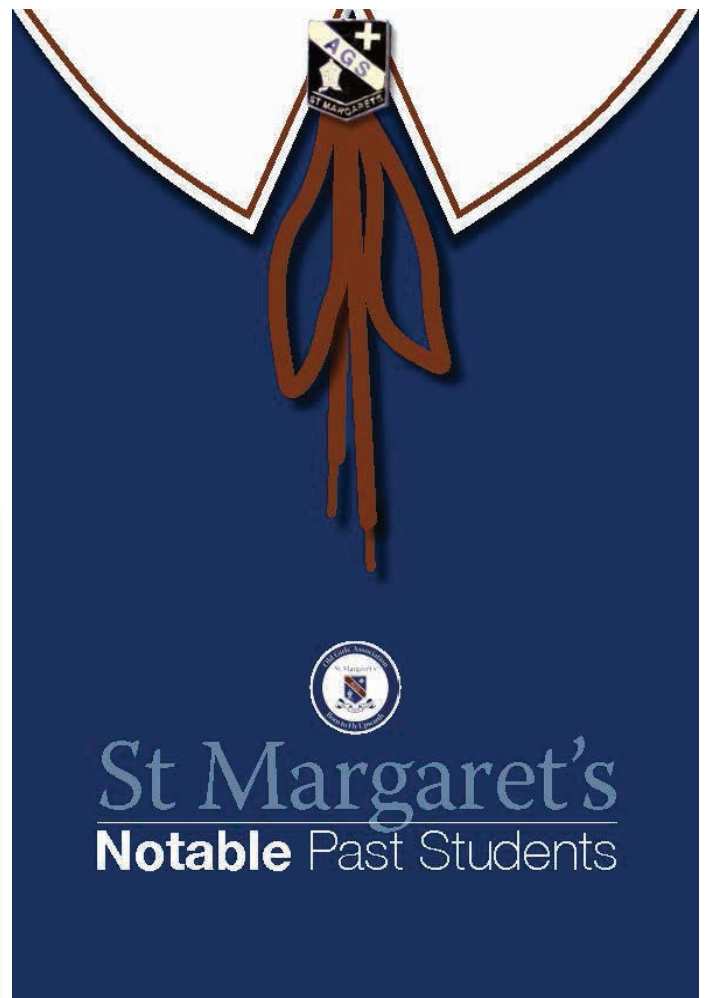
OGA launched the Notable Past Students Project to recognise past students who have had significant achievements in their careers.



Sarah Derrington, Doune Macdonald, Sheena Dyason, Prue Galley and Rosamond Siemon

During the OGA annual brunch in October last year, the Notable Past Students Project was launched by the Principal, Ros Curtis. Several of the notable past students were among the 88 guests, including the two guest speakers, graphic designer Elspeth Barker and the Reverend Canon Sarah Leisemann. Both gave very thoughtful and entertaining speeches.

The project has been published in a booklet format and the profiles and photos of the notables can be viewed on line on the OGA webpage of the school's website.



OGA Notable Past Student Project Launch

The 25 notables listed below are from diverse careers in business, law, health care, the arts, the church, community and sport:

Elspeth Barker
Bronte Barratt OAM
Lisa Butler
Annabelle Chaplain
Keri Craig-Lee
Professor Sarah Derrington
Phyl Drew
Sheena Dyason
Prue Galley
Rhyll Gardner
Sally Kehoe
The Reverend Canon Sarah Leisemann
Meryl Luck

Professor Doune Macdonald
Dame Patricia MacKinnon DBE CBE
Dr Alex Markwell
The Honorable Justice Michelle May
Daphne Mayo MBE
Dr Deborah Mills
Associate Professor Susan Pendlebury
Una Prentice
Dr Rosamond Siemon
Amanda Stein
Geraldine Turner OAM
Natalie Wright



Elspeth Barker & Sarah Leisemann



Annabelle Chaplain



Sheena Dyason



Doune Macdonald



Rosamond Siemon



Natalie Wright

From the Archives

Old Girls and their families are always very generous in their support of the Archive Centre through donations of photographs and school memorabilia. It's not often that we receive items documenting the early days of the school, so I was thrilled to receive a photo from Nancy Yesberg (Harvey 1951) of St Margaret's girls in 1920. The photograph belonged to her mother-in-law, Edna Patrick.

Edna and her sister Dorothy were boarders in 1920. The photo shows Forms IV and IVA standing on the steps of St Margaret's House. We have another photo in Archives of the Junior School which looks to have been taken at the same time. Is there a photo of Forms V and VI out there somewhere? As a sidenote to this story, Dorothy Patrick's son had previously sent her Form III reports from 1920 back to the school.



All the Year 8 classes have visited the Archive Centre this term to look at photographs and learn about the early days of the school at Eton High in Nundah, Toorak House at Hamilton, and the beginnings on our present site at St Margaret's House. They also trace the development of their middy uniform and how it has (or hasn't!) changed over the years.

Our current students are always interested in the 'winter' hats – the felt and the beret – but are relieved that brown gloves and a starched collar are no longer part of their uniform. The changes in sports uniforms also provoke much discussion, especially the box-pleat gym tunic and how uncomfortable it would be for the range of sports they play today.



In preparation for the Reunion Weekend in July, the wonderful archives volunteers – Jan Snowball (Hindmarsh 1968) and Jacq Barker (Dutton 1969) – have been digitising all our school photos for the years 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985 and 1995. Copies of the photos will be used for displays and slide shows during the weekend. A big thank you to Jan and Jacq for tackling this (very tedious!) task. If you have any photos from your years at



St Margaret's, we would love to borrow them to copy and include in the slide shows for your reunion group to enjoy. We are especially searching for photos from the 1965, 1975 and 1985 alumni groups. Students' personal photos add a different dimension to our school story – the 'official' photos tell part of the story, but it is through the informal snapshots of daily life that we get a feel for the true spirit of St Margaret's.

Bronwyn Perry
School Archivist

OGA Profile - Katrina Loughrey

Kat Loughrey (1997): Global Communications Specialist, Digital Nomad

With an Arts/Law degree and a Masters in Communications at RMIT on her resume, Kat Loughrey is embarking on a new adventure and a “digital nomad lifestyle”.

You've spent three years in Japan and you're now based in Berlin – what has taken you around the world?

When I was working in corporate and government communications in Melbourne I met the founder of an exciting startup called 'The Fetch', a professional event discovery platform, and became the Melbourne curator in my spare time.

With its focus on digital, tech and creative communities, it was a natural fit for me, and a decision that set my career path in this exciting new direction I'm still following today. I moved to Berlin at the beginning of this year because it's a vibrant hub of creativity, with an ever-growing and exciting startup and tech scene.

I am still involved with The Fetch in a global community role – and am also the Social Media Lead for CloudPeeps, an on-demand talent marketplace for social media and community managers. In addition to this, I consult on and manage digital communications – content strategy, community building and social media – for clients across the globe. I have no regrets about moving to a remote work / digital nomad lifestyle – it suits me perfectly and with all the great online tools available these days, it's totally achievable.

Has the language been a barrier at all?

I studied German throughout my time at St Margaret's – I became fascinated with the language and country early on and that never really left me. I recall many classes with Mrs Moody, and all the fun German-related activities she took us on outside of school. Thanks to Mrs Moody pushing me, I was granted a student exchange opportunity at the end of Year 12 and I'm still in touch with my host sister to this day! Now I'm based in Berlin, I'm back studying it again. It's so great to have this grounding in the language and I love that I'm embracing it once again.

How has your time at St Margaret's influenced you?

Through all my travels and experiences since finishing



high school, I've come to realise how important my school was in instilling certain values, morals and ethics within me (along with my parents) and that has been invaluable for my journey in life. I'm certain my underlying desire to achieve, continue to grow and also to regularly try new things stems from my time at St Margaret's. I have very fond memories of being on the cricket team (winning the premiership!) and singing in the choirs – and of certain teachers recognizing important qualities within me and in turn helping me develop them further. I was pretty shy and quiet back then, so on reflection that support I received was invaluable.

What advice would you give to future Maggie's girls?

To not take anything granted – not all get access to such a quality education and it's important to be aware of that during your time there and as you head out into the world. Be proud of your school and its longstanding history – and remember as soon as you wear that uniform, you're an (awesome) ambassador for the school so OWN IT.

Is there an Old Girl connection that you still feel with the school?

Even though I've changed considerably since I left school, I most definitely feel an Old Girl connection. My mother is an Old Girl too – we're Chaucer girls – mmm, so that's why I love wearing red!! There's also an annual cricket award for Speech Night named after my father, so I'm reminded every year of the connection.

If there are any St Margaret's girls in Berlin who'd like to meet up, please feel free to get in touch with me via Twitter: @KatLoughrey.

OGA Members' Retirement

Libby Black and **Jan Chayter** retired from the OGA Committee after many years of service and commitment to our association and they both will be greatly missed.

Libby Black was on the OGA Committee for 17 years, during which she spent time in the role of treasurer and was president for seven years from 2002 to 2005 and 2012 to 2014.

Jan Chayter was on the OGA Committee for 28 years. This is truly an amazing contribution and Jan has always been willing, helpful, cheerful, efficient and professional in her time on the committee.

Best wishes to them both and their spouses as they enjoy time travelling.



News of Old Girls



Congratulations to Old Girl **Jill Edwards (2007)** who recently graduated with a Master of Organisational Psychology and received the University of Queensland's Inaugural School of Psychology 2014 Award for Excellence in Professional Practice in Organisational Psychology.

The award was developed to recognise and inspire excellence in professional practice in the practicum component of the Master's Program and to provide an opportunity to develop a selected graduate in the early stages of their career. The award also consists of an invitation to be nominated to the School of Psychology as an Adjunct Lecturer within the Organisational Psychology Program.

The award was presented to Jill at the December graduation ceremony by another St Margaret's Old Girl Linda Campbell (1979) who is a Lecturer and Senior Organisational Psychologist overseeing the practitioner training program for Master of Organisational Psychology at UQ.

Old Girl Jill Edwards receives the University Award.

News of Old Girls - Where are they now...

Susie Dawson (McClymont, 1965–1964) Lives in London, in retirement, follows her passion for the piano. As a volunteer, Susie works as a guide at Fulham Palace and as well she enjoys opportunities to play the harpsichord in the Hampstead National Trust house.

Katrina Goldsworthy (Orr, 1968–1971) From life as a beef producer in Emerald the mother of three now lives in Brisbane. Her artistic talents express her love of the outback through her unique and eclectic style, lately entering a piece entitled “Panda-monium” in the Archibald.

Peta Bistany (Dee, 1974–1986) Following university and a stint in the business world, Peta set her sights on the UK. Now with two children, she lives in London and is Director of Planning and Projects for the Premier League.

Maricha Miles (1987–1991) After studying at the Julliard School, Maricha now lives in New York. The mother of three is now CEO of Only Make Believe, a not-for-profit organisation taking interactive theatre to children’s hospitals in New York and Jersey.

Nikki Hill (2004–2008) Scholarship with Dame Nellie Melba Opera Trust for 2014/15. Nikki has been in Italy learning Italian, then London for vocal coaching. She is now moving to Sydney.

Sam Noon (2004–2008) Sam has been travelling the Mediterranean working on a private super yacht. Now based in Malta, Sam is focused on moving to London.

Prue Simpson (2003–2007) Living in Toronto, Canada, as a venue manager for the Pan and Para Pan American Games to be held in July-August 2015. Prue will then continue to work around the world for international multi sports events.

Victoria Downs (2003–2007) Victoria is living in Vancouver, Canada, and working as an EPAS Account Manager with Morneau Shepell.

Emma Lenehan (Campbell, 2002–2007) Emma is living in NSW at Jugiong on a Polo Stud Farm as a stud overseer.

Carmen Prodingner (2005–2007) Living and working in Austria as a translator.

Katie Turner (2002–2006) Living in Roma and working in Agricultural Finance for Robobank and will soon be moving to London.

Sarah Rutledge (2003–2007) Living and working in Brisbane as a sales production executive at OBE Organic Beef.

Kimmie Peacey (2003–2007) Living and working at Moree as a Dietician.

Caitlin McConnell (2003–2007) Currently works in Brisbane as a judge’s associate. Caitlin is a historical spokesperson for Cressbrook Station, agricultural ambassador for the Somerset Region.

Sophie Glasser (2003–2007) Starting work with Mort & Co in their Grassdale Feedlot near Dalby. Sophie is hoping to take her career into beef export and supply.

Lucy Peacey (2002–2006) Working in Brisbane as an Emergency Nurse.

Annabelle Thompson (2003–2007) Working for a bank as a Product Specialist managing the personal loan portfolio for the bank nationally.

Eliza Grant (2004–2008) Working in Brisbane as a project coordinator for a global event management company, working with brands such as Porsche, Volvo, Optus, L’Oreal.

News of Old Girls



Annabelle Brayley (Ford,1972) is a storyteller based in south west Queensland. Having (reluctantly) trained as a nurse, after she married she went to live on a sheep station 130 kilometres from Charleville.

After the Brayleys sold the property in 2001, Annabelle and Ian relocated to the Morven district where they now live.

In 2006, almost by chance, she wrote her first story for RM William's OUTBACK Magazine and has been telling the stories of other people who live in rural and remote Australia ever since. Her first book, "Caging Octopuses - A Tale of the First Decade of Condamine Cods Rugby" was privately published in 2009.

In 2012, Penguin Books Australia offered her an irresistible opportunity to curate a publication called "Bush Nurses". Since then she has gone on to write "Nurses of the Outback" and the very recently released "Outback Vets". Annabelle is currently working on her next book to be released by Penguin in 2016.

Upcoming Events

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK

These events are designed to provide professional networking forums for past students, past and current parents, and all members of the wider community. Everyone is welcome. Event details are as follows:

Event 2

KPMG **Friday 15 May** **7:30am**
CBD Breakfast
with *Annabelle Chaplain*

Event 3

St Margaret's **Wednesday 19 August** **7:30am**
ACF Breakfast with a View
with *Amanda Lacaze*

Event 4

St Margaret's **Friday 16 October** **6:00pm**
ACF Cocktails and Conversation
with *Keri Craig-Lee*

WINTER WONDERLAND BALL

Royal International **Saturday 11 July** **6:30pm**
Convention Centre
-a community event hosted by the P&F Association

ALUMNI REUNIONS and EVENTS

VIP Luncheon 60+ **Wed 17 June** **12:00pm**

10 Year Reunion	Friday 24 July	6:30pm
20 Year Reunion	Friday 24 July	6:30pm
30 Year Reunion	Saturday 25 July	6:30pm
40 Year Reunion	Saturday 25 July	12:30pm
50 Year Reunion	Saturday 25 July	12:00pm
60 Year Reunion	Saturday 25 July	11:00am

OLD GIRLS' DAY **Sunday 26 July** **9:30am**
Chapel service followed by morning tea

SYDNEY REUNION

The Langham **Friday 25 Sept** **6:00pm**

OGA ANNUAL BRUNCH

Arts Centre Foyer **Sunday 25 October** **9:00am**

OGA AGM

Mooloolumburram Board Room **Thurs 3 December** **7:15pm**