THE NEW SWIM AND RECREATION CENTRE
REVEREND GARY VAN HEERDEN CO-CURRICULAR FEATURE
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Front Cover
Swim Captains Indiana Read and Beth Johns enjoy the heated pool in the new Swim and Recreation Centre.

We acknowledge and sincerely apologise for the following errors and omissions in the Summer 2011 edition of Blackwatch:

Foundation Report: incorrect spelling of Mrs Margaret Atkins OAM (Cusack 1947)
School News: Deputy Principal Keith Anderson and Head of Senior School Neesha Flint not included in photo caption
Reunions: incorrect class photo 1980 30-year reunion (see this edition’s Reunions page for correct photo)

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The co-curricular programme offers a wealth of ways in which to take initiative, contribute ideas, accept responsibility, as well as take more formal leadership roles...

Co-curricular or extra-curricular? What’s in a word?

I adhere to the term co-curricular for activities that take place beyond the formal School day at PLC for, to me, it better expresses the view that these activities are part of the educational experience that PLC has to offer. They are not, as ‘extra’ would suggest, something added and secondary to the main task. ‘Co-’ confirms that the diverse range of cultural, sporting, service, academic, recreational and artistic options available to PLC students combine with the curriculum programme to prepare students with the qualities, skills and knowledge they will need for living a rich and purposeful life.

All students are expected to engage in the co-curricular life of the School and indeed most take every opportunity to do so. We endeavour to make it possible for students to juggle the Arts with Sport as well as perhaps Service activities to enable them to experience the breadth of human endeavour and creativity. It really is an extension of the School day that provides time for a more balanced, dynamic and personalised education as well as one that often leads to students discovering their unique talents and interests.

More specifically the co-curricular programme allows us to:

• provide for the individual needs of students, their development of self-worth, confidence and sense of achievement
• foster values such as commitment, responsibility, participation, self-discipline, respect for others and leadership.
• extend what is not possible in the formal curriculum because of elective choices and time restrictions
• emphasise the need for balance between academic, recreational and social domains
• encourage girls to be ‘risk-takers’, that is, to try new endeavours outside their comfort zones in a non-threatening environment
• develop lasting friendships with classmates, teammates and opponents
• meet the desire for competition, performance or presentation.
• support students in making healthy and productive choices about their lifestyle, well-being and behaviour
• provide students, staff and community members a source of identification and pride in their School
• build positive and respectful student-staff relationships
• build a sense of community, commitment and engagement: We want to educate young women who will be positive citizens that understand the value of community and the rights and responsibilities that come with that
• encourage PLC girls to be tomorrow’s leaders by providing opportunities to develop their leadership skills and attributes.

BETH BLACKWOOD
Principal

Message from the Principal

The co-curricular programme offers a wealth of ways in which to take initiative, contribute ideas, accept responsibility, as well as take more formal leadership roles such as perhaps a Student Council member, Captain of Boats or Chorale Captain.

That’s quite an impressive list of benefits but so too are the range of choices for today’s students. They make me feel I would like to be back at School as a student again! I hope you enjoy exploring some of the co-curricular options reported in this edition of Blackwatch.
INTRODUCING
REVEREND GARY VAN HEERDEN

By now, many of you will know PLC’s new School Chaplain, Reverend Gary van Heerden. Rev van Heerden moved to Perth from South Africa with his family at the beginning of the year to take up his position as PLC’s new spiritual leader.

Rev van Heerden previously worked as a Minister for about 20 years before becoming a psychologist in 2000, while still being involved in the Church part-time. For the last five years, he was working at the University of Fort Hare – famous for being the alma mater of former South African President Nelson Mandela.

When he saw the Chaplaincy position come up at PLC following the departure of Rev Elke, he applied but was surprised and delighted when he was actually offered the job. He said it was a fantastic opportunity for him and his family, especially his two young daughters who now attend the Junior School.

“I moved here to be at this School for the girls and the opportunity to work in a context such as this,” he said. “It is a very supportive and nurturing environment.”

In his role at PLC, Rev van Heerden will lead chapel sermons and teach Philosophy and Religious Studies.

He is keen to get to know the School community and become involved through sports and other activities.

From the Chaplain

Spirituality is a slippery concept. For those whose lives revolve around frantic timetables of preparing breakfast, getting children to and from school and co-curricular activities, holding down stressful jobs, balancing the books and keeping the family together, it may seem a strange and impractical concept. It implies a world of silence, retreat, inactivity and uninterrupted contemplation.

In essence, spirituality is about the way people respond to God at different times and in different places. My own journey has been particularly influenced by the contemplative and Celtic threads.

Three months on the Isle of Iona in the Western Hebrides of Scotland brought alive the richness of Celtic spirituality. In Celtic spirituality there is no sacred/secular divide. There is no difference between being religious and being normal. There is no gap between now and eternity. All is sacred. God is ever imminent, ever close. As George Macleod, the founder of the Iona Community, put it: “The veil between this world and the next is tissue thin.” The Celtic scholar Esther de Waal (1988) reflects on this presence, claiming that “the mundane is at the edge of glory”, believing that the Celts created a “spirituality of the mundane” in the misty, cold hills of Scotland and Ireland.

The spirituality that I am engaged in plays out in the midst of the daily tasks of washing dishes, supervising children’s homework, preparing sermons for chapel, engaging with colleagues in the journey of life and in grappling to make sense of the Divine in my life and in the world. It is a journey that I have been on for most of my life, more intentionally at some times and rather falteringly at most. People who have come into my life at various stages, supporting, encouraging and challenging, have made it a very rich journey. Through them I have been exposed to what it means to have an inter-connected, aware and every-day spirituality of hope, hardly ever expressed in pious religious language.

This journey has brought me somewhat unexpectedly to PLC. Having been here for five months already, I have been overwhelmed by the welcome and support I have received. A challenge here will be to articulate “things spiritual” in a way that opens up conversations and enquiries rather than restricting them; that opens up possibilities rather than imposing my constructions or meaning-making on them. In the context of a “spirituality of the mundane”, I look forward to walking with people on their own road, to celebrating who they are, in the knowledge that we all carry “vulnerabilities, strengths and multiple contradictions” (Peter Millar, 2010).

As we travel together and engage with each other, my hope is that we will all celebrate the miracle and wonder of daily life, whatever we believe or do not believe.

The Thursday prayer from the ‘Morning Service’ in the Iona Community Worship Book (1991) in closing:

O Christ, you are within each of us. It is not just the interior of these walls: it is our own inner being you have renewed. We are your temple not made with hands. We are your body. If every wall should crumble, and every church decay, we are your habitation. Nearer are you than breathing, closer than hands and feet. Ours are the eyes with which you, in the mystery, look out in compassion on the world. Yet we bless you for this place, for your directing of us, your redeeming of us, and your indwelling. Take us outside, Lord, outside holiness, out to where soldiers curse and nations clash at the crossroads of the world. So shall this building continue to be justified. We ask it for your own name’s sake.

REVEREND GARY VAN HEERDEN
In 2010, the PLC Foundation concentrated fundraising efforts on the ‘Generations: Enriching the Future’ campaign to raise funds towards the new PLC Swim and Recreation Centre. The campaign culminated in the opening of the centre in April 2011. We thank all donors to this project and for those who are fulfilling pledges made to the campaign.

It was a pleasure to meet many of our supporters at April’s PLC Foundation Annual General Meeting and following function. Guests were addressed by Year 8 student Amelia Murray and Lady Jean Brodie-Hall.

The Foundation AGM was also the forum for the introduction of a new membership criterion for the Summers Society to recognise those who have made very significant contributions in their lifetime. The inaugural members in this category - Lady Jean Brodie-Hall AM (Slatyer 1933), Dr Patricia Kailis AM OBE, Mrs Rosalind Lilley (McClelland 1961) and Mr Willy Packer (1976) - were acknowledged at the AGM.

These inductees join existing members of the Summers Society, Ms Robyn Ahern, Mrs Margaret Atkins OAM (Cusak 1947), Hon June Craig AM (Lynn 1947), Mrs Mimi Packer (Clough 1982), Ms Angela Vincent (1956), Miss Judith Vincent (1956), and Mrs Denise Murray (Chapman 1966).

The PLC Foundation greatly appreciates the supporters of the School, both philanthropic and personal, who are ensuring that future generations of PLC students will continue to benefit from the modern and progressive school that so many others have enjoyed.

The 2011 Annual Giving programme features a new scholarship award, which will be funded by the PLC Foundation. This scholarship offers full tuition to an academically talented girl who could not otherwise afford to attend PLC for Years 8 to 12. It is hoped that eventually sufficient funds can be raised so that such a scholarship can be awarded annually.

We are looking forward to working on various projects over the coming months in support of PLC and the ongoing development of a leading and innovative school of excellence for girls.

ROBYN AHERN
Chair of Foundation

Voluntary Contribution

During the past few years, a large number of parents have made voluntary contributions when paying fees. This commitment to the ongoing future of the capital development of the PLC campus is sincerely appreciated.

The voluntary contribution campaign has enjoyed great success, contributing to the opening in 2009 of the new Student Services centre catering for Middle and Senior School girls in 2009, and to the ‘Generations: Enriching the Future campaign’ for the new Swim and Recreation Centre in 2010.

Our goal is to continue developing our Master Plan and Infrastructure to ensure that PLC will carry on providing educational excellence for future generations. With the assistance of supporters such as those making voluntary contributions, we will realise this objective.

In 2011, contributions to the voluntary contribution programme will be directed towards the refurbishment of the Music Centre.

Thank you for your support to the ongoing progress of PLC.

Please contact our Development Coordinator, Liz Yeomans, on 9424 6534 or eyeomans@plc.wa.edu.au for more information.
Annual Giving

For some, a quality education at PLC is not within financial reach. For these girls, the PLC Foundation has established the PLC Foundation Scholarship.

In 2012, the PLC Foundation will offer one Year 8 to Year 12 academic scholarship of full-tuition fees to a girl who would normally be unable to consider attending PLC due to financial circumstances.

By building the PLC Foundation Scholarship Fund, we get closer to being able to offer this scholarship to a Year 8 entrant every year.

Year 8 student Amelia Murray recently explained to guests at the PLC Foundation AGM how she moved from a remote school with a small number of students to PLC in Year 7. New and diverse opportunities, from the arts to sporting endeavours, opened up for Amelia on arriving at PLC. She reflected that her prospects might have been very different without the availability of a scholarship to PLC and access to a leading and challenging academic programme.

The PLC community has many alumni and past and present parents who have ensured that intellectual curiosity, independent thinking, and integrity are valued and encouraged by supporting programmes such as annual giving in whatever financial capacity they are able.

Amelia Murray and Olivia Shannon, recipients of 2011 DJ Carmichael Year 8 Academic Scholarships.

Please consider supporting this year’s annual giving programme. Gifts are also welcome for the PLC Foundation Building Fund and PLC Library Fund. Join the many generous members of the PLC community who have supported our students by making a gift to the fund of your choice, ensuring that our current and future students are provided with the best opportunities. Every gift of any size is important to us.

Contact Development Co-ordinator Liz Yeomans on 9424 6534 or eyeomans@plc.wa.edu.au for more information on making a tax-deductible gift to the 2011 Annual Giving Programme, or visit www.plc.wa.edu.au/donation to make an online gift.
In response to Australia’s growing relationship with China, PLC has started offering Mandarin lessons in the Junior School.

For the first time this year, Mandarin classes have been offered to students from Pre-Primary to Year 5. Year 5 classes are an alternative to French as part of the curriculum, while classes for the younger students are a co-curricular option.

Australia’s trade has continued to shift its focus towards Asian countries and will increasingly do so in the future. This is particularly true of China, which is Australia’s largest trading partner and export market. According to a government report, (Becoming Asia Literate): “Asian languages and studies will be critical to equip young Australians for the modern, globalised society of the 21st Century”.

Mandarin teacher Sarah Wang said she believed that the earlier children were exposed to another language, the better their development.

“Mandarin is a language that is very hard to start with so if they start at an early age they will find it easier,” she said.

“Mandarin is very useful in WA and is [becoming very popular] so many people are learning it at the moment. The girls like it a lot.”

Ms Wang does various Chinese-themed games and activities to encourage active participation. For example, the Year 5 students made firecrackers for Chinese New Year, learned how to use an online dictionary and type Chinese characters on their laptops, and studied Chinese calligraphy. The Year 3-4 class has learnt Chinese songs, played Chinese chess, and made Peking Opera masks.

In further recognition of the importance of Asian literacy, Year 4 students participated in the Leading in Languages Youth Summit on Asian Languages in May. They heard from inspirational speakers, discussed key issues and engaged in networking opportunities.

Ms Wang taught children in China before moving to Perth to teach tertiary students at the Confucius Institute at the University of Western Australia.

She enlists the help of two Year 11 Chinese students with the Year 3-4 class on Thursday afternoons.
Service Learning and Leadership

Service Learning is the experience of serving others in a tangible and meaningful way. It is, as the name suggests, a learning experience. Our PLC community lives a service culture, connecting our head, heart and hands. It is through this direct action that our students become engaged citizens and grasp the deepest meaning of a good education. To create a thirst for knowledge and then to listen to how it speaks to our heart is what truly brings our human spirit alive. Service is action; action is leadership.

Whether it be through our co-curricular intergenerational or disability projects or family projects with Royal Perth Hospital, the Red Cross, or bread runs and feeding the homeless with Manna Industries, it is our direct service interaction that transforms both the people we serve and our PLC community.

Research notes the effect of the “helper’s halo” – that in giving we receive many benefits ourselves. These include lower stress levels, greater happiness, strengthened relationships, increased self-esteem, increased resilience, greater motivation, and life skills. Service has much to give and much to teach.

Our girls reflect that they experience a greater sense of purpose and perspective in their lives as this personal commitment to being “other-centred” grows through our Service Leadership Model.

Initially, Middle Years students complete a “service springboard” experience each year focused on their immediate community: family. They are encouraged to undertake random acts of kindness with members of the family, other than what is expected of them.

As students progress and undertake more hours of active service, they achieve Service Leadership awards – certificates, silver and gold badges, and pockets – giving of themselves for an enormous range of community organisations, both local and global. This active leadership involves many hours of making a difference and time given to reflective learning.

Typically embedded in classroom-based projects and our House system, Service Learning aims to link community service with the school curriculum to enhance both character development and academic skills. Many of our departments have strengthened community organisation partnerships by embedding outcomes with a service focus in their classwork. Examples of this include the Media and Physical Education Departments working with students at Mosman Park Primary School and Mosman Park School for the Deaf, and Dance, Drama and Music working with Amana Living aged care on performances based on residents’ oral histories.

“Noblesse oblige” (“With privilege comes responsibility”)

TRACEY BAHEN
Co-ordinator of Community and Service Learning

UN Youth

UN Youth Australia (previously known as the United Nations Youth Association) is an organisation that aims to educate and bring together young people in Australia and give them a voice in the political and world arena. UN Youth holds many events, including speaker panels, State and National conferences as well as the Model UN (MUN) competition. Students and participants have the chance to understand the United Nations and discuss matters they feel are important with others who have similar and opposing views, opening their eyes to new perspectives as well as old.

Every year, UN Youth creates a Youth Motion document that it presents to WA Government officials, which outlines the issues identified by the delegates of that year’s State Conference as pressing to the youth population. UN Youth also holds a National Conference of delegates selected from State Conferences, based on their performance and leadership qualities shown. This year, PLC was again represented in the WA delegation by Clare Woulfe (Year 12), the School’s Debating Captain. Other PLC students that attended the State Conference were Year 11s Megan Gammie and Elizabeth Kuiper.

The annual Hammarskjold Trophy Competition saw six teams enter from PLC, most of them never having tried MUN debating before. Each team represented one country in each round, debating topical issues in a Security Council format. The girls performed well in a tough competition and no doubt learned a lot about the UN and their countries as well.

DINU KUMARASINGHE
Head Prefect and UN Youth Facilitator
New Family Service Initiatives: Feeding the Homeless

The Parent Auxiliary and the Service Learning Office have teamed up this year to develop a new family service project for Senior School students and their parents.

In Term 2, Year 10 families started working with Manna Incorporated to help feed the homeless. Parents and daughters have been assisting in serving dinner to the homeless that gather in Weld Square in Perth on Tuesday evenings. Some families have also taken the time to cook nutritious muesli bars to distribute.

Year 11 and 12 families have been taking part in the Red Cross Soup Patrol’s Fremantle run. This involves collecting the Red Cross van then picking up the soup and serving it at set locations.

Both service programmes have been very well supported by families and rosters are now booked out for the rest of the year.

These two programmes complement the existing Year 8 and 9 service initiatives. Year 9 families help pack and reconcile leftover or superseded medical equipment at Royal Perth Hospital to send to health centres in developing nations. Year 8 families do a bread run for the Hilton Police and Citizens Youth Club.

Clothes for a Cause

Year 5 and 6 students in the Garment Girls after-school group are learning new skills while also contributing to a good cause.

A dozen girls are learning how to sew to make clothing to send to an orphanage in Cambodia.

Garment Girls runs on Thursday afternoons and this year the group is making shorts with matching t-shirts to send to underprivileged children.

Fabric for the shorts is supplied by the School and students are required to bring a new child’s t-shirt to embellish with appliqué, ribbons or buttons to match the shorts.

The girls learn basic sewing machine skills and some techniques for embellishments.

Year 5 student Zoe Seale, who is in Garment Girls for the second year running, said she didn’t mind giving away the garments she worked so hard to create.

“I like that you are putting lots of work into it and it is going to good use for someone that needs it,” she said. “I know they will appreciate it much more.”
Mock Trials

The Law Society of Western Australia coordinates an interschool Mock Trial Competition each year for students enrolled in Years 10, 11 and 12. Schools organise teams of 12 to contend “fictitious WA legal matters”. The competition is organised into seven rounds, where teams are presented with case materials, including witness statements and relevant sections of the law.

For each round, an enrolled team must organise six of their members to take on competing roles: two barristers, a solicitor, two witnesses and a court official. The teams are then allocated the case for the prosecution/plaintiff, or the case for the defence.

Trials take place roughly once a month in the Supreme Court of Western Australia, and can go for up to two-and-a-half hours.

This year PLC entered three teams into the trials, with a total of 36 students taking part. Most of the students who entered were new to the competition and over the course of the semester trained in giving evidence, conducting witness examinations and cross-examinations and in the intricacies of court etiquette and procedure.

Formal training sessions took place on a weekly basis with guidance and support from coach and legal practitioner, Old Collegian Kate Crompton (1999).

Though none of the teams were successful in making it into the finals this year, there were many strong points and highlights over the 15 weeks in which they competed. PLC witnesses were especially hardy and consistently scored above their competition, with Year 11 students Amelia McDermott and Elizabeth Kuiper visibly frustrating their opponent barristers during cross-examination in one particularly memorable case.

Special mention is also deserved for the Year 10 team members who, being the youngest in the competition, still managed to hold their own against teams of Year 11s and 12s.

CHRISTOPHER SCHOLTEN
Mock Trials Co-ordinator

Debating the Point

PLC hosted two rounds of the National Debating Championships in May.

Alisha Maclean (Year 10) was honoured to be selected into the State squad but unfortunately was not chosen for the WA team this year. However she and other Year 10 students were able to watch the energetic impromptu debates involving students from around the country.

Last year, Year 12 student and 2010 Debating Captain, Molly Dale, represented WA in the State team.

Alisha and other PLC students take part in the Western Australian Debating League (WADL) competition, which runs from March to July.

This year, there were 15 PLC teams of three or four girls from Years 7 to 12 at novice, junior and senior levels. They argued thought-provoking topics including: “That WA should become an independent nation” (novice), “That we should cease all public funding to the arts” (juniors), and “That Wikileaks is good for the world” (seniors).

PLC debaters trained on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings with teachers Soni Bailey and David Yates and debating coach Juliet Park.

School Debating Captain Clare Woulfe said debating was an important skill, not just for competitions but for life.

“Girls learn how to develop and construct logical arguments that are backed up by fact and then delivered cohesively as a team,” she said. “This skill is vitally important as creating strong arguments that are then backed up is the basis for much work in other subjects.”

Year 5 and 6 students participate in a separate GoZone Debating competition.

Library Study Group

In 2010, the School felt there was a need to extend the library hours, firstly to provide a venue for girls who wish to remain at the library and work and secondly to assist with parents who work late. We do have girls who prefer the School environment for study purposes as they feel there are less distractions.

On Tuesday and Thursday the library closes at 7.00 pm rather than its usual 5.30 pm. These days were chosen after consultation with the Senior School girls as many have sport and other activities on the other days. Many girls use the library on these days and in the future, we may look at adding Mondays and Wednesdays also.

This year working in the library on Tuesdays we have Liana Tay, a past student who graduated in 2009 and was our Overseas Captain. Liana was an outstanding student who was awarded a General Exhibition for her excellent results. She was an all-rounder who performed well in all disciplines. Liana is currently undertaking Biomedical Studies at UWA.

On Thursdays we have Maddie Watts who was our Head Prefect in 2009. Maddie was also an all-round excellent student. She spent a gap year last year in England and is currently studying Law/Science at UWA.

The students have got to know Liana and Maddie well and understand they are able to help them in any discipline.

Students are encouraged to ask their teachers for assistance as all our staff will provide one-on-one help. The girls are also encouraged to attend the library sessions when Liana and Maddie are working as this provides extra support for their studies.

NEESHA FLINT,
Head of Senior School
Kitchen Chemistry

Erupting volcanoes, imploding cans, making sherbet and growing crystals are all part of the fun for Junior School students in Science Club on Tuesday afternoons.

Students from Years 4 to 6 perform experiments using household ingredients as a fun way to learn about chemistry.

Science Club was introduced in Term 2 as a co-curricular option after school and will continue this term due to popular demand.

In Term 3, Middle School Science Technician Elizabeth Lourensz plans to offer the Kitchen Chemistry programme to a new group of students and introduce a Forensics programme for existing Science Club members.

“Someone has kidnapped Sydney the rat and the students have to look at the evidence to work out who did it,” she said. “They will learn about finger printing, footprints, chromatography, writing analysis, hair analysis and fibre analysis.”

Catering to Students at Middle School Café

Hungry students and staff who stay behind after school are being looked after by Senior School students running the Middle School Café.

The Technology and Enterprise Department introduced the volunteer vocational initiative both as a way of teaching the students practical skills and offering a valuable service.

Students in Years 10 to 12 have the opportunity to learn some service skills by making coffees and serving food. Coffee is served at Monday lunchtime and snacks are also offered after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Year 10 students learn about café culture in their studies and then Senior School students have the opportunity to work voluntarily in the school café.

Head of Technology and Enterprise, Philippa D’Sylva, said it was a popular programme and often helped the students find part-time work.

“It is a transferable skill but also a community service,” she said.

“The girls who stay back after school are hungry – these cold days especially can be absolutely hectic.”

Three or four students work each shift and rotate on a roster.

The café is run on a not-for-profit basis with the money collected from sales covering costs.

Ms D’Sylva hopes to open the café more regularly and add more menu items, such as hot soup, in addition to the current offering of toasted sandwiches and wraps.
Co-Curricular

Dancers Inspired by Top Choreographers

PLC Dance students are fortunate to work with top Perth dancers and choreographers on new and exciting contemporary pieces.

Most PLC students have the opportunity to learn Dance, either through classes in the curriculum or as a member of the School’s two co-curricular programmes, Dance Company and Dance Training Group.

This year, PLC’s elite dance collective, Dance Company, has been lucky enough to broaden their contemporary technique under David Mueller. A graduate of the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, David has performed in an extensive list of shows including Gary Stewart’s Australian Dance Theatre production of *Honour Bound* and is recipient of several prestigious awards including ‘The Western Australian Young Performer of the Year Award’ and ‘The Dancer to Watch Award’ by Dance Australia Magazine.

The Company’s Year 9 and 10 students also had the privilege of workshops with Sally Batchford during Term 2. A 2005 WAAPA graduate, Sally recently performed in the STRUT-produced *Iron or Gold* by Brooke Leeder and *Tongues of Stone* by Carol Brown. In 2010 she was based in Berlin and has worked with several internationally acclaimed choreographers.

Both choreographers prepared works for the successful Term 2 Dance production, *Développé*, at the Hazel Day Theatre in June. *Développé* showcased the talent and dedication of Year 11 and 12 Dance students, featuring works by Dance Company and Dance Training Group.

Also in Term 2, Dance Training Group created a twisted tail of *Red Riding Hood* under the guidance of former PLC student and Green Room dancer McKenzie Goldsmith (2008). Dance Training Group focuses on extending the technique of its dancers in an enjoyable and exciting environment.

Students audition to be a part of either Dance Training Group or Dance Company and meet every Monday to work with Perth choreographers. Dance Company comprises about 40 members and 20 are accepted into Dance Training Group.

“Dance gives students performance experience and the opportunity to work with industry professionals,” said PLC Dance Co-ordinator Skye Hegarty. “Dance Company and Dance Training Group members have the opportunity to experience what it’s like to work in a semi-professional company.”

Year 9 Dance students performed in the Annual Achper Dance Festival in June. In Term 2, they worked hard on a vibrant samba routine inspired by the music, colour and energy of Rio de Janeiro’s ‘Carnival’. The show was accompanied by PLC’s own percussion ensemble and was a spectacular showstopper.

Year 12 students have worked with internationally renowned dancer and choreographer Reed Luplau. Reed trained at the Australian Ballet School and is a former Principal Dancer for Sydney Dance Company. He represented Australia on the television series *Superstars of Dance* and choreographed works for the Australian Ballet and The West Australian Ballet. Reed is currently dancing with the Stephen Petronio Company, New York.
Drama and Dance give students WINGS

WINGS is PLC’s Junior and Middle School co-curricular integrated programme for Dance and Drama and gives students the opportunity to express themselves through movement.

Industry professionals direct a series of workshops, culminating in a final showing to parents and friends. Teachers brainstorm with students to devise a piece together to take through to performance.

Each workshop session is broken down into two, 45-minute workshops of Dance and Drama. Separate classes are run for Years 2-3, 4-5, 6, and 7-8 after school one day a week.

This year, classes cover everything from comedy, mime, circus skills and improvisation to musical theatre, stage combat and hip-hop.

Programme Co-ordinator Liane Campbell said there is an emphasis on ensemble work.

“Most things are done as an ensemble to get them to work together as a group of performers with the idea of supporting each other,” she said.

Ms Campbell said that apart from the joy students experience from expressing themselves creatively, WINGS really teaches them how to focus.

“People often comment on how WINGS students are able to really focus on the job at hand,” she said. “It’s important for students to develop their focus so they can communicate a character or ensemble role effectively to an audience.”

But most of all, students took part in WINGS because they enjoyed it.

“The kids do it because it is fun and they are developing skills without really realising it – and they love to get up and perform under lights.”
Music is Instrumental Offering at PLC

From the mesmerising Proms Concert at the Quarry to the spine-tingling performances of the pipe band, virtuoso individual performances and sublime group ensembles, music touches every one of us at PLC, whether as a musician or audience member.

PLC offers a comprehensive and diverse co-curricular music programme. Students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12 can study the universal language of music, learn an instrument and join a music ensemble. Staff conduct over 600 music lessons a week in everything from voice to violin, flute to French horn, bassoon to baritone and more.

In addition to offering music scholarships and bursaries to students in Years 7 to 12, the School supports beginning students through a Year 2 string and Year 5 band programme, as well as providing an opportunity to learn a pipe band instrument in Year 7.

Students are encouraged to join a variety of different music ensembles including bands, orchestras and choirs, while senior ensembles combine with students from Scotch College and Trinity College. All ensembles are engaged in a comprehensive performance programme including school concerts, festivals and competitions, as well as participation in national and international music tours.

Director of Music Mark Thomas believes that music enhances students’ development and personal experience.

"Playing a musical instrument stimulates every region of the human brain and supports students in every aspect of their intellectual and personal development,” he said.

“The co-curricular music programme at PLC provides an opportunity for all students to experience the joy of making music, of learning a new language, mastering an instrument and in sharing music with others.”

Suzuki Strings Programme

The Suzuki Strings and Piano programmes are regarded as the cornerstone of the School’s Music programme and for good reason – it teaches students musicality from a young age, which helps them understand Music in general.

PLC is one of only a handful of WA schools that offers this innovative approach, which focuses on learning through demonstration and repetition.

Students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12 can learn the violin, viola and cello through the School’s Suzuki Strings programme and the piano through the same method. About 100 students are enrolled in the programme.

Music students have one individual lesson each week and string students also take part in a group class.

Acting Director of Music, Anne Coughlan, said the Suzuki method is highly regarded as an excellent way to learn a musical instrument.

"The Suzuki method is only one way of teaching children to play an instrument - but it is a good one with proven results,” she said. “You get children with a really high level of proficiency on their instrument because they start early.”

Named after Japanese violinist and music teacher Dr Shinichi Suzuki, this teaching philosophy is based on the idea that children can learn to play music competently from a young age through motivation, modelling and repetition, just as they learn to talk fluently.

Parent involvement is integral to this method and so parents are required to attend their child’s lessons and supervise regular practice.

"It is a big commitment and we let parents know this right from the start,” Ms Coughlan said. “Suzuki parents want to be involved with their children’s learning and because the support is there, children want to learn, and progress quickly.”
### Inter-School Sports

Most PLC students participate in at least one co-curricular sport and the School has a reputation for being very competitive on the inter-school circuit.

Head of Sport, Luke Callier, said PLC had strong A teams in most sports and had won the 9A and 10A pennants in netball, volleyball, basketball and hockey for the last couple of years. Also PLC was named Overall Champion School for tennis in Term 1 and won the Head of the River rowing competition last year.

PLC has Middle and Senior School teams competing in inter-school swimming, volleyball and tennis in Term 1; cross-country, netball, hockey and rowing in Term 2; athletics, basketball, soccer and rowing in Term 3; and water polo and softball in Term 4.

Students wanting to join one of the teams sign up online and then take part in trials, usually at the end of the previous term. They are then placed in teams according to ability.

Teams train and play once a week for seven weeks each term in the Independent Girls’ Schools’ Sports Association (IGSSA) of WA competition.

PLC also offers a Sporting Excellence Programme for elite athletes in the Middle and Senior Schools. Mr Callier acts as a liaison and support for students in the programme, providing assistance with balancing training loads with homework requirements through a flexible academic programme.

### Adventure Options

For those students who want to try less mainstream sports, the Adventure Options programme offers seasonal activities each term.

Different choices are offered and if there is enough interest in each activity, these are offered in after-school hours at different venues.

In Term 1, students did surfing, sailing and yoga. In Term 2, students wanted to do indoor climbing and continue yoga. Term 3 offers surfing, rock climbing, sailing and yoga again.

“These are less mainstream activities and the focus is not on competition but participation,” said Adventure Options Co-ordinator Peter Nidd. “They learn competence and confidence in a safe environment so they can pursue activities in their own right, out of school.”

Mr Nidd said there was a focus on aquatic activities, since PLC enjoyed close proximity to both the river and ocean.

He also organises parent-daughter programmes, such as white water rafting and abseiling, as “quality shared experiences”.

Adventure Options is run by the Outdoor Education department.
Students Lap Up New Swim and Recreation Centre

It may be cold outside but that’s no reason not to swim at PLC now that the swimming pool has been heated and covered.

Fifty years after the opening of the original pool, it has been resurfaced, heated and covered by a brand new, multi-purpose gymnasium, which is joined by a footbridge to the Junior School. There are also rooms for music classes on an upper level of the building and extra play areas outside for Junior School students.

On April 1, the new PLC Swim and Recreation Centre was officially opened by PLC Council Chairman, Justice John McKechnie. Years 5, 6 and 7 were in attendance to hear guest speaker Hannah Vermeersch (2009) share her journey as a boarder at PLC and ambition to represent Australia rowing at the next Olympics.

Principal Beth Blackwood said the new facility added to the form and functionality of the School and provided more opportunities for physical education.

“This centre adds significantly to our capacity as a School to offer a diverse range of individual and team sports and physical activities that will build fitness and well-being as well as qualities such as leadership, teamwork, cooperation, collaboration and sportswomanship,” Ms Blackwood said.

“We want physical activity to be part of every student’s life and a habit that they continue to carry with them beyond School.”

The $6.8 million centre was made possible by a grant from the Federal Government’s ‘Building the Education Revolution’ programme and gifts from the PLC community through the ‘Generations: Enriching the Future’ campaign.

While the generosity of many families has made this centre a reality, swimming lanes have been named in recognition of three significant donors: the Packer Lane, the Perron Lane and the Elizabeth Traher Lane. The Turner Foyer has been named in recognition of the generous contribution of Simon and Alison Turner.
Foreign Minister Greets PLC Students

As a lead-up event to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) later this year, the annual Australian Commonwealth Lecture on Australia and the Future of the Commonwealth was delivered by the Hon. Kevin Rudd, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The Constitutional Centre of Western Australia invited PLC Politics and Law students to the lecture at the Burswood Grand Ballroom in March. Many of the 17 girls who attended were greeted by the Minister and some even asked for his autograph. He was very obliging and even made some humorous comments.

The lecture discussed the importance of the Commonwealth, its role in maintaining democracy, and Australia’s role in supporting the Commonwealth through CHOGM.

Perth will host the biennial CHOGM event at the end of October.

Apple for the Teachers and Year 11 Students

Two Year 11 students discussed how technology enhances education at PLC at an Apple Leadership Summit in Singapore in March.

Arielle Tay and Ruby van Beem were the only students in Australia invited to attend the three-day conference, which hosted delegates including Apple co-founder Steve Wozniack, author Dan Pink and Singaporean students.

Arielle and Ruby made presentations on how they used technology as a tool in completing their personal projects for the Middle Years Programme. Arielle, who was born in Singapore, made a children’s book for her personal project. Ruby organised a charity walk, ‘Walk for Poppy’, in memory of her grandfather who died of motor neurone disease.

Arielle and Ruby were joined by PLC Principal Beth Blackwood, Deputy Principals Kim Edwards and Keith Anderson and Interactive Learning Technology Curriculum Manager Anna Hu.

Ms Hu was recently inducted into the Apple Distinguished Educators Class of 2011, joining Mr Anderson who was already a member.
School News

Young Leader Chosen for Holiday Programme

Siobhan Deacon (Year 10) has been selected for the Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Programme. She was selected for her leadership position as co-captain of her local soccer club and involvement at School in debating, mock trials and the school play. She also has a keen interest in History which is a prerequisite for selection into the programme.

The Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Programme is a joint initiative of Curtin University and the History Teachers Association of WA. It is open to all Year 10 students in the State.

Each year, 30 students who have demonstrated academic ability, particularly in the humanities, an interest in history, leadership potential and involvement in their communities, are selected. They attend an intensive and stimulating four-day residential course at Curtin during the July holidays.

Siobhan said she was looking forward to the two-day programme, where she would learn about Middle Eastern culture.

BioGENEius

After making it through to the semi-finals of the BioGENEius Challenge last year, Abbey Mardon (Year 9) has re-entered to represent PLC this year.

The BioGENEius Challenge of Western Australia offers a unique opportunity for high-school students from Years 8 to 12 to undertake a high-level biotechnology research project under the mentorship of one of WA’s biotechnology researchers.

Abbey entered last year while still in Year 8 and competed against students from other schools in Years 8 to 12.

Her project comprised a 2300-word report identifying the microbes involved in a new form of waste treatment at a piggery. The project was selected to progress to the regional finals judging in March. Abbey was allowed 10 minutes to present her project to the judges followed by five minutes of questions.

A panel of PLC Science teachers and a previous PLC semi-finalist, Marissa Loh (Year 11), was set up for Abbey to practise her presentation and prepare for answering questions.

At the awards ceremony in March, the poster Abbey created for her project was on display and she was presented with a participation certificate in recognition of her hard work.

“I learned a lot about what the life of a scientist is like (they don’t all have crazy hair and glasses!), how real scientific experiments are conducted and what sorts of machines are used and how they work,” Abbey said.

The 2011 Challenge runs from April 2011 to February 2012.

Abbey Mardon in the lab (above) and with Nobel Laureate Professor Barry Marshall at the BioGENEius awards ceremony.
French Teacher Wins Prestigious Peer Award

PLC French Teacher Jane Massey has won the prestigious Marie-Louise Laurent Award for her outstanding contribution to French teaching in WA.

Ms Massey was on the Reunion Island International Exchange Committee and was previously the chief examiner and marker for TEE French for the Curriculum Council. She also instructs other teachers on how to teach languages at Notre Dame University.

Ms Massey said she was particularly honoured to have been nominated for the award by her peers, including colleagues and parents.

The award is named after Marie-Louise Laurent, who was very active in promoting French in WA and was also a former teacher at PLC in the 1980s. Ms Laurent passed away in July 1999 after a battle with cancer.

Ms Massey has been teaching French for 20 years, 10 at PLC. She has previously been Head of Languages Other Than English (LOTE) in the Middle School but now works part-time while she balances life with three young children.

What she loves most about her job is seeing students’ progress.

“It is such a visible progression of students,” she said. “Many come in as complete beginners and they can’t understand anything at first – because we only speak French in class – but then move on to understand what you are saying.”

Having studied and worked in France and Reunion Island as a university student, Ms Massey strongly believes that French is a very useful international language.

“French is spoken in 42 countries and so many students anticipate having life paths that take them to different countries, especially with the IB (International Baccalaureate) programme,” she said. “French is a very good language to have as it might open doors in other countries.”

Students at PLC learn French from Pre-Primary to Year 5, when they have the choice to begin Mandarin, or Japanese in Year 7. Languages are an elective in Years 11 and 12.

French is a popular choice with five classes in Year 10 alone. This year, 50 girls are doing French in Year 11 and 40 in Year 12.

PLC has a large French department of seven teachers.

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Big Buzz from Spelling Bee Win

Tabitha Malet (Year 7) had to manoeuvre her way through an avalanche of tricky words to win this year’s Western Australian Spelling Bee competition.

The Spelling Bee is an online spelling competition with students competing against their own personal best and with others across the State. The top six students with the highest scores then went head-to-head in a live Spelling Bee at the State Library in April.

Tabitha was shocked and delighted to win a family holiday to Hong Kong Disneyland as her prize for successfully spelling the word “hyphenate”.

“The hardest word I got was ‘manoeuvre’, ” Tabitha said. “There were other difficult words, like ‘calisthenics’ and ‘gerrymander’, that others didn’t get right. Then I got ‘hyphenate’, which seemed easy by comparison.”

Tabitha was allowed to invite friends to the final but chose not to, afraid that she might make a mistake in front of them. Her mum and youngest sister were there to watch and were very proud and excited about her win.

“I was very, very, very happy when I won and my school friends have been really lovely and excited for me,” Tabitha said.
Budding Young Actors in the Spotlight

The small screen is calling for some of PLC’s enthusiastic Drama students.

Chelsea Williamson (Year 12) spent her summer school holidays in Los Angeles with the Glee Club Australia LA Tour, rehearsing and auditioning for television roles.

While in the US, she performed at Universal Studios, Disneyland, Knott’s Berry Farm and on Hollywood Boulevard. She also had the opportunity to meet musical and casting directors and the choreographer from hit TV show Glee, and casting directors from Disney.

She was then invited to stay on to take part in an intensive acting course and audition for pilot shows in January.

This year she is working on being cast in a short film and heading back to LA at the end of the year to take part in more auditions.

Annabelle Segler (Year 10) was selected from hundreds of young hopefuls for a small role in the much-anticipated adaptation of Tim Winton’s award-winning novel Cloudstreet. It was her first TV role and Annabelle said it was a great opportunity to see the inside workings of television production.

Annabelle has also been modelling since she was 10.

Olivia De Jonge (Year 8) won the ‘Outstanding Breakthrough Performance Award’ in Hollywood for her role in short film The Good Pretender in the final judging for the Doorpost Film Project. The Doorpost Film Project is one of the largest online film festivals in the world.

Olivia was also named Best Actress at the West Australian 24th Annual Screen Awards in March.

These aspiring young actors follow in the footsteps of other successful PLC talent, including Claire van der Boom (1999), Nicki Wendt (1983) and Jennifer Vuletic (1975).
Macbeth or not Macbeth?

A new spin on an old tale has brought the famous story of Macbeth to life on the stage of the Hazel Day Drama Centre for this year’s School play.

New Director of Drama, Scott Robertson, directed a different interpretation of Shakespeare’s classic tale of vaulting ambition, betrayal and murder, changing the male roles to female ones.

With an almost all-female cast (except for one male actor playing Lady Macbeth as a husband), the action was set in the present day and involved the boardroom machinations of a successful mining company, focussing on the deadly ambition of “Rose” Macbeth.

“It is very topical with the state of WA at the moment with mining companies as opposed to the royal court of Scotland,” Mr Robertson said.

“Macbeth is probably seen as Shakespeare’s most misogynistic play so I thought that if we changed the genders, how do things change in the play?” We did not change names, they became surnames – the challenge was not changing the text.”

The cast featured 35 students from Years 9 to 12 who were led by Drama Captain Lucy Westbrook in the title role.

Lucy said the school’s interpretation was an interesting twist on the famous classic.

“I found the contemporary conceptualisation very exciting and it was a great way to attract a younger audience to a classical play,” she said.

“As hard and consuming as the role was, I had the most fun with it.”

The cast and crew received positive feedback for their thought-provoking performance.
Stage Band was honoured to receive a visit from respected jazz musician James Morrison during a rehearsal in March.

Mr Morrison is renowned for playing numerous instruments but is best known for his trumpet playing. He is also a composer and was in Perth to put the finishing touches on the score for a play at the new WA State Theatre Centre.

Mr Morrison listened to the band play and offered praise and pointers on how to improve.

He also played a trumpet solo, wowing his appreciative audience.

The jazz legend was invited to the band’s rehearsal by Felicity Gallagher (Year 10), a family friend.

Felicity said the students were in awe of this amazing musician.

“When James Morrison first came into the room, I don’t think that anyone really believed it was him, and we went a bit quiet,” she said. “But he was extremely friendly in the way that he taught us and made it enjoyable for everyone.

“He made us want to impress him with our playing, and I think that it might have been the best we have played as a band.”

Felicity said Mr Morrison was an inspiration and the band took on board his suggestions.

Four Year 12 students have overcome fatigue, seasickness and their fear of sharks to raise funds for the Indigenous Communities Education Appeal (ICEA).

Rosie Bahen-Wright, Jessica Plydell-Bouverie, Beth Johns and Indiana Read took part in the Rottnest Channel Swim in February as both a personal and physical challenge.

They aimed to complete the swim in under seven hours but finished in seven hours 50 minutes after being caught in a strong current. Also Rosie became ill and was not able to complete her rotations.

However all four girls came together as a unified force to cross the finish line – even Rosie, who celebrated her seventeenth birthday that day.

“I did manage to swim the last 500m with the team even though it was a bit of a struggle,” Rosie said. “It was a very memorable birthday – a day I won’t forget soon!”

The girls trained three days a week at PLC and did some ocean swims in the lead up to the big event.

Their biggest fear was sharks and there were reported to be about 120 in the area on the day, although the girls didn’t see any themselves.

Through support for the swim and other fundraisers, including a cake stall and raffle, the team managed to raise more than $1500 for ICEA, which works to facilitate educational opportunities for Aboriginal young people in remote communities.

“We chose ICEA because it’s a relatively new charity and a really good cause as everyone is entitled to a good education,” Jessica said.

PLC has a history of supporting the indigenous community, providing indigenous scholarships and offering a Service tour for students to the Kimberley region. This year a dozen Year 10, 11 and 12 students will visit the region in July.
PLC Girls Accepted into Youth Orchestra

Two of PLC’s talented musicians have been accepted into the WA Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.

Emily Farquhar (Year 9) and Nicola Armstrong (Year 7) have begun rehearsals with the State’s premier youth philharmonic orchestra and will perform at the Perth Concert Hall and Winthrop Hall this year.

Nicki plays the cello in the orchestra but also learns the oboe. She has been learning the cello for six years and plays in the School’s ‘Cellissima’ group.

Emily was honoured to be selected as leader of the Youth Orchestra’s viola section. She also learns the French horn at School.

She has been playing in the School’s Concert Band 1 and Bartoc orchestra, as well as the combined orchestra with Scotch College. Recently she has stopped playing in Bartoc to focus on her other commitments.

In the future, Emily would like to compose her own music and possibly play electric viola in one of the main bands.

“That would be a great experience to turn all the classical music I have studied into something more jazzy, more like the songs we listen to today,” she said.

“You don’t have to be good at music to enjoy it and have fun,” she added. “Music is something that you will never lose. It has given me the opportunity to socialise with the older years and gain some friendships.”
School News

MAD Week

Once again, students went MAD supporting their favourite causes during Make a Difference Week in April.

Each day, there was a focus on a different Service Learning theme: Overseas Aid, Reconciliation, Environment, Social Justice and Relay for Life (for the WA Cancer Council).

A highlight was the Recycled Clothing Fashion Parade on the Quad for Environment Day, organised by Environmental Service Captain Rachael Webster. Ten fashionable students and five game staff members (Beth Blackwood, Rebecca Watts, Bianca Cazzulino, Michael Hinchley and Keith Neale) strutted their stuff in the name of sustainable style. Apart from being an entertaining event, the parade drew attention to the issue of clothing waste.

Other events included the screening of a movie on international aid, a cake stall supporting Japan following the earthquakes, the sale of kangaroo kebabs and damper on Reconciliation Day, and an interactive game dealing with social justice issues.

About 70 girls competed in Relay for Life the following weekend in the name of supporting cancer survivors and research for the WA Cancer Council.

Appealing to those in Need

The PLC community has once again given generously to those in need through the School’s term appeals.

In Term 1, hundreds of books and games were collected for UnitingCare West to distribute to disadvantaged children in indigenous and refugee communities.

Tracy Pollett, Indigenous Family Project Officer for UnitingCare West, said the donations would be life changing for the recipients.

“These kids don’t have any books in their homes but they love them,” she said. “It is a door to another world, another place to be.”

In Term 2, students and their families generously supported those needing shelter, this time providing over 1000 cans of food and dozens of blankets for the homeless.

In Term 3, comfort packs will be collected for the Wyn Carr Women’s Refuge. The packs are always greatly appreciated and provide essential toiletries for women who leave home with nothing to escape domestic violence.

Operation Santa will be held again in Term 4, with donations of gifts going to the families of prisoners at Acacia Prison and food hampers for disadvantaged families through Fremantle Wesley Mission.

Thanks to all those who have donated so far this year and in anticipation of your continued support.
Harmony Day

The Junior School held a moving tribute to Japan on Harmony Day in March, in response to the earthquake disaster.

Following a reflective chapel service focusing on what actions the students could take, Year 1 to 6 girls made origami cranes with handwritten messages of hope. Early Years students made Japanese fans instead, each created with an image of love, peace and happiness.

Students then assembled in the Swim and Recreation Centre where they listened to Japanese students Miah Smith and May Tokui share their own personal reflections on events in their homeland and our actions as global citizens.

Japanese drumming, provided by SHOUT percussion band members, signalled the beginning of the School’s reflection, as students walked through the bridge placing their cranes and fans. In a show of unity, the whole Junior School then linked hands to form a chain around the building.

Head of Junior School Heather Pope said this was a very special day at the School.

"The message of hope, respect and empathy for those different from ourselves and for those in need was evident from the chapel service to the Harmony circle," Ms Pope said. "Students, teachers, percussionists, artists, storytellers, School Committee and House Leaders all had a part to play in making this a memorable and moving experience.”

Donations were collected during the day to support the relief efforts in Japan.
Biological Science Excursions

Biological Science classes were taken outdoors in Term 1 for hands-on fieldwork excursions.

In February, the 2AB girls met at Cottesloe Beach at daybreak to gain an understanding of the biodiversity of the Cottesloe Reef. The girls ran transect lines and learned about the abundance and adaptations of a variety of species living at different positions along the reef platform. They were fortunate to have the assistance of Marine Scientist Jenny Shaw, mother of Katherine Baronie Shaw (Year 11).

By March, the same students were out for a daylong excursion at the Hillarys Marine Laboratories. The day started with students running a seine netting programme along with Fisheries Department research biologists, sampling the size composition of fish populations. The afternoon was spent in the laboratory completing fish dissections, learning how to age a fish through counting otolith (fish ear bone) growth rings, and gathering an appreciation of how to manage fisheries for sustainability.

Meanwhile the 3AB Biological Science students have also been developing an understanding of ecosystems and sustainability. They were fortunate to be visited by ex-PLC student Felicity Bradshaw (1956), a world expert on honey possums. Ms Bradshaw explained the peril of the tiny, specialist nectar-consuming marsupials. They are at increased risk of extinction due to habitat reduction, increased fire frequency and intensity, a lack of refuge from fires, along with cat predation and climate change.

In April, Ms Bradshaw was also welcomed into the Year 3 classroom to read her illustrated book, A Tale of Two Honey Possums, to the interested young readers.

The 3AB students also applied their ecosystems knowledge during their Biological Science camp. Much time was spent on a cattle feedlot learning about agricultural ecosystems and land care issues. The girls stayed at Dryandra Woodland and participated in mammal trapping, where they caught the endangered woylie and bilby along with numerous brush-tail possums. The girls learnt a lot at the camp about the importance of conservation.

JANE BRANDENBURG
Biology Teacher

Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Day

A very special morning for Junior School students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 4 and their grandparents was held on Thursday 2 June for the annual Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Morning.

Standing in as "special friends" for children whose grandparents were unable to attend were 16 Old Collegians whose peer years ranged from 1941 to 1969. Each was assigned a student with whom they spent a very enjoyable, interactive hour being shown everything from computer activities to Maths and reading.

Once the “lesson” was complete, they were personally escorted to a morning tea provided by Junior School parents.

This is the first year Old Collegians were invited and they and their charges enjoyed the exchange so much that they will be invited again in future years.

A big thank you to the Year 5 girls who assisted by escorting our visitors to the School, the families who contributed so many delicious treats and the Auxiliary who worked tirelessly to present such a lovely morning tea. An even bigger thank you to all of the guests who joined in the fun and took some time to share a snippet of the children’s school day.
Peppermint Grove Mapped Out for Open Garden Day

PLC’s local surrounds of Peppermint Grove have been mapped out in a beautiful original document created for this year’s Open Garden Day.

Artist Mary Yates worked with PLC Archives for six months researching the School, its history and local landmarks to painstakingly reconstruct a detailed representation of “Australia’s tiniest Shire”.

The watercolour map contains colourful sketches and interesting tidbits of information on the area’s pioneer families, heritage buildings, former land uses and of course PLC.

Copies of this unique artistic document will be available as a foldout map on Open Garden Day and also sold as a larger keepsake print.

The School is framing the original, which will be hung in a prominent place for all to admire.

Ms Yates said she spent months getting all the details right and hoped others would appreciate her efforts.

“It takes ages and once I have a job like this I don’t stop, I get so focussed on what I am doing,” she said. “I just love them, the fun of them and discovering all sorts of things. I like to think people learn at least one new thing they didn’t know before (from my maps).”

Ms Yates emphasised that although the map was “fairly accurate”, she used some artistic license.

She will conduct a walking tour on Open Garden Day, 27 October, using her map as a guide to local landmarks.
WWI Cross Returned

Beverley Barry (Wilson 1948) grew up knowing her grandfather, Hugh Russel, died on the Western Front during World War One. He was a lieutenant with the 3rd Tunnelling Company, had been mentioned in despatches three times, and had just been awarded the Military Cross when he died of wounds on 22 January 1918. A sturdy cross was constructed by members of his unit to mark his grave in Hersin, France.

In 1920, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission replaced these many thousands of wooden crosses and most were given to locals and burned as firewood. So well respected was Hugh that his unit instead organised for his cross to be sent to his widow, Georgiana Russel, in View Street, Peppermint Grove. Georgiana was grateful to have it and when she died in 1936 it was passed on to her daughter, Doris Wilson, Beverley’s mother.

In the late 1970s, after years of storage in Doris’ garage, the cross was in need of restoration. Her children knew Doris had organised for a man in Dalkeith to restore the cross but when she died in 1984, they realised it had not been returned. They didn’t know who she’d left it with and thought they’d lost it forever.

In March 2011, Beverley’s daughter Lisa became interested in genealogy and began active research on the family’s history, particularly her great-grandfather, Hugh Russel. During an Internet search on his name, she came across auctioneer IS Wright’s website in Ballarat. Hugh Russel’s Western Front grave cross was an item in the next lot of military memorabilia up for auction in four days. The estimated value was $4500.

Knowing the story of how Hugh’s cross had been lost to the family, Lisa immediately rang the auction house and explained the situation. They were largely unhelpful and she was told she could buy it back for $3750. Lisa promptly phoned the police and a local solicitor, Jon Irwin. The police were delighted to put a stop to the auction and Jon removed the cross from the premises after three weeks of intense negotiation. The Ballarat RSL also became involved, anxious to see the cross returned to the family.

Several weeks later, Hugh’s cross arrived back in Perth. It had been carefully packed by Jon, who refused to charge for his services or shipping, saying it was an honour to have been able to help. The family had decided the cross from Hugh’s grave and his Military Cross should both be donated to the Army Museum in Fremantle and so they were, in a moving ceremony on 16 April. The family are very pleased this rare item from the battlefields of WWI will now be on permanent display, along with Hugh’s Military Cross, receiving the respect it deserves.

Muffie’s Mountain Devil

Working in Archives is rarely just about working with items. There are also stories that need to be recorded and preserved.

Last year, Archives volunteer Muffie Rogers (Prater 1948) related the story of her beloved childhood pet, a tiny mountain devil she’d found on a farm when she was about 4. She walked him around the neighbourhood in her doll’s pram during the day and lovingly wrapped him in blankets and tucked him into her doll’s cot at night.

Muffie’s half-sister Valerie Hill (Bailey 1941) teased Muffie relentlessly for loving her spiky pet so much. One day he disappeared and Muffie, inconsolable, hunted high and low for him for months.

In 1941, Muffie started at PLC and eventually moved up to Senior School in 1944. Walking into her first science lesson she looked around, excited, until she caught sight of a specimen jar on the shelf. There, preserved in formaldehyde, was her mountain devil, donated by Valerie some years earlier.

Sixty-seven years later, Muffie wondered if he was still here. Before I began a search for him, I related the story to my daughter, Devon Lovelady (Year 12, 2011), and was shocked when she sent me a text from her Chemistry class the next day saying ‘I’m staring at Muffie’s mountain devil.’

I went straight to the classroom and saw the poor creature, head down in his jar. Wondering why I was there, the class then listened as I told them about Muffie’s mountain devil. Patient smiles gave
way to gasps of horror as they learned how much this tiny creature had meant to a little girl so many years ago and how he’d ended up in a PLC science lab.

Thousands of PLC girls must have seen him over the many years he’s been here – and now we know his story.

A visit with three generations

In April I was fortunate to spend time with three generations of one family when I was invited to visit Margaret Hammond (Murdoch 1938) with her daughter Margaret Lefroy (Hammond 1970) and granddaughter Kate Lefroy (1999). Margaret came to PLC as a boarder in 1936 from ’Belmont’, her home in Wagin, a property that is still in the family.

While Margaret Lefroy handed me photographs, certificates and school reports (see Accessions), her mother shared her memories with me, admitting sheepishly she was very well behaved but that her talent in music had been of a level that prompted Miss Hutchinson to suggest she discontinue the subject!

After carefully identifying most of the people in the photos Margaret gave me, she then enjoyed looking through the 1930s photos I’d brought for her to see, and she reminisced over the old buildings and exclaimed fondly at familiar names and faces.

On leaving, at the end of several hours in her company, I asked Margaret if she had any advice for current PLC students and without the slightest hesitation she replied: “Work hard and enjoy it!” Good advice indeed.

The six topics are:

- The history and evolution of sport at PLC
- Families who span generations of the school history
- International students (both during WWII and since)
- The development of the Music programme in the School
- High-achieving PLC Old Girls
- The evolution of education at PLC

To date, 23 girls have volunteered and are making progress in their chosen topic. The girls will interview Old Collegians from all eras, past and present staff and members of the wider PLC community. So far, the Evolution of Education group has interviewed Hazel Day (Principal 1989-1996, on staff from 1963) and Coralie Gadsdon (staff 1987-2008). The High-Achieving PLC Old Girls group has interviewed Annalisa Oxenburgh (Nelson 1983) and Dr Margaret Henderson (1932), who kindly answered the girls’ questions as relayed to her at the recent Melbourne Reunion. Many more have agreed to be interviewed in future.

Aside from the actual topic they’re studying, the girls are learning about discretion and empathy as they access sensitive and personal stories in some of the topics. They’re also learning myriad new skills such as family history research, how to use several new software programmes, interview techniques, and taking steps to prevent lost footage. During their research they are accessing Archives resources such as old editions of Kookaburra, early Council Minutes and the original Registers, both digitized and physical (under supervision).

Two boarders, in making muffins for their candidates, have learnt where the choc chips are kept!

In future, some will attend Founders’ Day to meet the Old Collegians who can answer their many questions and select those willing to be interviewed further. Anyone wishing to volunteer for interview on a particular topic on camera or by phone, email, mail or Skype, please contact Archives.

Archives email: archives@plc.wa.edu.au
Archives phone: +61 8 9424 6476
Recent Accessions

**Jennifer Bulleid (Black 1954)**
Jennifer’s Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) ribbons, medals and certificates from 1950-1953; Junior Certificate 1952; Jennifer’s School reports from 1944-1947 (Primary to Form 1B) and 1952 (Junior B); 1979 Speech Night programme and official opening of the Senior School buildings; Jennifer’s daughter **Anna Bulleid’s (1983)** Black Watch tartan school skirt, jumper, beret and blazer (with pocket colours) from the early 1980s.

**Jenny Treasure, past parent**
1944 PLC Prospectus.

**Amelia Finch (Georgeff 1945)**
Three black-and-white photos from 1943-1945 of the hockey (signed by all but one team member) and basketball teams and a ‘Mrs Pedersen-style’ gym class’ (see picture). Mrs Pedersen was the Sports Mistress 1942-1945.

**Helen Shilkin-Reinhold (Shilkin 1960)**
Two letters dated December 1955 and December 1957 advising Helen had been awarded a Carmichael Scholarship for the years 1956 and 1958, each to the value of £20.

**Beverley Barry (Wilson 1948)**
Four black-and-white 1940s photos: 1946 McNeil Running Team, 1946 Champion Runners, 1948 Boarders’ Relay Team, and one of Bev, **Cynthia Shepherd (Hardie 1948)** and **Yvonne Rulikovski (Bell 1948)** sneaking back in from the laneway after a visit to the lolly shop!

**Ashley Dry (Bell 1981)**
The 1978 record of the PLC Senior School Band conducted by Eric Page (staff 1975-1982).

**Nancy Johnson (Merrcer 1937)**
Four small black-and-white 1936 images of groups of PLC girls (many named) and one larger, black-and-white, hand-coloured image (see picture).

Rory Argyle (Kindergarten 1945-1946)
1995 documentation relating to Blackwatch (rowing) Centre, including copies of relevant letters, personal report written by Rory (Chairman of the Appeal Committee), campaign (fundraising) strategy, specifications, plans and 20 colour photos of site (before, during and after).

**Ingrid Chidlow, niece of Constance Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Wylie (1929)**
1929 Distribution of Prizes list (the only one in the collection); photograph album once belonging to Ingrid’s aunt, **Constance Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Wylie (1929)**, featuring School, the 2nd Cottesloe Guide Company, camps at Mt Helena and Rottnest.

**Coral Haymet (Snaden 1946)**
1940 Distribution of Prizes list; PLC presentation copies of The Boy Through The Ages by DM Stuart and Kim by Rudyard Kipling presented to Coral in Form 1VC 1940 and Form 1VA 1941 for Proficiency; 1942 Kookaburra.

**Helen Chomley (Purdie 1954)**
A biography of Helen’s mother, **Norah Purdie (Heterick 1930)**; copies of two photographs of Norah in the PLC Basketball Team 1927 and on her wedding day in 1936.

**Margaret Hammond (Murdoch 1938)**
Seven black-and-white photos from 1936-1938: Interschool Swimming Sports at Crawley Baths, Maxine Medcalf (Love 1938), 1937 Form VI A, VI B and Commercial, and several of Margaret’s friends including one that would not be out of place today but was most unusual for 1937 – the girls wearing sunglasses and holding their tennis racquets as guitars; Margaret’s Junior Certificate 1937; Dr Summers’ handwritten reference for Margaret; school reports from Form V 1936, Form VI B 1937 and Form VI A 1938; the opportunity to scan one taken of Margaret on 27 June 1936 in full winter uniform including felt hat and gloves (prior to introduction of the beret) (see pictures).
Margaret Lefroy (Hammond 1970) and Leigh Thomason (Bateman 1973)
A 1960s Brownie uniform and 1970s PLC gym tunic owned and worn by Leigh.

Helen Gianotti (Linton 1969) and Joan Linton (Melsom 1946)
A 1965 photograph of Helen with her grandmother Mrs Irene Linton (Boarding Mistress 1951-1965) at a Sunday service (see picture), and the opportunity to scan 14 images of Joan and her PLC friends in the 1940s.

Back, l-r: unknown, Wendy Finch, Mary Day
Front: Heather Crosthwaite, Jill Leslie

Margaret Hammond (Murdoch 1938) in winter uniform on 27 June 1936

Helen Linton and her grandmother, former Boarding Mistress Mrs Irene Linton

Thanks to Archives volunteers

Coralie Gadsdon (staff 1987-2008) who has collated a comprehensive list of every Drama performance at PLC from 1916 to the present day by painstaking examination of old editions of Kookaburra, Principal’s logbooks, publicity material and other paraphernalia.

Former PLC Archivist Di Allan (staff 1973-2006) who is completing an inventory, rationalising and amalgamating the contents of boxes in the collection.

Bev Barry (Wilson 1948) who returns when time permits. She is currently engaged in scanning and processing the photo album loaned to Archives by Robert and John Hyde, sons of Nancy Hyde (Martin 1923). Bev and her siblings feature in several of the photos as their family had a farm nearby.

Jade Neal (Year 8, 2011) has chosen to complete some of her Community Service hours in Archives after school occasionally and has completed various, miscellaneous tasks.

Curtin University Archives student Ebony Wheeldon, who has processed a box of IGSA (later IGSSA) record books and files from 1965-1997 previously stored in the foundations of the Heather Barr Memorial Chapel within Carmichael Hall.

With student commitments and time constraints this year, volunteer positions in Archives are currently filled. There are many others however who have answered my calls for help, be it by email or over the phone, most recently including Margot Stretch (Brown 1955) and Janet Livingston (1981) who always know or find out the answers to my many questions!
FROM THE PLC AUXILIARY

I have been Vice President of the PLC Auxiliary for the past six months and chairing the meetings in the absence of a President, whose position we are hoping to fill in the next couple of months. The Executive Committee so far this year has been very supportive and willing to go the extra yards to fill the gap left by our outgoing President Annie Duncan who deserves a huge vote of thanks for her amazing efforts over the previous two years.

In March we held another successful PLC Outdoor Cinema Evening on the Senior School oval, where we showed *A Night at the Museum*. The co-ordinators of this event and all their helpers did a remarkable job and a great night was had by the 200-plus members of our School community who attended and thoroughly enjoyed the range of extras that were on offer, from Boost Juice to glow products.

We have continued the popular City Country Lunch tradition, which is held on the Thursday before the Term 1 Boarders’ long weekend. A delightful finger-food lunch in the Boarders’ Sitting Room was held and we welcomed as a guest our new Reverend Gary van Heerden and Year 12 boarders Erin Pope and Lucy Curtin, who gave a very insightful and fun presentation into life at the PLC Boarding House.

The official opening of the new Swim and Recreation Centre was another function supported by the Auxiliary, who served morning tea for the 100 guests attending and christened the new kitchen, which worked very well.

The Auxiliary Tennis Morning planned at the Peppermint Grove Tennis Club in May had to be postponed due to other commitments by the coach and we are now hoping to organise a Badminton Morning in Term 3 with an indoor venue being more conducive to inclement weather.

Following on from last year’s trial, the Morning Tea after Assemblies has continued to be held after the Principal’s Assembly for the Middle and Senior Schools on Friday mornings of Week A. The morning teas have so far been popular and each Year group has been asked to have a turn to host these morning teas.

We continue to invite and source guest speakers to address our meetings, which is a wonderful opportunity to hear their experiences, motivations and future aspirations in their roles within the School and the PLC community.

The Auxiliary’s support of Service initiatives has been extended from programmes for Year 8 and 9 students and their families to this year now encompassing Year 10s in assisting Manna Industries to feed the homeless in Perth, and Year 11 and 12 families beginning a partnership with Red Cross to assist with the Fremantle Soup Patrol. All these volunteers deserve a huge thank you for taking time to make a difference to those in need.

Members of the Auxiliary run the very successful annual Open Garden Day, this year being held on Thursday 28 October. We continue to have beautiful gardens to visit plus many inspiring craft stalls with our co-ordinators ensuring a range of previous favourites and new, unique items, as well as serving delicious food at the café. This event is the principal Auxiliary fundraiser of the year and thanks to the tireless hard work of so many parents, we are able to add substantially to the funds raised by the Auxiliary, which are applied for the benefit of the whole School.

Some reminders follow about several Auxiliary initiatives developed over the last few years. We would hope that you can continue to support them and use them when necessary. The Proposal Seeking Financial Support form is now found on the School website under the Auxiliary tab, and enables members of the community to apply for or to suggest ways that some of the funds the Auxiliary raise each year can be used.

PLC mugs with matching ceramic coasters are once again available for purchase by emailing the Auxiliary at auxiliary@plc.wa.edu.au.

All parents and older students are invited to submit an advertisement to the Auxiliary Community Electronic Notice Board, (ACE Notice Board), via the Auxiliary’s Notice Board Co-ordinator. The Notice Board typically advertises second-hand books, sporting equipment and musical instruments as well as services provided by student, such as babysitting and tutoring. Notification of official Auxiliary events will also be placed on ACE and parents wishing to communicate with others to set up networking proposals or Auxiliary social events are also invited to use the facility. To view the guidelines and instructions for ACE, go to the Auxiliary tab on the PLC website.

Auxiliary members show their flair and creativity in planning and transforming the Sports Centre in October for the Valedictory Dinner of the Year 12s and their parents. It is an emotional and warm send-off for the girls and their families, made even more special by the wonderful attention to detail by an enthusiastic and very capable team of Auxiliary members.
As always, the Auxiliary has been extremely fortunate to have dedicated Year co-ordinators who organise class/year-specific events throughout the year, from pizza evenings to sports mornings, father-daughter breakfasts, morning teas and lunches. These functions help parents to socialise and interact with other parents in their daughters’ Year groups. I sincerely thank all of the Year representatives for their hard work in organising a vast range of opportunities for parents to get together in a relaxed social environment.

I would like to encourage parents to take on roles in the Parents’ Auxiliary next year as we lose some parents finishing their journey with the school as their daughters finish Year 12. Our first meeting of 2012 will be held mid-February in the Boarders’ Sitting Room. As usual, tea and coffee will be available from 8.30 am onwards. The meeting will begin at 9.00 am and will be followed by morning tea. All members of the PLC Community are welcome to attend our meetings. Parking is available at Star of the Sea.

We encourage you to email any enquiries, comments or suggestions to the Auxiliary at auxiliary@plc.wa.edu.au

Thank you to all the wonderful people I have had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know during my years on Auxiliary, firstly as Boarders’ Representative and now as Vice President. It has been so nice to see our hearts and energy involved in such a positive way in our efforts to contribute to PLC.

On behalf of the Auxiliary, I wish all members of the PLC community a happy, safe and rewarding year.

LINDA BILNEY
PLC Auxiliary Vice President, 2011
Junior School students enjoy the new artificial turf area funded by the Parents’ Committee.

FROM THE PARENTS’ COMMITTEE

For the Parents’ Committee the start of the school year has, as always, been our busiest time. We support a range of functions, from the Junior School Information Evening to the Middle and Senior School ‘Support Your Daughter’ evenings, all of which went very smoothly.

On 11 February we hosted our annual Sundowner. This was the third year we have held it in the quadrangle and another very successful evening resulted, particularly since this year we remembered to turn the sprinklers off beforehand! Attendance was up 15 percent on last year, with almost 480 parents and staff dropping in during the course of the evening to enjoy each other’s company and the refreshments provided. The organising role each year is taken on by a team comprising Parents’ Committee representatives and the Years 4 and 10 parent cohorts and once again, they did a fantastic job. Too numerous to mention each contributor individually, our sincere thanks go to all involved.

One disappointment for the Committee this year is that we have seen a drop in our two main sources of income for the projects that we fund for the benefit of the School community. Firstly, many more families than in past years chose not to pay the optional $35 per family annual Parents’ Committee subscription. Secondly, the number of tickets has fallen for the Fees Incentive Draws that take place each term. We encourage parents to support these two funding mechanisms as without the monies they generate we will not be able to continue to fund our major projects, like the artificial turf below the walkway from the Junior School to the new Swim and Recreation Centre, or the air-conditioning for the Cafeteria and also for the One Degree Technology Centre, or the View Street crosswalk, to name but a few.

Each year in Term 3, Year 8 and 10 students are invited to apply for the Parents’ Committee scholarships. These two awards are not insubstantial. Each is for one term’s tuition fees and aims to reward students who best demonstrate those values that underpin PLC’s holistic approach to education. The process of applying is in itself excellent practice for the girls at presenting themselves in the best possible light. The selection process considers endeavour and contributions to both the School and to local communities through sporting, artistic, musical, philanthropic and service-oriented activities.

We could not carry out the work we do without the participation of parents. Our volunteer Committee Members are our lifeblood and our meetings are always interesting and full of vigorous discussion and debate as we address a wide range of issues and ways to support the School community. If you are not able to offer your time, then please do consider the difference you can make through the Annual Parents’ Committee Subscription and our Fees Incentive Draws each term. Every dollar we receive is applied to facilities or functions for the School community and it is very satisfying for us to see the students use and enjoy the benefits.

All parents are welcome to attend our monthly Tuesday meetings. The dates of each are recorded in the School calendar and are also published in the weekly Links online newsletter.

TONY LOFTHOUSE
Parents’ Committee President
In addition to organising a number of social and fundraising activities, your Committee has spent much of the last six months embracing technology and ensuring that the PLC Old Collegians’ Association is keeping pace with the School in pursuit of its IT goals.

One of the highlights of the first half of the year has been the launch of the PLC OCA website (www.plcoca.com.au), which will facilitate our aim of fostering alumni relations between past members of our School community. Our intention is to provide all Old Collegians with information on our activities and events, reunions, photos and archival information as well as networking opportunities and a means of keeping in touch with the School.

The other major milestone reached to ensure that we all keep linked and keep the lines of communication open, especially to our more recent graduates, is our Facebook page. Check out the Presbyterian Ladies’ College (Perth, WA) Alumni page to connect and see photos and updates on events. We hope that these two important developments will encourage Old Collegians to keep in touch with each other, the Committee and the School. We welcome your comments and suggestions via the website and Facebook page.

The annual Welcome Lunch was held on Monday 31 January in the new Community Relations area (for those of you who remember, it was the previous site of the Home Economics department). The lunch provided an opportunity for former students with daughters starting at the School or those with daughters transitioning from Junior School to Middle School to meet each other and discover another element in common – a new generation at PLC. It was also a chance to view a wonderful display of memorabilia specially selected for the group attending, compiled by PLC Archivist, Shannon Lovelady.

Most recently, the Art Exhibition and Sale was held on the weekend of 27-29 May in the Middle School Gallery. The exhibition featured the work of 31 visual artists comprised of Old Collegians or partners of Old Collegians. This year, the work spanned the generations with our youngest artist, Alex Hutton, having graduated in 2010 and our oldest artist, Prue McAllister, who turned a glorious 85 during the weekend of the exhibition. The majority of the artists have been multi-award winners and others are emerging artists. Their work featured glass, sculpture, calligraphy, cards, paintings, leather jewellery and photography. The exhibition was opened by Ara Jansen (1988) who provided an insight into the world of a freelance journalist and artist. Ara’s sheer enthusiasm for her craft inspired and entertained us all.

I would like to thank the artists for providing such an amazing array of work and for generously donating a commission for this significant fundraising event. I especially thank Shannon Lovelady (Martin 1983) for her dedication to the exhibition and for her huge contribution of time in organising and liaising with the artists. Thank you to all committee members for their help in making it such a successful event.

Our next major event is the Quiz Night, to be held on Friday 29 July. What better way to spend a winter’s evening than with a group of friends enjoying some spirited competition answering a range of questions you wouldn’t have dreamt of. The Quiz Night promises to be a fun evening with lots of prizes and we encourage you to get a table together, bring some yummy food and wine and join us in the cafeteria for an evening where you are guaranteed to learn something!

Finally, on Sunday 21 August, we will be holding the Annual General Meeting at the Nedlands Golf Club. The addition of a fashion parade last year was a huge success and we will be holding a similar event this year featuring fashion labels of several Old Collegians and jewellery by Kailis Australian Pearls.

I strongly encourage anyone who would like to be part of organising the events and fundraising activities described above or who has a particular interest in creating new and innovative events to put your hand up to join the committee at our AGM. Anyone interested in nominating should contact the Secretary, Helen Gianotti – rumhed@iinet.net.au. Being part of the committee is a great way of reconnecting with old school friends and keeping in touch with the School. We welcome you to attend one of our meetings.

FRANCESCA NELSON
Old Collegians’ Association President
There was an across-the-board representation of players from over the 30 years, who were treated to a performance from the 2011 Pipe Band. Following the rehearsed performance, the ex-players decided they needed a further “pipe band fix” and requested an encore from the current band. A number of tunes were played as they were called out from the audience, together with some Highland dancing and the Drum Salute.

The offer to members of the audience to have a play was greeted with an overwhelming response and it didn’t take long before all the instruments were taken over. Sprinting to their cars, a few pipers, who had brought their pipes along just in case, soon had them cranked up and renditions of old faithfuls, Scotland the Brave and Amazing Grace, filled the air.

Kathy Bonus (Lefroy 1984), the band’s first Drum Major, recounted many stories of the band learning to play, march and then trying to co-ordinate the two!
Reunions

MELBOURNE

The reunion for Old Collegians living and working in Melbourne was held on Sunday 3 April at The Langham Hotel’s Chocolate and Aria Bar and was once again a most enjoyable event.

Thirty-six Old Girls, ranging from peer years 1932 to 2008, joined Beth Blackwood and Chavaune Francis, Director of Community Relations, for afternoon tea.

There were many regular attendees and we were especially honoured to host Dr Margaret Henderson, who is turning 96 this year. The occasion was enjoyed by everyone and is a very successful annual event.

We are pleased that the numbers for this annual event continue to grow. If you know of any Old Girls who have moved to Victoria and who may not have advised their change of address, please ask them to contact our Alumni Co-ordinator, Colette James, on +61 8 9424 6520 or alumni@plc.wa.edu.au

June Mylius (Gill 1948), Yvonne Rulikowski (Bell 1948), Joyce Goffin (McWilliam 1943), Peggy Halkyard (Moss 1946), Grae Dack (Fletcher 1948)

SYDNEY

The Sydney Reunion this year was a cocktail party held once again at Café Sydney in Circular Quay on Thursday 12 May.

About 20 past students living and working in Sydney took the opportunity to catch up with each other and Beth Blackwood and Chavaune Francis. It was especially pleasing to see some new faces, including a few that were previously on our ‘lost’ list. It was a wonderful opportunity for the past students to catch up on current school activities and meet other ex-PLC girls.

We are aware that there may be other Old Girls living in NSW who have not yet advised their change of address. If you know of anyone, please ask them to contact Alumni Co-ordinator, Colette James, on +61 8 9424 6520 or alumni@plc.wa.edu.au

Diana Neale (1954), Sam Tidy (1990), Beth Blackwood, Tracey Millar (1978)


REUNION DATES:
Invitations and further information on all these events will be issued prior to the event. However, should you have any queries regarding your reunion, please contact Alumni Co-ordinator Colette James on +61 8 9424 6520 or at alumni@plc.wa.edu.au

Class of 1971
40-Year Reunion,
Saturday 13 August 2011

Class of 1951
60-Year Reunion,
Wednesday 17 August 2011

Class of 1941
70-Year Reunion, Friday 19 August 2011

Class of 1946
65-Year Reunion, Friday 19 August 2011

Class of 1981
30-Year Reunion
Saturday 3 September 2011

Class of 1961
50-Year Reunion,
Wednesday 26 October 2011

Class of 1991
20-Year Reunion, TBA

Class of 2001
10-Year Reunion,
Saturday 22 October 2011

Founders Day Service and Luncheon (for Old Collegians who left PLC 50 year ago or more) – Friday 19 August 2011

Old Collegians’ Association AGM and Fashion Parade –
Sunday 21 August 2011

PLC Old Boys Reunion and Cocktail Party –
Thursday 8 September 2011

Year 13 (2010 Leavers) Brunch –
Sunday 11 September 2011

CLASS OF 1980 30-YEAR REUNION
The Class of 1980 celebrated its 30-year reunion with a cocktail party at the Nedlands Golf Club on Friday 15 October 2010 with 60 girls attending. It was a fantastic night with several girls coming from interstate and overseas and everyone had a lot of laughs reminiscing over a glass of wine and catching up on the past 30 years. All commented that no one had really changed at all! It was all over way too fast and everyone agreed that it should be repeated in five years’ time.

L-R: Kelsey Mudford (Heath), Louise Walsh (Mardardy), Amanda Teasdale, Roshana Lewis, Janine Hughes (Braddock)

L-R: Julie Gibbs, Dixie Marshall, Beth Chrystal (O’Neill), Saibra Yeagg (Gomme)

L-R: Lula O’Keefe (Ventouras), Lynette Kohler, Shantha Cokis (Dharmalingham)
L-R: Debbie Schenberg (Cohen), Beth Bolton (Chrystal), Liz Campion (Herzfeld)
L-R: Sara Flavelle, Melissa Longwill (dec), Belinda Kelsall.
Rhona Cordin (1950)
Rhona joined the ANZ bank then became a flight attendant with Trans Australia Airlines (TAA) based in Adelaide and Melbourne. She travelled and worked in Europe and London, then owned a fashion boutique for eight years before retiring. She often enjoys short holidays in WA.

Patricia Wood (Hodgkin 1951)
In 1952 Patricia studied at Chelsea Art School in London then did a Diploma of Occupational Therapy in Melbourne in 1956. In 1957 she returned to the UK and worked in various OT jobs then married Graham Wood, a violinist from Melbourne. In 1960 they moved to Perth and Patricia worked at Royal Perth Hospital until her children arrived. She has since studied jewellery at Claremont School of Art and at the Technical School Fremantle.

Lintie Price (Norton 1951)
Lintie worked in an office for four years before marrying Bob Price in November 1955. They had four children and now have eight grandchildren.

Laura Raiter (Einchovic 1951)
Laura graduated as a pharmacist in 1955 and married Ike Raiter in 1956. They have two sons, Jeremy and Andrew (ex-Hale School), and five grandchildren including Isabelle Raiter (PLC Year 10, 2011). Laura enjoys golf and bridge.

Wendy Collins (Deans 1966)
After many years working as a medical scientist, Wendy retired in 2003 and since 2005 has been an instructor for exercise-to-music classes. She also runs a small business via Enjo.

Mary Stovold (Macpherson 1970)
Mary married Richard Stovold in 1974. They have three children: Matthew (30), Emma (28) and Melissa (27), and three “grandboys”. For the past 16 years Mary has worked as a medical secretary to a paediatrician and recently sold her fancy dress costume hire business.

Kate Ekersley (1979)
Kate did an arts degree at UWA then postgraduate library studies at WAIT. Since then she has worked, travelled and had three children.

Gill Hamersley (More 1984)
Gill completed a BA in children’s studies at Edith Cowan and qualified as a personal trainer at the Australian Institute of Fitness. She currently works outdoors in local parks as a personal trainer for adults and children.

Julie Murray (Sandilands 1986)
Julie is farming in Tuncurry, has a manufacturing business in Perth and does legal work from home. She is enjoying a new association with PLC as a parent via her daughter Amelia Murray (PLC Boarder Year 8, 2011), and has two younger children, Alistair and Eliza.

Sophie Wicksteed (Hill 1990)
Sophie studied nursing then worked at PMH and as a school nurse in Madrid, Spain. In 2001 she returned to Perth and PMH, and in 2002 married Bruce Wicksteed. Her daughter Maya was born in 2006. Sophie currently runs her family business and is also a Thermomix consultant.

Yasmin Majidi (Ramsey 1990)
In 1994 Yasmin graduated in fashion, textiles, art and design and in 1996 married Hooman Majidi. They subsequently moved to New York and in 2009 Yasmin became a US citizen. She is currently working as senior designer at Ralph Lauren and welcomed twin boys Issa and Nizam in October 2010.

Samantha Davies (Bardill 1990)
Samantha studied psychology at Curtin then did an early childhood Dip Ed at ECU. She has since taught Kindergarten to Year 3 at various schools in WA. In 2000 she moved to Wilyabrup (south of Yallingup) to establish an accommodation business and in 2002 married Peter Davies (Christ Church 1983) on Nedlands foreshore. They now have three boys: Lachlan (7), Benjamin (5) and Oliver (5 months).

Fiona Bailey (Young 1990)
Whilst completing an apprenticeship in goldsmithing, Fiona did a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Claremont School of Art, majoring in jewellery. She worked for Club Med for five years, travelling and working throughout South-east Asia and Australasia, before settling in Phuket for five years. She then returned to Australia, where she met her husband, and they now have two children.

Bridgette Gale (2005)

They had a great start with their first collection being the only label to have a runway show for the Fashion TV Christmas party. The show was then featured on Fashion TV nationally for a month, gaining a lot of media attention. They were subsequently approached by several stockists in WA wanting the label in their stores.

The second collection, ‘Love & Ice-cream’ (the translation of Amore & Sorvete in Portuguese), was shown at the Perth Fashion Festival. Amore & Sorvete then went national with this collection, with an agent representing them in Victoria and gaining stockists throughout Australia.

The third collection, ‘Sorbet’, is in production and they have gained over 20 stockists nationally and internationally. Using digital printing for the first time, they have designed and created their own prints on lycra, which have been popular. After participating in Australian Fashion Week, they received an order from ASOS, a huge online store in the UK, and now have a wholesaler representing them in New York and the UK.

Bridgette has been living in Indonesia for the past two years overseeing production and in January opened an Amore & Sorvete store there.

She looks forward to taking on the US and taking part in the Miami Swim Trade Show next year.
Danielle England (Lannin 1990)
Danielle is currently enjoying life in Narrogin with her husband Jonathan and daughter Georgina (5). She works part-time as an agricultural project officer with Planfarm and spends her spare time swimming or leading ponies.

Heidi Teasdale (Hayter 1990)
Heidi studied business and architectural drafting, moved to Dunsborough, then travelled overseas for three years before returning to Perth, marrying and having two boys. The family now lives in Dunsborough where they started their business, Yallingup Maze.

Katy Pearce (Robertson 1990)
Katy is still involved with running her three restaurants. In addition, she has three beautiful daughters and is involved with fundraising and committees associated with their kindergarten and school.

Laura Clarke (1990)
Laura spent 18 months in the UK then graduated from UWA with a BA (Asian Studies) in 1996 and a Graduate Diploma of Business from Curtin in 1998. She has worked for UWA since 2002 and is currently in administration management within the medical faculty. She and husband Simon Lewis have three daughters: Alexandra (5), Josephine (3) and Madeleine (16 months).

Sarah Tsouo (Forman 1990)
Sarah became an enrolled nurse then travelled the world, met her husband Xavier and settled in San Francisco. They have two children: Ava (7) and Owen (5). Sarah is currently studying at night for a medical assisting degree and keeps busy with the children during the day.

Catriona Bowler (McCloy 1990)
Catriona is living in Perth and is married with one child. She is currently on maternity leave from teaching high school English.

Lisa Anspach (Mickey 1990)
Lisa gained a BA (Psych) and Grad Dip Ed (Primary) at Murdoch then did an MA Ed Admin externally through Curtin. She taught at primary schools in Cable Beach, South Kalgoorlie, Meekatharra and Moora and for the last 10 years has been at Gidgegannup Primary School. She married Tim in 2001 and they have three great kids: Cooper (7), Eloise (5) and Bronte (2).

Tahnee Davies (1990)
Tahnee did a BA LLB at UWA with exchanges at Universite d’Aix (Marseille France) and Zhejiang University (Hang Zhou, China). She has worked as a Federal Court judge’s associate, a lawyer at Blake Dawson and the Aboriginal Legal Service of WA, and helped form Street Law, a free legal service for the homeless in WA. She married Michael Fechner in 2007 and they have two daughters, Olivia (2) and Sophia (10 months).

Julie Dunmore (Munro 1990)
Julie completed a Bachelor of Commerce at UWA and become a chartered accountant in 1996. For the next five years she travelled and worked primarily in San Francisco, Vancouver and London before returning to Perth in 2001 and marrying a Scotsman. Julie is kept busy chasing 2-year-old twins, a boy and a girl, and working two days a week for a “sanity break”!

Kate Langdon (1990)
Kate was a teacher for 12 years before changing direction to become a home decorator specialising in pre-sale makeovers. She took a break in 2010 when she and her husband Jason Bond had their first baby, Olivia.

Lisa Harridge (Morgan 1990)
After completing a Bachelor of Commerce at Curtin, Lisa became a chartered accountant. She lived in London for three years and has been in Melbourne for the past seven years. She is married with two girls, Molly and Daisy.

Tanya-Marie Barbou (Davies 1990)
Tanya-Marie did a Bachelor of Arts (Recreation) and worked her way up to become a recreation facilities manager for the City of Wanneroo. In 1998 she moved to Busselton where she lives at Peppermint Grove Beach with husband Gary, and daughters Gorja and Sophie who was born two days after the class reunion on Dec 13 2010.

Felicity Miller (1990)
Felicity did a Master’s degree in clinical psychology at Curtin and works in forensics. She married her partner Matt in January 2011 and they have two boys, Jacob (2) and Zavier (6 months).

Kirsten Shadbolt and Poppy Lissiman have designs for the future after taking part in Australian Fashion Week in Sydney in May.

The past PLC students were both part of the New Generation Group Collection parade, which introduces media and buyers to emerging designers. They also showed their fashion lines at Perth Fashion Festival last year. Both women established their labels in 2008 and are now stocked in several national and international boutiques.

Kirsten, a former PLC boarding student from Mukinbudin, studied Fashion and Textile Design at TAFE Central Institute of Technology and graduated in 2007 with an Advanced Diploma in Fashion and Textile Design. She then won a sought-after mentorship with renowned fashion designer Sylma Cabrera as well as selling her textiles to print agents.

In 2009, her label Paper Skye was named ‘Designer for Tomorrow’ at the Perth Fashion Festival’s WA Fashion Awards. The following year, Kirsten was invited to present her Spring-Summer collection at the finale show.

Kirsten said she produced feminine but strong women’s ready-to-wear collections combining softly draped silhouettes with delicate fabrics and intricate detailing.

Poppy’s self-titled label features resort-inspired pieces featuring vibrant patterns and luxurious fabrics. All her fabrics are sourced from overseas and next winter she will be collaborating with a print house in Sydney for some commissioned prints.

Kirsten and Poppy both juggle the challenges of establishing their businesses with other work. They have retail jobs and Kirsten also lectures part-time at TAFE Central Institute of Technology.
Tartan News

Jodie Jones (Stewart 1990)
Jodie completed a BA in education and taught in several primary schools before having her three children, born in 2000, 2002 and 2007 respectively. Since the children arrived, Jodie has worked part-time at Wesley College teaching the bagpipes.

Erika Correia (Mazzucchelli 1990)
Erika completed a nursing degree at Curtin then worked at Princess Margaret Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London. Her travels have included sailing around the Indonesian islands on the Leeuwini. She married in 1999, has two daughters, Aimee (9) and Asha (7), and is back working at PMH.

Jayne Curtis (Nottle 1991)
Jayne is currently having fun and games with two gorgeous children aged 6 and 2. She does emergency nursing in Bunbury, decorates funky cakes and still manages to squeeze in half marathon training and family camping trips.

Taryn Scadding (Crombie 1991)
Taryn lives on a farm in Kulin with her husband Sean and three children: Ashton, Reece and Lucy. She works part-time as a community development officer at the Shire of Kulin and is really looking forward to her 20 years reunion!

Sue Upton (Lapsley 1991)
Sue has just built a house and moved to a property at Dowerin. She has two children, Harrison (5) and Mahalia (3), and works casually as a dental hygienist.

Louise McGrath (Fitzgibbon 1993)
Following a year as an exchange student in Germany, Louise completed an occupational therapy degree and has worked as an occupational therapy degree and has worked as an occupational therapist for 10 years all over Australia. With the birth of her first child, she is currently on maternity leave from her position as a psychiatric services national operations manager.

Briohny McManus (Pearce 1995)
In 1999 Briohny graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting & Finance) from UWA, where she was the first female president of the UWA Economics and Commerce Student Society (ECOMS). In 2003 she qualified as a chartered accountant then worked in investment banking in London. On 12 December 2008 she married Jeremy McManus in the PLC chapel with her sisters Yonnene King (Pearce 1992) and Ivana Pearce (2000) and friends Pia Kilburn (1993) and Jeannie Clement as bridesmaids. With the arrival of Sophia Patricia McManus on 24 January 2011, Briohny is on maternity

Alison Fan (MacLaurin, 1961)
Well-known Channel 7 reporter Alison Fan has been awarded the inaugural Media Award by the WA Law Society and the Western Australian Bar Association for excellence in the reporting of law-related news.

This award was for a ground-breaking series for Today Tonight that explained the roles of the jury system, the prosecution, the defence, the judges in the Supreme Court, the District Court and the Family Court. For the very first time, she and her crew were given permission to put cameras in the Perth Magistrates Court and televised the proceedings over a week. They also televised an entire wilful murder trial.

Alison’s husband Duncan MacLaurin is now teaching Philosophy and English Literature part-time at PLC. She has two sons: Jason MacLaurin is a Perth barrister specialising in defamation law and Douglas MacLaurin is a journalist with Reuters in London. Alison has four grandchildren.

Julia Simpson (2008)
After taking six months off university last year to tour Europe, Julia Simpson is finishing her Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of WA. She is also working as an administration assistant at Shenton Storage and as a senior coach for Sports Challenge, currently running the Year 10 Leadership class at Scotch College.

In July, she will be travelling through Europe for another month with friends and fellow PLC Old Collegians, Sophie Pember (2008) and Olivia Swan (2008) after enjoying her sojourn last year.

Liz Humphry (1998) and Heather Meredith (1999)
Liz Humphry and Heather Meredith have been married in a joyous civil ceremony in Sydney. The happy couple married in April in front of 150 family and friends at Sun Studios, a photographic studio and space.

More than 30 PLC Old Collegians attended, including Liz’s sisters Alex Humphry (2000) and Sarah Humphry (2004), cousin Katie Humphry (1996), aunts Sally Langdon (nee Callandar 1973) and Diana Callandar (Christian 1968), father Tim Humphry and uncle Chris Humphry (who both attended Kindergarten at PLC), Heather’s family, including parents Brenda and Chris Meredith, was also in attendance.

Liz’s mother Wendy Humphry (Callandar 1969) sadly passed away from cancer in 2007. Liz is a lawyer and Heather is a social worker. They have been working and living in Sydney for two years.

Jodie Jones (Stewart 1990)
Jodie completed a BA in education and taught in several primary schools before having her three children, born in 2000, 2002 and 2007 respectively. Since the children arrived, Jodie has worked part-time at Wesley College teaching the bagpipes.

Erika Correia (Mazzucchelli 1990)
Erika completed a nursing degree at Curtin then worked at Princess Margaret Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London. Her travels have included sailing around the Indonesian islands on the Leeuwini. She married in 1999, has two daughters, Aimee (9) and Asha (7), and is back working at PMH.

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leave from Euroz Securities where she has been a corporate finance adviser for the past five years.

Elizabeth ‘Lizzie’ Barnes (1996)
For the past 13 years, Lizzie has been operating her own business, ‘Lizzie Bee Dalkeith Village Florist’. She and her partner Matthew are the proud parents of William (1).

Suzie Muntz (1996)
Suzie completed a BSc in agriculture at UWA, then lived in Canada, Hawaii and Asia. She has been living in Margaret River for seven years and is currently the vineyard manager for Xanadu Wines, enjoying a good mix of working indoors and out. She has just built her first house and continues to play her bagpipes, saying that they never fail to raise smiles.

Stasia Reynolds (1996)
After completing a degree in journalism at Curtin, Stasia lived in Ireland, Scotland and England. Since returning to Perth, she has worked for Rebecca Sarsoro (Twaddle 1996) in her pharmacy. In 2010 Stasia completed a postgraduate diploma in forensic science at UWA and has applied for entry to the Victoria Police.

Jacqui White (Mullineux 1996)
Jacqui has worked as an AUSLAN (Australian sign language) interpreter and joined the Australian Army Pipes and Drums Perth to continue playing the bagpipes. She married in 2009 and now has a daughter, Ellie. Jacqui maintains contact with friends from school.

Kate Stoney (Watts 1997)
After completing her primary education degree at Edith Cowan, Kate taught at Brookton DHS. In 2003 she transferred to Wellstead Primary School where she taught the Years 4-7 for three years. She now has two beautiful children, George (4) and Emma (2). Kate and her husband Jeff run a grain and livestock property near Wellstead.

Erica Teasdale (Robinson 1998)
Erica and her husband live on her family’s farm in Margaret River. They have two children and Erica works part-time as a therapist for an autistic child.

Katherine (Kate) Lefroy (1999)
Kate is currently enjoying a new career as a dental nurse, loves spending time with her nephew and goddaughter, and is generally having fun in life with family and friends.

Denby Kerr (2003)
Denby studied law at Murdoch then backpacked overseas for 12 months before returning to complete her articles in 2010. She is currently working in West Perth and still spends most of her leisure time with friends from PLC.

Alison Barnes (2003)
In 2009 Alison completed a science/engineering degree at UWA and is currently working on the Pluto LNG project with Woodside in Karratha.

Jess did a nursing degree at Notre Dame and is currently working in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at Princess Margaret Hospital. Having enjoyed spending a few months travelling through Europe, Jess plans to return later this year to live and work there.

From 2005 to 2010 Evelyn studied law at UWA and has just moved to Sydney to work as a graduate at Minter Ellison.

Nada Baradja (2008)
Nada is studying for a Bachelor of Science degree at UWA, majoring in physiology.

Holly O’Meehan (2008)
Holly recently returned from Italy and is now studying visual arts at Curtin University.

Prue Bowman (2010)
Prue is currently studying for a Bachelor of Psychology at Curtin University.

Georgia Leech (2010)
Georgia is currently studying a combined arts/science degree at UWA. She continues to exercise her drama skills by participating in the UWA pantomime and has successfully auditioned for the Australian Army Pipes and Drums Perth.

Tamsin (Tammy) McLinden (2010)
Tamsin is studying early childhood education at Notre Dame. She is heavily involved in the STEPS Youth Dance Company (as she was throughout high school) and creates original choreography for their performances.

Kathryn Cowley-Dean (Cowley 2005)
Kathryn Cowley-Dean married Jeffrey Dean in a beautiful ceremony near Margaret River on 11 March 2011.

The ceremony was held in a Mediterranean garden called ‘The Rose Pavilion’ followed by a reception at Cowaramup Brewery. The couple chose to exchange their vows in the Margaret River area because of its beauty and also because Kathryn grew up there with her sister Laura Cowley (2008).

Joining bridesmaids Laura Cowley (2008) and Katherine Park (2005) were PLC Old Collegians Kate Markin (2005), Sally Dunn (2005), Georgina Maslen (2005), Ashleigh Davis (2005), Kirsty Augustson (2005) and Kate Smith (2005).

Kathryn described the event as “the perfect wedding” and said she wouldn’t change anything.

The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Nusa Lembongan, an island off Bali.

They are now living in their first home in Dalyellup, Bunbury, which they built in 2009.

Kathryn works as a Finance Officer for the Bunbury Port Authority and has been accepted into the CPA program.
We were saddened to learn of the deaths of the following members of the PLC community:

- Shirley June Barton (Glaskin 1939) 27 February 1922 – 26 July 2010
- Leila Rosemary Bojtos (Raine 1953) 25 May 1936 – 12 October 2010
- Alison May Bold (Thomas 1945) 10 August 1928 – 31 August 2010
- Betsy Vilma Cox (Ledger 1946) 6 June 1929 – 8 January 2011
- Mavis Isabel Dimmitt (Smith 1932) 11 July 1915 – 14 August 2009
- Catherine Elsie Frearson (Henning 1943) 30 May 1926 – 16 February 2009
- Nancy Isabelle Hordacre (Moss 1941) 2 September 1924 – 24 December 2010
- Barbara Jeffrey (1930) 9 June 1913 – 24 December 2010
- Ruth Frances Johns (Fitzgerald 1927) 23 January 1910 – 16 April 2011
- Maxine Sara Krantz (Joel 1927) 8 February 1910 – 16 July 2006
- Jill Annette Mcguinness (Massey 1949) 8 December 1932 – 31 October 2010
- Laine Kay Maxted (Watson 1958) 13 May 1941 – 12 November 2010
- Marianne Helene Miller (Westrheim 1965) 24 April 1948 – 22 October 2010
- Mabel Shirley Harris (Newman 1941) 22 May 1924 – 14 June 2008
- Patricia Lilian Prosser (Ratcliffe 1931) 7 July 1914 – 1 May 2011
- June Lillian Radford (Rosier 1947) 25 March 1930 – 4 December 2010

Obituaries

Rosalie McLeod Fitzhardinge
22 April 1914 – 22 November 2010

Rosalie was the sixth child and fourth daughter of Rhoda and Henry Crosthwaite. Rosalie’s first years were spent in Oakleigh, Victoria, where her father had purchased Amstel Park (100 acres) and Hillside (10 acres) in Ferntree Gully Road. Sadly her older sister Lena died from diptheria in 1920. In 1922, Henry bought Belmont in Malvern and it was here that Rosalie’s mother died the following year when Rosalie was just nine years old. Her oldest sister Helen, then 19, took on the care of her five brothers and sisters, including 22-month old Heather.

In 1928, in partnership with John Wren, Henry bought the million-acre Bidgemia Station about 112 miles out of Carnarvon in WA’s Gascoyne region, and in 1929 he brought his family by train from Melbourne to Perth. Rosalie, whose secondary education had begun at Korowa Anglican Girls’ School and later PLC Melbourne, came to PLC Perth as a boarder with her sister Heather Gardiner (Crosthwaite 1938) in 1930. She completed her Junior and Leaving and in 1933 was a prefect and champion athlete. She loved her boarding days and said it was a wonderful life; the best and happiest of times. She was one of the few who remembered and admired Principal Pheimester’s splendid teaching methods and her quiet sense of humour. Rosalie enjoyed many family ties to PLC, including her dear lifelong friend Erminie Eastman (Rose 1933) and two sisters-in-law, Margaret Crosthwaite (James 1928) and Dorothy Crosthwaite (Roe 1931).

After leaving PLC, Rosalie returned to Bidgemia and enrolled in a Victorian Art course provided by distance education. In late 1935, she met Theo Fitzhardinge as they travelled to Fremantle on the MV Gorgon and discovered their common interests in tennis, books and outdoor life. Rosalie converted to Catholicism in order to marry Theo in 1936, becoming the first Catholic amongst her ancestors dating back to the 17th Century. Fully adopting her husband’s faith, Rosalie derived great strength and comfort from its beliefs and rituals.

Rosalie and Theo initially rented in Darlington where their first child, Henry, was born in December 1936. They later bought in Gardner Street, Como, and in 1939 welcomed a daughter, Jan, and in 1942 a son, Peter. During the first years of WWII, Theo was manpowered (required for civilian duty), but in 1942 he was released and went straight into an active unit. He returned from active service at the end of the war and over the next nine years the family grew from three to eight children with the arrivals of Clare, Fran, Chris, Mark and David between 1947 and 1954.

Rosalie loved caring for her family, and during a conversation with Archivist Shannon Lovelady in 2009, she was asked how long it took to do her laundry with eight children. Rosalie chuckled and said “a very long time!” Shannon acknowledged how busy she must have been and how long it would’ve taken to make the evening meal for ten each night and Rosalie replied “but that was what we were expected to do, and I enjoyed doing that. They only came one by one and as each got old enough, each pitched in.” She continued, “I liked the fact that everyone was expected to be in bed at a certain time and no one argued with that. Not like today when they’re out and about! I’m glad I lived when I did.”

Rosalie was active in supporting the schools her children attended and was a regular
Nancy Isabelle Hordacre (Moss 1941)
2 September 1924 – 24 December 2010

Nancy was born to Marion and Herbert Cecil Moss (known as Cec), her twin brother Clem having only just beaten her into the world. They had a three-year-old brother, Frank, and nearly two-year-old sister, Maida, and their mother Marion now had her hands full with four children under four years old. Nancy idolised Frank and Maida, and affectionately tolerated the rascally antics of her twin Clem, who challenged her for over 80 years.

The family had farmed at Harvey, but life on the land during the Great Depression drove Cec to obtain employment elsewhere and he found it at the Googe Quarantine Station before being promoted to Superintendent at the Bicton Animal Quarantine Station on the Swan River. The Moss children enjoyed their childhood filled with the simple pleasures of living on the river. They attended nearby Richmond Primary School and swam regularly and competitively at the Bicton Baths. Later, Nancy became a state swimmer and lifesaver.

Nancy wanted to come to PLC and worked hard to obtain a scholarship. She was proud to follow her sister Maida as Carmichael House Captain in 1940. She completed her studies and started work at the Commonwealth Bank, Fremantle. Although she was capable, the mundane, repetitive work bored her and she began nurse training at Fremantle Hospital. In time she travelled to England for a working holiday and while there, gained her midwifery certificate and worked as a nurse/midwife and home-care nurse, riding around the district on her bicycle. When not working, she hitchhiked through the UK and Europe, stayed in youth hostels and enjoyed single life. When she returned to Australia a few years later, she applied to and was accepted by Graylands Teachers College and began teacher training.

One of Nancy’s nursing friends, Mary Hordacre, was keen for her own English adventure and Nancy went to Fremantle to see her off. She had not counted on meeting Mary’s dashing brother, Tom, who had brought Mary up from their home in Tenterden. After Mary’s ship left port, Tom drove Nancy home. Their courtship continued when Nancy was posted to Harvey for teaching.

Being a strong swimmer from her days at Bicton Baths, she enjoyed teaching the local children to swim at the Harvey Weir. One Sunday, Nancy was alerted by the frantic cries of a mother calling for her child. Without hesitation, she dived in and dragged the young boy up from under the wall of the weir. After a couple of quick breaths, the boy regained consciousness and Nancy was hailed a heroine.

On New Year’s Eve 1957, Nancy married Tom Hordacre. Initially they lived at Tenterden with Tom’s parents. Nancy continued to teach, this time at Cranbrook School, while they worked at building a home on Balijup and subsequently moved out there. Their first child, Alan, arrived in November 1958 and Nancy happily settled into the role of farmer’s wife and mother. She added to her extended family, the crosthwaites and Fitzhardinges. Nancy formed special bonds with each of her three grandchildren, enjoying visits from them, their life experiences. Nancy was a wonderful mother and her nurse training stood her in good stead. At times when all three children had measles, chicken pox or whooping cough, Nurse Moss came to the fore.

In the early 1970s, Nancy returned to school teaching, having gained extra qualifications as a preschool teacher at Cranbrook by studying at night. She also attended courses and read books, favouring the Piaget’s child-centred methods of teaching. She believed in learning by play and there was never a shortage of fun.

Over the years Nancy enjoyed visits from her extended family, and then the next generation as city cousins, nieces and nephews enjoyed many holidays at the farm. Tom and Nancy were both always interested in their news, their growing families and their life experiences. Nancy formed special bonds with each of her three grandchildren as they arrived. Sleepovers meant going...
on bush walks, looking for wildflowers and identifying plants. She gave them free reign in the kitchen, let them collect the eggs and help out at shearing.

Retirement finally gave Nancy the time to enjoy her family and friends, her garden, correspondence, reading and playing the piano. She loved listening to ABC Radio National for the music and science shows and always sung along to Songs of Praise.

Within 15 months, Nancy lost all her siblings. Starting with her twin brother Clem in April 2009, Frank followed in December the same year. Despite Nancy’s increasing frailty, she travelled from Tenterden to Fremantle in July 2010 to share some precious moments with her sister Maida, who passed away a couple of days later. This hit Nancy very hard but she quietly went about life, trying to care for Tom and keep the garden going. Her faith kept her calm and the local home and aged care team kept them in their own home until October 2010, when, after a short stint in hospital, they moved into a bright, shared room at Bethel Village Hostel in Albany, with a view of Mount Clarence.

Nancy’s children organised a Christmas party in mid-December and on Christmas Eve 2010, Nancy quietly passed away, aged 86.

Barbara Beard (1941, dec)
9 June 1913 – 24 December 2010

Barbara was born in Wagon where her father ran a hardware business before relocating the family back to Claremont in 1917. They lived at 27 Bernard Street, a home built by Barb’s maternal grandfather, who also lived next door. Barb was the only girl in the family. She had three brothers, Alan and Dick who were older, and Doug, who was younger.

After primary schooling at Claremont, Barb started at PLC in 1924. Over the next five years she walked to her aunt and uncle’s house in Thomson Road and collected her cousins Katie Warnock (Grieve 1928, dec) and Rae Renzow (Grieve 1930, dec). They then headed up to Queenslea Drive where she collected another cousin, Dorothy (Doff) McNaught (Bold 1932, dec) and they walked together up the highway to Richardson Avenue. Later, a highlight of the trip was bumping into the Scotch boys heading in the other direction!

Each morning when they reached the top of Bindaring Parade, instead of going around Devil’s Elbow, the girls quickly snuck through Neil McNeil’s cow paddocks. Barb later learned that Mr McNeil actually encouraged the girls to do this and she found it vastly amusing as they all thought they’d been very naughty at the time.

Barb made some lasting friendships at PLC, among them Vivienne Gillett (Evers 1931) and Peggy Dunphy (Nunn 1930) and later, Barbara Beard (1941, dec). After completing her Junior Certificate in 1928, Barb went to Hartill’s Business College and in 1930 started her 35-year career at the Bank of NSW (now Westpac).

As a young lady, Barb enjoyed playing tennis at the Royal Kings Park Tennis Club and socialising at Cottesloe Beach. In 1933 her cousin Rae, who worked with a local photographer, organised a group of girls to pose for a photo on the Mudurup Rocks south of Cottesloe. The group included Barb, Rae, her sister Katie, some cousins and other friends, most of whom went to PLC. It was the first colour photograph published in The Western Mail and appeared in the 1933 Christmas edition.

Losing both her fiancé, Colin, and her older brother, Alan, in WWII, Barb subsequently focused on her career and she became a senior consultant in the bank’s travel department. She joined Cottesloe Golf Club in 1944 where she spent her leisure time for well over the next 50 years, playing both golf and bridge there several times a week. She made life-long friends during this period and was particularly proud of a hole-in-one she achieved in 1955.

Around this time, Barb and a close friend set sail on a European adventure, which spurred her interest in overseas travel. With the advent of air travel, she was frequently sent to investigate exotic holiday destinations, mailing postcards to her nieces and nephews from places they had never heard of. She retired two years after normal retirement age at the bank’s invitation, by which time she was one of the best-known female personalities in the travel industry. She also had the distinction of being one of the first women on the bank’s staff to receive a male salary.

In retirement, Barb continued her regular games of golf and bridge and her morning swims at Cottesloe. She was a lively, enthusiastic addition to social events, taking genuine and informed interest in her family, friends, local and international affairs. Her family gradually noticed, however, the increasing number of dents in Barb’s car. It seemed she had replaced the skill of parking by sound. A sudden and serious progression of macular degeneration followed and to her dismay, Barb’s many activities were forcibly curtailed.

In her usual positive manner, Barb never displayed the enormous disappointment that went with her loss of sight. She admitted though, that no longer being able to drive to the Club was the cruelest blow. It was...
Marianne Hélène Miller (Westrheim 1963)
27 April 1948 – 22 October 2010

Marianne was born in Shanghai where her father was a merchant ship’s captain. Following the communist takeover, the family moved to Osaka in Japan and then to Australia when Marianne was four years old. That background and the wonderful stories with which her father regaled her of the places he visited and the people he met had a profound influence on her life and Marianne subsequently developed a great love of travel and languages.

The family lived in East Fremantle where she attended Richmond Primary School before moving to Cottesloe when she started senior schooling at PLC. Apart from the years she spent travelling and those in the country, Marianne lived nearly 50 years in the same house.

After completing her Junior Certificate, Marianne worked at The Public Trustee. She saved every penny and at 18, toured London and Europe.

In 1971 she married Bryan Miller and they moved to Carnarvon where Bryan was an accountant with CP Bird & Associates. Their son Christopher was born there. After a stint in Lake Grace, during which their daughter Felicity Dunstan (Miller 1990) was born, they returned to Cottesloe.

Once her children had started school, Marianne embarked on a mature age, part-time Bachelor of Arts (Languages) degree, initially at UWA and then at Edith Cowan University. During these seven years she suffered from chronic fatigue syndrome, but when her studies were complete, had still managed a course average of 83.67 percent and was presented with the faculty medal for best student. Marianne then pursued her intense interest in psychology and in 2005 began a counselling degree at the University of Notre Dame in Fremantle. While there, she acted as a volunteer counsellor at St Patrick’s Catholic Church and subsequently at the Next Step Drug and Alcohol Centre in Fremantle.

Bryan and Marianne loved to travel and had many wonderful times together. They went to the US a number of times; Marianne particularly loved New York, the plantations of New Orleans (she cried when she heard that they were flooded during hurricane Katrina) and Virginia’s Shaker village. In 1994 they spent a month each in France, Spain and Italy, with Marianne conversing comfortably with locals in French and Spanish and fluently in Italian. On her 50th birthday they visited her father’s hometown of Narvik in Norway and on her 60th, travelled to Shanghai where they saw the hospital where she was born and walked the street in which she had lived.

As each arrived, Marianne loved spending time with her two granddaughters and two grandsons, especially down at the beach park in Cottesloe. Even after she became ill, she still managed to get everything ready so she could spend hours reading and playing with them.

In 2008, Marianne was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia. After treatment she was in remission for 18 months. She hoped to celebrate her 40th wedding anniversary in March 2011, but died quite suddenly in October 2010, aged 62.
### Dates for Your Diary

#### JULY
- **Tuesday 26 July**: Term 3 Commences
- **Friday 29 July**: OCA Quiz Night

#### AUGUST
- **Monday 1 August**: Auxiliary Meeting
- **Tuesday 9 August**: Parents' Committee Meeting
- **Tuesday 9 August**: OCA Meeting
- **Friday 19 August**: Founders' Day
- **Sunday 21 August**: OCA AGM
- **Friday 26 August**: Mid-Term Break
- **Monday 29 August**: Mid-Term Break

#### SEPTEMBER
- **Friday 2 September**: Arts Day
- **Monday 5 September**: Auxiliary Meeting
- **Tuesday 6 September**: Parents' Committee Meeting
- **Thursday 8 September**: Old Boys' Cocktail Party
- **Tuesday 13 September**: OCA Meeting
- **Friday 23 September**: Parents' Committee AGM
- **Friday 30 September**: Last Day of Term 3

#### OCTOBER
- **Tuesday 18 October**: Term 4 Commences
- **Tuesday 18 October**: OCA Meeting
- **Thursday 27 October**: Open Garden Day
- **Friday 28 October**: Queen's Birthday
- **Monday 31 October**: Auxiliary Meeting

#### NOVEMBER
- **Tuesday 8 November**: Parents' Committee Meeting
- **Tuesday 15 November**: OCA Meeting
- **Monday 21 November**: Auxiliary Meeting
- **Tuesday 22 November**: Parents' Committee Meeting
- **Friday 25 November**: Principal's Cocktail Party

#### DECEMBER
- **Friday 2 December**: Last Day of Term 4
- **Saturday 3 December**: Speech Night