

Blackwatch

Summer 2013

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**LEARNING AT PLC BENEFITS OF MUSIC EDUCATION
THE EFFECTS OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITY ON THE BRAIN**



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Front Cover

Research has shown that the study of Music supports the general and educational development of children. Specifically, that those who learn a musical instrument generally perform better in the core learning areas of literacy and numeracy. PLC provides a comprehensive programme of Music education. Lucy Yang (Year 11), pictured on the cover at the piano and Ailsa Edwards (Year 9), in the background, are just two students who are making the very most of the Music opportunities available to them at PLC (see story page 11).

Subscribing

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14 McNeil Street Peppermint Grove, Western Australia 6011.
Telephone +61 8 9424 6444 Facsimile: +61 8 9424 6466
Website: www.plc.wa.edu.au

Please address all correspondence regarding *Blackwatch* to Publications & Communications Coordinator, Shelley Garcia-Webb, at PLC or email communityrelations@plc.wa.edu.au

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Message from the Principal

Numeracy and literacy still remain essential foundation skills but now sit alongside media and ILT literacy. Education is changing to accommodate the realities of this information age.



Beth Blackwood discusses cyborgs with Mei Tokui (Year 7) and Madison Noble (Year 8).

Recently I discovered that I could be described as being a cyborg. Had you asked me just a month ago what a cyborg was I would have been unable to answer! A **cyborg** "is short for 'cybernetic organism', and is a being with both biological and artificial (ie electronic, mechanical, or robotic) parts. The term cyborg is often applied to an organism that has enhanced abilities due to technology."

It matters little where you are today – the beach, airport, cafeteria, city streets or traveling in cars – you will inevitably witness electronic extensions of ourselves that provide us with immediate information (roadmaps, nearest coffee shops, factual information) or keep us connected to colleagues, friends and family. Likewise on the PLC campus, students are engaged throughout the day with devices such as iPads, mobile phones, computers and interactive whiteboards.

The cyborg concept made me stop to think how quickly life has changed. I am now living in the sci-fi world of my youth, such as that portrayed by the bionic man in the 1970s television series *The Six Million Dollar Man*. Humans have not transformed into the robot-like creatures of my future imagining but we could indeed be described as cyborgs – humans relying on electronics or technology to enhance our biological capabilities.

Such paradigm shifts are shaping and transforming education. Technology is driving the need for a global education – one that acknowledges the individual while recognising the power of many. We see the significance of collaborative learning; the need to be creative and critical thinkers; to be able to access learning anywhere and at any time, as well as the requirement to be competent communicators.

Numeracy and literacy still remain essential foundation skills but now sit alongside media and ILT literacy. Education is changing to accommodate the realities of this information age. This edition of *Blackwatch* shares many aspects of learning at PLC that provide for a holistic education in a contemporary world.

Our challenge as cyborgs is to ensure that the mechanical extensions that we have come to rely on do not override our unique humanity, especially our respect for each other, compassion, community mindedness and faith. Some traditions have not, and should not, change. These character attributes remain as central values of an education at PLC.

BETH BLACKWOOD
Principal

From the Principal

Chair Of Council Retires

"No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor is given by what he gave." – Calvin Coolidge

This September saw the retirement of the Hon Justice John McKechnie as Chair and member of Presbyterian Ladies' College Council.

John joined the Council in 1999 on invitation from the then Chair, Dr Patricia Kailis. John comments, "my usual rule with NGOs and charities is to stay for five years. This was also my rule in respect of the Council's and other tasks of the Uniting Church that the Moderator assigned to me from time to time. When I was asked to join PLC Council I expected to stay for five years. I also thought it was quite nice that for the first time, I was being asked to join a body in respect of which I had some personal interest, with three daughters present (and one daughter having completed PLC). However, that was not the determining factor. My longstanding passion for equality in all things including education is what tipped the balance in favour of accepting the offer".

It was fortunate for PLC that John's passion for equality, particularly a passion for women's equality and the benefits of girls' education, meant the breaking of his five year rule and subsequent service of 13 years on Council, including one year as Deputy Chair and the last five years as Chair of Council.

Despite the demands of his own professional life, John volunteered significant time to the School. He willingly served on every sub-Committee of Council, represented PLC on the Uniting Church Schools Forum for Constitutional Review, Chaired Council and provided unfailing support of the Principal.

We thank him for his dedication and contribution to such initiatives as the International Baccalaureate programme; building projects including the Middle School, Science, Arts and Technology building and Swim and Recreation Centre; his passion for, and oversight of, the technology programme; the Indigenous scholarship programme; as well as Foundation's vision to offer scholarships for students who might not otherwise afford an education at PLC. John has also directly assisted our students' learning through presentations each year to our politics and law students as well as gifting legal and other educational resources to our Library.

Above all, we thank John for his human qualities. His humour, intellect, faith and wisdom have been invaluable assets to Council and the School. His commitment 'to serve'; his erudite knowledge of literature, politics, art and history; Music and the Arts; love of travel and his commitment to family have been inspiring. The holistic philosophy of an education at PLC has been in good hands.

Justice John McKechnie, his wife Beth, and his family will remain honoured members of the PLC family.

BETH BLACKWOOD
Principal



Justice John McKechnie and his wife, Beth will remain honoured members of the PLC family. Justice McKechnie retired as Chair of Council in September.

Malcolm McTavish – 20 Years Of Service



2012 will mark the end of 20 years of remarkable service to PLC by Malcolm McTavish, affectionately known by many generations of students as 'Mr Mac'.

They say that you can 'take the boy out of the country but not the country out of the boy'. Mal has given to PLC those values inculcated by a childhood in rural Western Australia – a love of family, community, teamwork, the sporting life and values such as hard work, honesty and loyalty. Mal is a

great communicator with a genuine interest in all persons, particularly students.

There are not many roles that Mal has not fulfilled throughout his time at PLC – teacher of Business and Accounting, Year Co-ordinator, Head of Middle School, Co-Director of Boarding and School security. His warm personality, interest in young people and pragmatic approach to life's challenges has placed him at the centre of pastoral care roles at PLC.

His love of sport, combined with his desire to offer girls sporting opportunities has led to the founding of a PLC Football team and, more recently, a boarders' Cricket team. He has always taken great pride in the girls' achievements and efforts even when resoundingly defeated. To Mal the most important quality girls can display is teamwork and he has been a great role model to them. An avid Eagles fan, Mal's camaraderie and lively humour will be missed by his colleagues.

Mal's children, Mitchell, Lauren and Linley have been part of the journey having literally grown up on the campus with Mal and Leanne. For the past five years Mal and his wife, Leanne, have shared a role as Co-Directors of the Boarding House. We thank them for having developed and sustained a strong sense of community in the Boarding House and for their commitment to our rural and international students. Our best wishes and gratitude go with them as they commence new roles within the boarding community and school at Wesley College.



The new sport uniform features updated fabric and a more contemporary design.

New Sport Uniform

In late November 2011 and February 2012, students and parents were invited to participate in a survey designed to obtain opinions regarding the PLC sports uniform. After receiving the results of the survey, a committee was established to review the sports uniform and make recommendations to the Principal. The committee has worked with West Australian company Tara Uniforms and, using the feedback provided from the surveys and from students in Junior, Middle and Senior School to guide the process, the following has been adopted for students in Year 1 to Year 12 for 2013:

Updated Tracksuit and Shorts – There will be a change to the fabric and the introduction of a more contemporary design for these items.

Updated White Sports Shirt – A more modern fabric will be introduced together with a contemporary cut, with the PLC logo and School colours to be included in the design.

Updated House Shirt Branding – A more modern fabric and contemporary cut will be incorporated.

Updated Bathers – A new design, using one style for both House and Inter-School competitions, with PLC branding included. **New Polar Fleece Hoodie** – This new item will be an optional extra for girls from Year 3 to Year 12 who may wish to have a warmer outer garment for the winter months. **Sports Skirt** – Samples of the proposed updated skirt were provided to a selection of students to test during Term 4 and a decision will be made in early 2013.

Given the feedback provided in the surveys, no changes have been considered for the Striped Rugby Top, Zoot Suit (rowing), Dance Leotard and Leggings, and Inter-School Top.

The changes to the sports uniform were also presented to the Old Collegians' Association Committee and the Parents' Committee who each endorsed the adopted changes.

The new items will be available in the School Shop from the beginning of 2013. Should you have any comments regarding the changes please email ourviews@plc.wa.edu.au.

A New House For 2014

The House system at PLC, introduced by Dr Summers in 1934, remains integral to pastoral care and developing a sense of belonging for generations of students. Building community is a central value of the School, a value that is demonstrated through our current six Houses that are communities within a community. Our students continue to embrace House activities with great enthusiasm and friendly rivalry. In Middle and Senior School our tutor groups are based on House affiliation, thereby building friendships, loyalty and House spirit.

The House system began with just three Houses – Carmichael, Ferguson and Stewart. McNeil was added in 1943 and 1977 saw the creation of two further Houses, Baird and Summers. At the time this decision was made, enrolment of the School stood at 720 students (Prep – 12).

Research suggests that an optimum group number that allows staff and students to know each other well is approximately 120. With an enrolment that currently sits at around 1200 students, we have a need for the introduction of a new House to ensure House cohesion, a sense of belonging and the opportunity to engage all House members in competitions and the PLC ethos of participation.

The Old Collegians' Association Committee has been assigned the task of selecting a new House name in keeping with the School's tradition of recognising founders and significant contributors to the School's history and culture. In 2013 the School will commence attracting and assigning students to the new House and these students will participate in selecting a new House colour, motto and emblem.

Founding students will be creating another piece of School history with the launch of the new House in 2014.

From the Chaplain

Luke 2:10-11: "Do not be afraid!" What an introduction this is. It is a demand and a challenge that we yearn for. Of course, the shepherds were fearful, as we probably would have been too, but the angel's announcement also carries the astonishing tenderness of God. This is important in our times for in every contemporary place of violence and of abandonment, the compassion and tenderness of God are also present. Go to places where the wounds of humanity are very great, and in the midst all of this there is a God who is himself or herself embedded in that mountain of suffering.

Hence we should not romanticise this encounter between God's messenger and these shepherds of long ago. It is still an astonishing encounter but for me it underlines God's limitless love of our human condition and particularly, its ordinariness.

"Do not be afraid." You will find these or comparable words 365 times in the Bible – one for every day. Amazingly, the joy that the angel announced comes not for a select few but for every person. However dark the night or how difficult the road, we are never abandoned by the One who sustains us all. Many who have experienced deep sorrow and wounds have also known the "joy of Jesus".

Around the world, at Christmas, these verses are today read in hundreds of languages. The story of the angel and shepherds has been dramatised in a thousand ways. It is a story that comes to life when I know, deep within, that my heart is restless until it finds God. Up until that point, it is only a familiar tale. It takes on life when I face my own wounds and in faith believe that there is One who can heal and change me. A God who can remake me, despite my seemingly endless contradictions, fears and hesitations.

This Christmas that angel still speaks and he or she is communicating a truth that is both powerful and tender – "You are made in God's image, and you are befriended by Christ, and you are empowered by the Holy Spirit."

– with grateful acknowledgment to Peter Millar.

REVEREND GARY VAN HEERDEN



Foundation REPORT

As part of PLC's Master Plan for the School campus, by mid 2013 the PLC community will benefit from the re-development of the Junior School playing courts and the construction of 100 car park bays.

The design solution will see the parking bays housed discreetly beneath a raised playing courts surface, which will enhance the visual aesthetic of the Junior School campus.

This re-development will offer the girls and the School more than an increased number of parking bays – it will transform the sporting facilities of PLC across the entire campus. By raising the playing courts, they will join the existing play area of the Junior School and create an expansive area, accessible directly from the classroom doors. Chantelle James, Head of PE in Senior School commented, "This new area will be used daily by the girls for unstructured physical play as well as directed sport."

The Senior School campus will also benefit with the Oval being re-turfed and set aside as a sports venue. Collectively the girls across the School will benefit from an increased number of sporting facilities. Currently there are four tennis and three basketball/network courts. On completion, the girls will have use of six tennis and four basketball/netball courts in the Junior School. This will mean that PLC can host IGSSA tennis and netball events on site and allow the girls to showcase their sporting talents at home.

On the completion of this phase of development, PLC will then move on to an exciting and transformational phase with the re-development of the Senior College.

From a bricks and mortar point of view it will see the Middle and Senior School inter-connected by a space that flows through the library and cafeteria into a modern learning environment. The new spaces will be designed around more mature needs to support the girls' transition from school to the adult spheres of university and the workplace.

What this will mean for the girls of today and the future, including Clare Wray and Jordenne Mills, the Foundation's scholarship recipients, is a modern, stimulating and state of the art learning environment that will support and extend the learning of all girls.

The Foundation has been instrumental in supporting previous building developments on campus, in addition to supporting Scholarships for girls who would not otherwise be able to attend PLC. The Foundation is excited to be part of these changes, especially as we lead to the Centenary year of PLC in 2015 and taking PLC forward into its second century of education excellence. We look forward to bringing you information on the ways in which the Foundation will support these plans in the near future.

ROBYN AHERN
Chair of Foundation



Year 10 Economics students, Serena Green and Anneke Rose, attended a Threats to Freedom of Speech Conference with Economics teacher, Mairead Taylor.

University Already

Year 10 Economics Students, Serena Green, Anneke Rose and Abbey Mardon were recently invited to attend The Mannkal/Murdoch School of Law *Threats to Freedom of Speech Conference*. The conference was dedicated to the discussion of threats posed to Freedom of Speech in Australia and worldwide and saw a number of leading academics and professional speakers present.

Abbey Mardon enjoyed the opportunity to attend the conference and told us, "I found it very thought-provoking as it raised many issues I haven't thought about relating to the concept of freedom of speech. For example, it's easy to say that freedom of speech is a good thing but it's not so easy to find a way of allowing speech with no restrictions that won't impinge on other rights. It was a very interesting conference!"

The girls were invited to attend the conference on scholarships from Mannkal, an Economic Education Foundation who has been working in partnership with the Foundation throughout the year. Ron Manners, Executive Chairman of Mannkal and former PLC parent commented, "We were really pleased to offer these inquisitive Year 10 girls the opportunity to attend the *Threats to Freedom of Speech Conference*. We certainly enjoyed having the girls listen and participate in discussions that were held throughout the day and we hope to offer similar opportunities to PLC students in the future."

Foundation Report

Seussical

Earlier this year guests of the PLC Foundation, including a number of our Summers Society (pictured right), attended the Foundation's pre-show reception of the student musical *Seussical*. Amongst the refreshments of Green Eggs & Ham and Goldfish canapés, Mayzie LaBird, Gerturde and The Cat in the Hat offered guests, of all ages, a glimpse of the costumes as well as a sensational preview of the music and a dash of the drama of *Seussical*. Over 70 guests of the PLC Foundation then enjoyed the full production, which took place in the Hazel Day Drama Centre following the reception and was performed entirely by our talented senior students. An enjoyable evening was had by all.



Anne Kyle (Jago 1948), Sue Carew-Reid (Copley 1947), Robyn Ahern (Chair of Foundation and Summers Society member) and the Hon June Craig AM (Lynn 1947) (Summers Society member).

Scholarships – Then and Now

Earlier this year, the PLC Foundation was delighted to announce the award of its first full academic Scholarship to Clare Wray of Dianella. The Foundation is now equally delighted to announce the award of a second PLC Foundation Scholarship to Jordanne Mills of Boddington WA, who will commence Year 8 at PLC in 2013.

The Foundation hopes to instil a sense of pride and achievement in being a recipient of a Foundation Scholarship as it recognises and awards academic achievement and reflects a well-rounded ability. We look forward to bringing you news of Clare and Jordanne's successes when they commence at PLC.

The PLC Foundation is committed towards being able to support academically able young girls to go on to lead interesting and successful lives by offering a number of full academic scholarships each year to girls who would not otherwise be able to attend PLC.

The award of the first Foundation Scholarships marks a significant milestone for the work of the Foundation and continues a longstanding PLC tradition of awarding scholarships to capable 'all round' girls.

The School's archive records show that PLC first awarded scholarships in 1925 when eight students received scholarships of varying amounts. Between 1926 and 1950 approximately 160 scholarships were awarded to deserving girls, demonstrating that philanthropy has historically always been a part of the PLC community. Many of these scholarship winners went on to become Prefects, Head Girls and make enormous contributions to PLC and the wider community throughout their lives.

Many of you will have seen the PLC Annual Giving 2012 brochure earlier in the year. This featured a photograph of current Foundation Scholarship recipient, Clare Wray, alongside an archival image of Freda Stimson (Gates) who was the recipient of a £25 scholarship in 1926.

Freda became Head Prefect in 1926 and later went on to university at UWA. Freda stayed committed to the PLC community throughout her life and later became a Life Member of Council. Freda's legacy within the PLC community continues across the generations with her children, grand children and now her great-grandchildren attending PLC.



Freda Stimson was the recipient of a £25 scholarship in 1926.

The award of a scholarship such as those to Freda, Clare and Jordanne provides a wonderful opportunity for a capable student to fulfil her true potential and make a valuable and lasting contribution to the School and wider community. Dr Vera Summers, Principal of PLC from 1934-1961 and staff member from 1921, was herself the recipient of the prestigious Hackett Scholarship from UWA in 1928. This scholarship allowed Dr Summers to travel and study at the renowned Sorbonne in Paris.

Dr Summers later returned to PLC to take up the position of Principal. Upon her return, the entire PLC community benefited from her knowledge and experience gained by the award of the scholarship and the opportunities it presented.

For the PLC Foundation to be able to offer scholarships we require significant and ongoing funding to ensure that there is a continual capital base to support this programme. Our hope is that future scholarship recipients will leave a legacy to PLC similar to those of Freda Stimson and Dr Vera Summers.

If you would like further information on the PLC Foundation Scholarship Programme or know of a young girl who you believe would benefit from this opportunity we would be most happy to arrange an application for them.

Alternatively, if you would like to make a contribution to the PLC Foundation Scholarship Fund or discuss establishing a Scholarship, in full or part, please contact Joanne Beedie, Development Co-ordinator on (08) 9424 6534 or jbeedie@plc.wa.edu.au.

Annual Giving Programme 2012

Each year the PLC Foundation runs an Annual Giving programme to raise valuable funds for the School to meet the needs of our current and future students.

2012 saw the appeal focus on raising funds for the PLC Foundation Scholarship programme and we are delighted to announce that, to date, the 2012 programme has raised \$57,680 with donations coming from across the country and internationally. These generous gifts will help the PLC Foundation fund future scholarships for academically talented girls who would not otherwise be able to attend PLC due to their family's financial circumstances, as well as contribute to the Building Fund and supplement the School Library.

In the last edition of *Blackwatch* we reported on Louise Fry as a young alumni with strong philanthropic motivations. Louise leads the way in encouraging young alumni to support the work of the PLC Foundation and has arranged a monthly donation to the PLC Scholarship Fund that is Match Funded each month by her employer. We thank Louise and all of our generous donors who have supported us in our 2012 Annual Giving programme.

In recognition and thanks, below are listed our 2012 supporters and we extend our gratitude to those who wish to remain anonymous.

Mrs Rosemary Adamson (Ross 1951)
Mr Ismail Ahmad (Lowe 1955) &
Mrs Geraldene Lowe-Ahmad
Mr Rory Argyle (1958) & Mrs Penny Argyle
Mrs Margaret Atkins OAM (Cusack 1947)
Mrs Judy Battaglia (Kirtton 1963)
Mr Charles &
Mrs Elizabeth Bolt (Pethick 1984)
Mrs Julian Brealey (Cameron 1946)
Lady Jean Brodie-Hall AM (Slatyer 1942)
Mr David & Mrs Christine Burt
Mr Adil & Mrs Andrea Bux
Mrs Beris Carter (Mazzucchelli 1953)
Dr Weng Chin & Ms Kelly Aris
Hon June Craig AM (Lynn 1947)
Mrs Graë Dack (Fletcher 1948)
Mr Peter & Mrs Lesley Davies
Mrs Hazel Day
Mrs Margot Dean (Robertson 1951)
Mrs Florence Dubois (Lissiman 1942)
Mr Timothy Duffield &
Ms Morgen Lewis (1987)
Mr Colin Dunston
Dr Anne Durack (1963)
Mr Colin & Mrs Judy Evans
Mr Ken & Mrs Paula Everett
Mrs Jennifer Fairweather (Yeo 1958)
Ms Barbara Finch (1950)
Mrs Beverley Fitzgerald (Bird 1954)
Ms Louise Fry (2005)
Mrs Carole Gamble (Bull 1964)
Mrs Joyce Goffin (McWilliam 1945)
Mr Geoffrey Gishubl &
Ms Jennifer Grove (1989)
Mr Jeffrey & Mrs Pamela Halford
Miss June Hardie (1951)
Mrs Patricia Hatch (Bailey 1953)
Dr Margaret Henderson OBE (1932)
Dr Steve & Dr Megan Henderson
Mrs Hazel Higgins (Day 1935)

Mrs Mary Hillman (Alexander 1967)
Mrs Fern Hinchcliffe (Higgins 1959)
Mr Ian and Mrs Sue Hobson (Ledger 1981)
Mrs Janette Hodge (Geddes 1952)
Prof Tracey Horton & Mr Jonathan Horton
Mr David & Mrs Stephanie Hounslow
Mrs Bettyanne Huntington (Hopkins 1961)
Mrs Shelley Hutchison (Sutherland 1949)
Ms Amanda Kailis (1982)
Dr Patricia Kailis AM OBE
Mrs Elizabeth Kelly (Weygers 1963)
Mrs Ethelmary Kenworthy (Cook 1949)
Mr Peter & Mrs Lucinda Kerr (Webb 1992)
Mr Damian & Mrs Kristin Kestel
Mr Peter Kesteven & Dr Ros Thomson
Mrs Beverley Kiddey (Turnbull 1960)
Mrs Anne Kyle (Jago 1948)
Mrs Julie Larkin (Sedgman 1951)
Mrs Verona Lea (Baron-Hay 1949)
Mrs Laura Lewis (McCowan 1944)
Mrs Patricia Littlejohn (Sloane 1949)
Mrs Freda Livingston (Bunce 1949)
Mrs Prue McAllister (Shenton 1943)
Hon Justice John & Mrs Beth McKechnie
Mr David & Mrs Jacqui Macgeorge
Mrs Cathryn Mackie (Budd 1963)
Mrs Gwen Manser (Morgan 1953)
Mrs Marjorie Moore (Winterton 1954)
Mrs Jill Mowson (Harrison 1949)
Mrs Jan Muggleton (Fuller 1968)
Mr David & Mrs Kirsten Nelson
Mrs Eunice Osborne (Seddon 1952)
Ms Jillian Parker (1972)
Mr Graeme & Mrs Sue Perryman
(Somerville 1963)
Mr David & Mrs Elizabeth Quinlivan
Mrs Laura Raiter (Einiovici 1951)
Ms Jennifer Rankin
Mr Graham Reynolds OAM &
Mrs Margaret Reynolds

Mr William & Mrs Robyn Ridley
(Limboorn 1961)
Miss Catherine Riemer (1989)
Mrs Anne Ritson (Hearman 1962)
Mr Charles Leigh Robinson –
Leigh Robinson Family Trust
Mrs Elizabeth Robson (Officer 1959)
Mrs Verna Rowbotham (Ross 1937)
Mr Robert Schmidt &
Mrs Lina Souki-Schmidt
Mr Donald Scott & Mrs Fiona Callander
Mrs Barbara Sewell (Buchanan 1949)
Mr Cameron & Mrs Catherine Shephard
Mr Adam and Mrs Carolyn Shephard
(Sheedy 1988)
Mr Hugh and Mrs Jill Slatyer (Bird 1955)
Mr Richard & Mrs Judy Smirk (Kyle 1977)
Mrs Merle Smith (Kell 1949)
Mrs Jane Somes (Temperley 1962)
Mrs Margaret Stamper (Monger 1947)
Mrs Laurel Stanes (Jenkinson 1946)
Mr Rod and Mrs Jacqueline Steens
Mrs Valerie Thompson (Gardiner 1956)
Mr Garry & Mrs Cerina Triglavcanin
Mrs Wendy Tushingam (Jago 1946)
Mrs Alison Tweedie (McNeil 1951)
Dr Richard & Mrs Elizabeth Vaughan
(Overton 1962)
Mrs Shirley Wallman (Morrison 1949)
Mr Frederic Zufferey &
Ms Camelia Zufferey-Roth

If you would like to make a gift to the 2012 Annual Giving programme, please contact Joanne Beedie, Development Co-ordinator on +618 9424 6534 or at jbeedie@plc.wa.edu.au

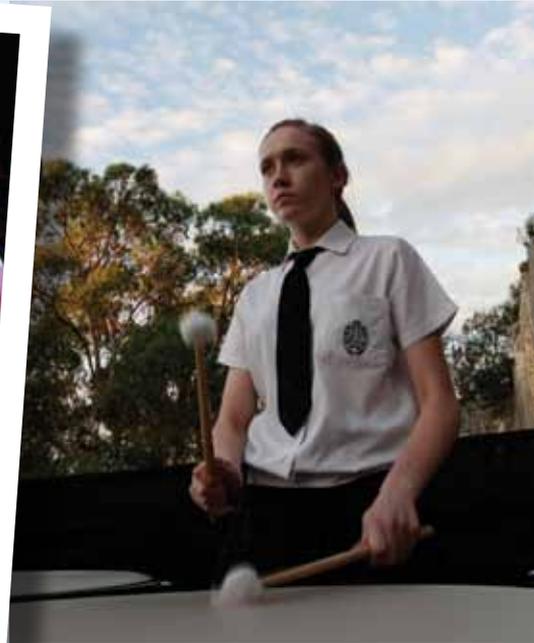
Learning FEATURE



The PLC/Trinity Chorale.



Katherine Graham (Year 7) playing the flute.



Year 10 student, Sarah Fitzgerald on Timpani.

The Power Of Music Education

PLC makes a significant investment in Music education, offering an extensive programme to students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12. Current research highlights both the intrinsic and extrinsic learning benefits of Music study and participation.

Research over a number of years has proven that music education dramatically increases early brain development and improves students' overall academic performance. Specifically, children who are engaged in practical music generally perform better in the core learning areas of literacy and numeracy.

Researchers also find that, overall, musicians have higher IQ scores than non-musicians, supporting recent studies that intensive musical training is associated with elevated IQ scores.

Intrinsically, music provides an outlet for creativity and self-expression and helps to develop physical coordination and dexterity, timing, memory, visual, aural and language skills. Most importantly, music is fun and good for the head, heart and soul.

The power of music can be seen in many aspects of our lives today. Universities now run music therapy degrees based on the idea that music and all of its facets – physical, emotional, mental, social and spiritual – can improve and support our health. Music is embedded in our lives – it can help us feel happy when we are sad. With the singing of hymns providing an important role in religious services, music can also connect us with our spirituality.

PLC recognises the importance of music in our lives and for the extension of learning and so provides a comprehensive programme of Music education, including class music, instrumental and vocal tuition and ensemble participation.

Within the Co-curricular Music programme, the Music Department administers over 600 music lessons a week. The School supports a number of introductory instrumental programmes, providing students with the chance to learn an instrument. Students in Years 6 to 12 are also offered the opportunity to win Music Scholarships and Bursaries.

A comprehensive range of music ensemble opportunities is available to both instrumental students and other students who wish to be involved in a co-curricular music activity at school. Students gain confidence and self-pride through their participation, with performances at a range of school and community concerts and events.

The various opportunities within the Music programme allow students to actively learn through a wide range of music pursuits.

MARK THOMAS
Director of Music

Music Learning In Action

A number of students have embraced the Music programme at PLC, learning a range of instruments and throwing themselves into as many music opportunities as possible.

Ailsa Edwards (Year 9) is one student who has wholeheartedly embraced the co-curricular Music programme at PLC. She currently learns flute, trumpet and bagpipes and is a member of the Senior Pipe Band, the PLC/Scotch College Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band 1 and Stage Band.

Ailsa marched with the PLC Pipe Band on Anzac Day and successfully competed in several sections at the Fremantle Music Eisteddfod. She recently obtained an Honours grade for her Grade 5 Trumpet exam through the AMEB (Australian Musical Examination Board) and placed first in both the senior woodwind and brass sections on Arts Day. She recently sat her AMEB Grade 5 flute exam and next year will travel to the USA with the Senior Pipe Band to perform at the Virginia International Tattoo.

"Looking back over my musical life at PLC, I'm able to reflect on my academic achievements and how my involvement with Music has shaped the person I am today. I have been lucky enough to experience a range of different opportunities through music. All of these opportunities have helped make me more confident and this confidence has also been transferred to my academic studies," Ailsa said.

Another prominent Music student, Lucy Yang, came to PLC as a recipient of a Music scholarship. This year as a Year 11 student, she has completed the Stage 3 A/B Music subject, one that is normally chosen by Year 12 students and requires a high level of excellence.



Music scholarship recipient, Lucy Yang (Year 11) was fortunate to play on two world-renowned pianos during recent performances for the School.



Ailsa Edwards (Year 9) has wholeheartedly embraced the Music programme at PLC, learning the flute, trumpet and bagpipes.

At a recent 3A/B Music Recital, Lucy performed a 20-minute recital programme in preparation for her practical examination. She also performed the first movement of the Grieg Piano Concerto accompanied by the PLC Bartok Orchestra. For this concert, the Music Department arranged for the use of a Fazioli Concert Grand Piano, one of the world's finest pianos and one of two instruments chosen for the Government House Ballroom. Following this, Lucy was invited to perform at a lunchtime concert in Parmelia House promoting an outstanding Australian concert piano by Stuart & Sons.

"Throughout my musical studies, I have only been able to play a limited collection of pianos, such as Yamaha, Kawai, and occasionally a Steinway, but never on the world-renowned Fazioli and Stuart & Sons. Having the opportunity to play on two vastly different pianos has certainly benefited my musical learning," Lucy said.

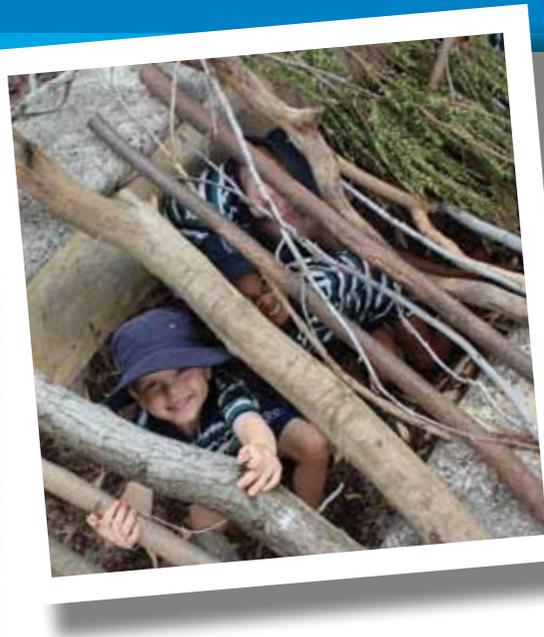
Lucy currently plays piano in Stage Band and flute in Concert Band 1 and will shortly undertake her AMEB Associate Diploma exam for piano.

MARK THOMAS
Director of Music

Learning Feature



Jonah Thompson



Hudson Weir and Jaxson Austin



Kit Guit

Kindergarten students experiment with "loose bits", building cubby houses from materials from the natural environment. "Loose bits" are thought to be vital in allowing children to develop creativity, problem solve and connect.

Play Based Learning

This year two significant events occurred which gave rise to rethinking our views on play for our children. The Year 5 students became engaged in an in-depth inquiry, researching the importance of play. As their work drew to a conclusion, I was undertaking a study trip arranged by the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA), to the United Kingdom investigating the importance of Nature Play. It was not through design that both the students and myself came to the same conclusion; that childhood requires natural play and natural playscapes.

Current research from experts in the field of social and emotional well-being has identified links between natural play opportunities and resilience. It is thought that the "spots of time" William Wordsworth writes about in his poem *The Prelude* refers to memorable moments we experience in our childhood. These "spots of time" give us pause to recall and reflect on the memories from the past that transfer to the present. They assist us in making connections and creating a sense of belonging. How then, will we create a playground that allows the students to form spots of time?

The PLC Junior School is developing an "Inside, Outside and Beyond" approach to learning. Clare Warden, an international educational consultant, refers to this in her book *Potential of a Puddle*. The Early Years Learning Framework (2009) promotes the provision of sensorial and exploratory experiences with natural as well as processed materials. It is our intention to create a playscape where children have a voice in their learning, where the beginnings of trust and democracy are at the core of decision-making and play. To do this we need to rethink our space. We need to look at our

environment both within the School and the "wild" environment beyond, so that we can work in harmony with nature and the rhythms of nature. Ultimately, states Clare Walden, "we want to provide the opportunity for children to develop as capable, competent learners who are strong and powerful."

One of the key elements of the playscape will be to provide opportunities for students to take risks. It is important that children experience an environment that promotes resilience, as opposed to protection. Children at a young age are their own risk assessors. As educators and adults in care of children, we must be mindful of stopping a learning moment because of our own assessment of risk. Consideration of the adult role in childhood is crucial, along with considerations of space, time, resources and climate. We know that to understand and care for our world, you have to live in it. The first step will be to redefine the spaces and to introduce "loose bits".

It has been suggested that the constantly evolving natural world creates an infinite number of variables for children to interact with. The "loose bits" we put into the playground will allow children to make connections, develop creativity, and problem solve. In the IB world, learning is a social act and involves children engaging with one another and with adults. It is our intention to create a space that promotes a sense of belonging – a place where there is a strong sense of family, community and fellowship and where adults and children enjoy each other's company.

HEATHER POPE
Head of Junior School

The Effects of Outdoor Activity On The Brain

At this year's National Outdoor Education Conference, I was fortunate to attend a session by Dr Ian Boyle on the topic of Neuroplasticity. Dr Boyle has been an Outdoor Educator in Australia for many years and has been researching the effects of exercise on the human brain. Neuroplasticity centres around the idea that the brain is not a static organ, but one that changes throughout our life. Learning and memory are affected throughout our lives because of our brain's ability to change.

In his book *Spark*, Dr John Ratey explains that the human brain is like a muscle – it grows with exercise. He claims that exercise promotes the growth of new brain cells and enhances the function of our brains – it makes them work more efficiently.

At PLC, the Outdoor Education Department runs four-day to eight-day Outdoor Education programmes for students from Years 6 to 10. As the girls advance in age, they participate in more expedition style programmes, thereby increasing the amount of sustained exercise they undertake. For example, in Year 7, our girls take part in their first overnight hike. In reality, this is a half-day expedition where they carry minimal food, water and clothing. By Year 10, our girls complete a six-day programme where they carry up to four days' worth of food, a substantial quantity of water, as well as all the necessary group and personal equipment required for the expedition.

By taking our students on expedition, we are not only teaching them skills to recreate safely in the outdoors, we are additionally helping their brains to grow, thereby improving their ability to learn and to remember. Incidentally, while exercise plays a large role in growing the brain, meditation (alone time) and calming nature sounds, have also been shown to enhance neuroplasticity.

Possibly even more interesting, is specific knowledge about the brain's Hippocampus. The Hippocampus has a central role in the formation of memories and therefore in the entire learning process. What's valuable to understand is that the Hippocampus grows when stimulated by novel events, places and other stimuli.

One of the beauties of Outdoor Education is that it is very different to most people's normal daily lives. Novel events, places and stimuli are, in one sense, the norm for an Outdoor Education programme.

To provide some idea of the novelty within an Outdoor Education programme at PLC, consider our Year 8 students who travel to the Margaret River region for six days. The events that they participate in that are very much different to their day-to-day lives include; abseiling off cliffs and/or into a cave, caving, kayaking, bushwalking, a half-day aboriginal cultural session, cooking food on a small fuel stove, sleeping in a tent or a stone hut, star gazing and having solo reflection time. Novel places that they visit include Wilyabrup sea cliffs, Boranup forest, W116, Giants and Bride Caves, the Blackwood River, Contos camping group and the old stone hut owned by the Speleological Research Group. Apart from all the stimuli presented by these new places and events, there are the sights, smells and sounds associated with being in the bush and camping. The touch and smell of the plants and trees; the greens, blues, yellows, purples, and other colours of those plants; animals that we don't often see in the city; the warmth, sound and sight of a camp fire burning; the sounds of birds signing or crickets chirping or waves crashing; and even the confusing stimuli of absolute silence and complete darkness in the middle of Giants Cave.

If novel stimuli help the Hippocampus to grow, then an Outdoor Education programme must provide a spike in how much a person's Hippocampus grows in a year.

LIAM SULLIVAN

Director of Outdoor Education



Outdoor Education activities are the embodiment of new environments, experiences and stimuli, contributing to the growth and development of the brain.



Year 8 student, Eleanor McLarty abseiled in to Bride's Cave in Boranup Forest.



Year 10 students hiking alongside the Murchison River near Kalbarri.



Year 5 student, Jessica van Heerden working on her iBook to share with students at Nan Hua Primary School in Singapore.



Year 2 students Annabelle Barrie and Molly Alderson using an iPad in a joint project between PLC and Scotch College.

Collaborative Learning

With the rapid growth in technological advances and continued globalisation of the world, education has had to embrace a number of significant changes in order to prepare students for life beyond their schooling.

Information Learning Technologies (ILT) have made significant developments that allow for genuine collaborative projects in education to take place across schools, states and even internationally.

PLC strongly supports the benefits of collaborative learning. It provides girls with the ability to work with people who have different perspectives, view points and ideas and improves listening and communication skills.

In Term 3, Year 2 students at PLC and Scotch College worked together on a Unit of Inquiry that fully embedded technology through the use of iPads and digital photographs, video and audio recordings.

Students registered on a social networking website called Edmodo, allowing teachers to create a safe and secure community for students to build social networking skills. Students generated their own questions about their unit of inquiry, shared their findings and reflected on the learning that had taken place each day.

Year 2 teacher, Ayomi Perera said "It was wonderful to see the way the students engaged with their buddies using Edmodo. They would eagerly check their accounts each day to see if the boys had responded to their posts or if they had posted any questions and provocations for them."

"Sharing is good because you can have ideas from another person and when you have two ideas you can make it better," Emily Stevens (Year 2) said.

Students were also exposed to the issue of leaving a 'digital footprint'. Sophya Thomas (Year 2) commented "when you post something online you have to be careful what you say because it can stay there forever!"

Another opportunity, this time for international collaboration, has taken place between the Year 5 Mandarin class at PLC and a Year 5 English class at Nan Hua Primary School in Singapore. The two schools worked together to plan a collaborative unit that gave students the chance to interact in another language.

The students from each school created an iBook, detailing their daily lives. The iBooks included text, audio recordings, photographs and videos. At the end of the term students from PLC emailed their books to Nan Hua Primary School.

It is hoped this initiative will encourage students to improve their pronunciation of Mandarin and develop cultural awareness through sharing some of the cultural differences between Perth and Singapore. This project is intended to lead to more collaborative projects in 2013.

LINDSEY ALLEN

ILT Coach

Learning Feature

Understanding Complexity

In a presentation to PLC Council in 2011 theologian and ethicist, Professor Rufus Black of the University of Melbourne, stated that, “students need to understand complexity. The world they are inheriting is laden with complex problems that will require multiple, complex solutions. Disciplinary depth and breadth is needed to equip them for the future challenges they will face.”

At PLC our aim is to guide and challenge students to a greater depth of understanding so that we equip them to think and perform at higher levels and to prepare them for the global world.

The Middle Years Programme encourages students to question and challenge their thinking through concept-based teaching and learning. While traditional curriculum design is topic and fact-based and assumes that students will understand the main concepts and principles being studied, concept-based teaching and learning raises the intellectual bar by teaching through a conceptual lens that requires students to process both factual and conceptual levels and to think in a more complex way.

This year, Year 9 Humanities students explored the issues facing China in the 21st Century. Traditionally, students would simply learn the facts associated with China’s geography, political and economic systems. PLC students would still learn the facts about China, however they are also required to process those facts through the conceptual lenses of change, ideologies and consequences. Students are challenged to use their understanding of the factual information to explore the “big idea” or enduring understanding that ‘economic ideologies and innovative strategies for development, may facilitate lasting changes in the way communities live’. This “big idea”,

transfers through time, across cultures and situations and supports the student to make connections between facts and concepts and relate new knowledge to prior knowledge.

This method of teaching and learning allows students to retain factual information longer and they become more emotionally and intellectually engaged because they see personal relevance and connections. In preparation for their Humanities study of China, Year 9 Language A students studied the autobiography of Li Cunxin, *Mao’s Last Dancer*. Students were then tasked with writing their own autobiography. They were challenged to look at the way certain influences were able to change their perceptions and values rather than simply writing a chronology of events.

The key focus or ‘concept’ of the unit was Change and Perspective. The unit enabled students to transfer knowledge from their own experience of writing an autobiography to analysing how Li Cunxin’s own perceptions might have changed during his journey from rural villager to serving in Mao’s Chinese Communist Party as a ballet dancer and finally to his freedom in the United States. It also provided excellent preparation for further investigation into China’s development and opened the doors for more invested learning during their Humanities unit on the same topic.

Challenging students to think more deeply is excellent preparation for the future challenges they will face in this ever-more complex world.

KIM EDWARDS
Deputy Principal





The Personal Project sees students self-manage and direct their learning, submitting an array of unique projects that illustrate their creativity, sense of service and international perspective.

Students Direct Their Own Learning With Personal Projects

The Personal Project is a significant student-managed and directed inquiry undertaken over an extended period of time. It holds a very important place in the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme as it is the culmination of the student's involvement in the programme. So often in education students are responders to adult direction. The Personal Project is a rare opportunity for students to direct their own learning and produce a truly personal and creative work of their choice.

Students start the project in the second semester of Year 9 and complete it part way through Year 10. There are three components to the Personal Project – a process journal, which is an evolving record of intents, processes, accomplishments and the journey undertaken; the project itself; and, a 3500 word Personal Report, which discusses and reflects on the learning that has taken place. All three components are assessed.

Year 10, 2012 girls submitted an array of unique projects that illustrated their creativity, sense of service and international perspective. Sophie Edlin's goal for her Personal Project was to take photographs depicting nature, and then create a mosaic inspired by one of these photographs. Sophie said that, "in addition to learning about mosaic production, I have learnt more about myself as a person. I feel I am much more persistent with tasks and confident with expressing my creativity. I feel I completed my Project with a confident attitude and with my head held high".

Emilie Ong wanted to choose a project that was meaningful, would have purpose past the completion of the project, and would benefit her family in some way. Following the birth of her cousin's twins in Indonesia, Emilie decided to write, translate and illustrate two picture books. These picture books would act as teaching aids to her cousin's young twins in their efforts to learn English in Indonesia.

In Emilie's reflections on her personal project experience she states, "I learned a lot of valuable skills which I can apply to other activities especially at school; time management, organisation and a range of technology skills. It was a great learning experience and I was taken by surprise at what I was able to achieve. The project allowed me to devote my time and energy to two people I love and care about."

Sannah Maclean's project came about because in early 2011 she damaged her shoulder and had to stop sailing and all involvement in sport. As a result she had time to reflect on people with more permanent disabilities who would never have the strength or physical capacity to do the things she could do when healthy. This inspired her to volunteer at Sailability WA, a programme that supports disabled people to learn to sail and compete. Sannah's goal for her project was to create a photo journal that promotes the work of Sailability WA and record her experience as a volunteer helping disabled people get into sailing.

Sannah worked every Sunday for five hours across the 2011 and 2012 season. Sannah wrote that, "the people at Sailability WA taught me that a disability does not make a person, but rather their spirit. With a good heart and a happy spirit we are all the same."

Olivia Jacobsen lived in Denmark and went to school there for three months late last year. She knew that Denmark was renowned for its architecture and designs and she especially loved the iconic egg chair as well as the work of the architect, Jørn Utzon (Sydney Opera House). This was the inspiration for her project. Olivia researched two Danish designers, Arne Jacobsen and Jørn Utzon and created a book about them and their designs.

Olivia learnt much from the Personal Project experience particularly the designers' histories and careers. She wrote, "the part I enjoyed the most and loved learning about was the controversy and heartbreak that went on during the process of building the Sydney Opera House with Jørn Utzon. This was particularly upsetting to learn about because Jørn Utzon was a fantastic person and it meant so much to him to have the opportunity to create something so spectacular for Sydney".

Each year at the Year 10 Personal Project Exhibition we witness similar transformations as girls demonstrate their ability to be independent learners through their learning journeys and individual interests and passions.

KIM EDWARDS
Deputy Principal

Learning Feature

Ashley Selected To Attend The National Youth Science Forum



Ashley Dunne (Year 11) is looking forward to going to Canberra next year to meet like-minded students at the National Youth Science Forum.

Year 11 student, Ashley Dunne has been selected to represent Western Australia at the National Youth Science Forum next year.

Ashley is one of only 18 students from across the State to have been selected to attend the Forum that will be held in Canberra from 21 January to 2 February.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Dalkeith, Ashley underwent a rigorous application process in order to be selected. In addition to a written application and formal interview, she attended an Application Day where she participated in group activities and was asked to give an improvised speech.

Ashley chose to speak about global warming and its effect on politics and economy. "We actually don't know what's happening with global warming at the moment. One of the most dangerous things happening right now is the politicisation of science. Because developments in science are moving so fast, politicians don't have a chance to keep up with what we know and so they are making policy on concepts that we don't fully understand. This can have a really bad effect on our economy and international relations," she said.

With a clear vision of a career in Science, Ashley was keen to attend the Forum to help her gain direction into which pathway to choose. The Forum provides avid young scientists with access to visiting professors from a number of fields and who represent universities from across Australia. She is hoping the Forum will not only help her to define which career path in Science to choose from but also which university will best support her goals.

More recently, Ashley received a High Distinction in the Australian Mathematics Competition (placing in the top 2% of students in Australia), a bronze medallion and High Distinction for Physics in the Australian Science Olympiads and a further distinction for Chemistry. Ashley seems well placed for a distinguished career in Science.

For now she is looking forward to heading to Canberra early next year and meeting like-minded students of her own age. "I am looking forward to meeting all the other young scientists of our generation because we are going to be the next great scientists of our era," she said.

Merry Well-Versed At Winning

At just 17, Merry Li is already an accomplished and multiple award-winning poet.

Merry (Year 12) has dominated State and National literature competitions this year, winning four reputable literature prizes, including the Grove Library's Now and Then Literature competition, the Tim Winton Young Writers' Awards and The West Australian Young Writers' Contest, where she was also named Best Young Writer.

But she said gaining national recognition in the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards was her most significant achievement to date.

Merry won the Senior Secondary section of Australia's oldest and largest poetry competition for school aged children with her poem *An afternoon spent at 39 Mandowie Road*. She traveled to Gunnedah in NSW in August to collect her prize, which included \$500 in prize money, a trophy, an engraved iPad and a collection of books.

At The West Australian Young Writer's Contest, it was not only Merry's poetry that drew attention, she also received accolades for her prose. Her poem *Heel-ball-toe* won the Year 11-12 Poetry Prize and her short story *The Broccoli Tree* won the Year 11-12 Prose Prize.

In the The Grove's 2012 Now & Then: Literature Prize in the Year 8-12 Poetry category, her poem *The Groyne* was described as "a sophisticated poem with plentiful details and imaginative images." This is a young author with a promising career to follow.



Year 12 student and this year's DJ Carmichael & Company Dux of School (WACE), Merry Li dominated State and National literature competitions this year.

National Poetry Award

The following poem is Merry Li's winning submission in the Senior Secondary section of the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards annual national poetry competition.



An afternoon spent at 39 Mandowie Road

In the back room of our old house,
in front of glass walls saturated by sunlight,
sat my father's desk.

On it, a computer monitor and a keyboard
with the a, s, f, j, backspace and return keys
eroded to shiny plastic.

On the other side of the glass
my mother watered her fig tree,
with the fingery branches that bled white sap,
and the furry leaves that would have made
very prickly undergarments.
Snaking the hose under the handprints of shade,
she plucked the figs with a twist of the wrist,
handed them to us, heavy with rain
and impregnated by the seed of summer.

We tore them in half,
squeezing from the little hole at the bottom,
revealing the flesh: pink-tipped,
perfectly, artfully graduated to white.
Fig flesh, I thought, was like the alveoli of lungs
that I had seen illustrated in the
faded watercolours of Dorling Kindersley's
The Human Body.

The alveoli came off so easily,
we slipped our tongues and teeth between
the soft rind and bitter skin,
white blood dripping into the webs of our fingers
until we were left with seeds between our teeth
and two halves of a heart-shaped shell.

When the mosquitoes came,
my mother slapping at her bare arms,
we hurtled through the sliding doors.
On my father's lap,
our faces white in the Microsoft glow,
I pulled at the levers of his office chair
and pointed at the graph of Fig1 on the screen.
My father explained that it meant 'Figure 1',
and explained to me the nature of science.

Learning Feature



Students met with the Jarlmadangah Community during the Kimberley Immersion Tour.

Service Immersion – Cambodia – Kimberley – Tanzania

Parents often share the observation that their daughters are different after returning from service immersion programmes. Immersion is designed to deeply involve our girls – beyond their comfort zone, cross-culturally, with new relationships, and in response to extreme marginalisation. These experiences lead to the transformation of the girls' intellectual and emotional view of the world.

Following her experiences on the Cambodian Service Immersion tour, Year 10 student, Abbey Mardon reflected on how the tour had challenged her ideas about spirituality. "This tour has really made me think about my faith. I have seen and experienced how three different faiths (Buddhism, Hindu and Christianity) have influenced people's lives so strongly and it has made me wonder exactly what and how strong my own beliefs are," she said.

For the vast majority of our girls these experiences result in a growth in maturity and further develop their leadership skills by having made a difference to their local communities. Year 12 student, Ellen Kennedy saw how the Kimberley Service Immersion tour related to the reconciliation issues that are still so significant in this country. "We immersed ourselves into the Indigenous culture and the people of their culture also took an interest in our lives and showed appreciation of our help. This was a positive sign of the progression of reconciliation in Australia," she said.

So affected by their immersion experiences, many students choose to return to similar remote locations throughout the world to further their service following their graduation from PLC. Tessa McOnie (2008) has returned to the Kimberley every year for the past four years to assist PLC with its Service Immersion programme there. Year 12 students, Tess Ingliss and Joanna Akehurst, who each participated in the tour to Cambodia this year, both plan to travel overseas next year to work on service projects in a voluntary capacity. Tess will travel to India while Joanna will return to Cambodia with her family.

Similarly, PLC graduates often find themselves fully involved in local charity organisations such as Relay for Life, the Red Cross Soup Patrol and in voluntary positions at university, long after their education at the School ends.

Our School community is defined by a culture that understands that personal and intellectual development are integral to each other; that one may learn to be effective while learning what is really important in the world. It is wonderful to witness the development of future young leaders as a result of their service immersion experiences.



Keely Atchison (Year 10) and Pia Bassett (Year 10) enjoying participating in the house building project in Cambodia.

School NEWS



Landmine victims in Cambodia trying out the prosthetic hands which were fitted during the Cambodian Service Tour.

Helping Hands

Staff and students made prosthetic hands for landmine victims across the world earlier this year and already we have seen them put to good use in Cambodia.

The work of over 40 students and staff was sent to Cambodia in October as part of the annual Service Tour to that country. The students and staff who participated in the tour were thrilled to have been able to see first-hand the enormous difference PLC had made to the lives of landmine victims in Cambodia.

Recipients were seen eating and attempting to write with pens once fitted with their prosthetic hands.

"Our Cambodian Service immersion spent a day at the Kien Khleang National Physical Rehabilitation Centre in Phnom Penh. They make their own static artificial limbs from hard rubber and plaster. The hands assembled by PLC were an amazing highlight for them because of their functional movement and they were free to donate to 26 recipients," Community and Service Learning Co-ordinator, Tracey Bahen said.

"It was wonderful to see the impact of our work and see the difference it had made to so many," she added.

Helping Hands is the brainchild of Henricks Consulting who partnered with PLC to produce the prosthetic hands. PLC is the first school in Australia to take part in the Helping Hands initiative, in which teams of donors build prosthetic hands from kits supplied by Henricks Consulting. The project aims to help 2000 landmine victims across the globe each month.

As part of Science Week, PLC staff and students made 26 prosthetic hands while wearing a cover over one hand in order to become familiar with the loss and use of a hand.



Jessica Murray (Year 11) enjoyed showing Tanzanian students how to use their new solar-powered computers.

Technology in Tanzania

26 students from PLC and Scotch College experienced a life-changing tour of Tanzania earlier this year, where they distributed solar-powered computers to a school in the village of Matipwili.

The students spent three weeks in Tanzania in July as part of an ongoing service project.

This year, the students raised over \$20,000 to fund the purchase of 30 solar wifi laptop computers as well as the materials to build a resource centre.

Year 11 student, Jessica Murray, is a keen volunteer and contributed the financial component of a Youth Encouragement Award from the Mosman Park Youth Advisory Council to the cause.

Jessica was inspired by her experiences in Tanzania and plans to return to volunteer in that country for 12 months, following her future university study plans.

"I think the majority of the students who went on the tour are planning on returning in the near future," Jessica said.

Jessica said the highlight of the trip was teaching the students in Matipwili to use the computers. "They learnt so quickly and so well that some of the kids were teaching us to use some of the programmes by the end," she said.

The laptop computers were set up with wifi connections and basic maths, paint and programming packages are available to the entire Matipwili community. It is hoped that in future, the school in Tanzania will be able to link into the shared resources of PLC and Scotch College's integrated information learning technology programme.

"I am excited about the prospect of possibly communicating with the villagers in the future," Jessica said.

MATTHEW DONALDSON

PE Teacher & Tanzania Tour Co-ordinator



History-Making Head Of The River Victory

PLC's First Eight crew made history at this year's Head of the River Regatta, taking out the title for the first time in Schoolgirls' Rowing. The PLC Rowing squad was also triumphant and won the Perpetual Trophy for Schoolgirl Premiers for the 2012 season.

The First Eight crew blitzed their rivals at Champion Lakes, Armadale, capping off a dominant season.

The crew of Elinor Scott (cox), Natasha Gay, Kate Mannolini, Rebecca Duke, Emily Mantle (Captain of Boats), Andie Sones, Jessamy Burton, Kailey Creeger and Ellen Kennedy won by four boat lengths in 7min 03.70sec.

The win marked the end of a brilliant season, which saw PLC take out all four regattas in the lead-up to the Head of the River Regatta.

PLC Rowing has come a long way in recent years, with this year being under the new direction of Head Coach, David Milne and Head of Sport, Annette Pearce.

Drawing on David's extensive coaching and rowing experience as well as Annette's background in elite sport in New Zealand, a few changes were made to the programme to attempt to bring about a 'point of difference' to PLC rowing.

One aim was to balance training and study commitments for senior girls, thereby aiding them to remain in the rowing programme. This resulted in PLC securing three successful senior eights squads for the season. The First and Second Eights each won their division and the Third Eight placed third just behind Perth College. Led by Captain of Rowing, Emily Mantle, Vice Captain, Katie Baronie-Shaw and an excellent bunch of senior girls, the emphasis of the season was to build the 'team ethos' as a whole rowing squad.

"The Rowing programme has intensified in recent years. We have placed stronger emphasis on quality not quantity. The dedication, commitment and 'striving for excellence' from the PLC Rowing coaches is a credit to them." Annette said.

Special mention must also be made of the tremendous efforts of so many of the PLC community who contributed to the success of the Head of the River event and the rowing season overall. An army of parents, led by Argyle Club President, Katrina Burton, co-ordinated the regatta as host school. Their hard work, attention to detail and teamwork ensured the success of the running of the event. They were supported by an additional army of staff, plus a 50-strong cheer squad of Year 11 students, who, with the Pipe Band, kept School spirit strong throughout the morning.

Photo: (L to R) First Eight rowers Jessamy Burton, Rebecca Duke, Kailey Creeger, Natasha Gay, Kate Mannolini, Andie Sones, Emily Mantle, Ellen Kennedy and Elinor Scott pictured after winning the annual PSA Head of the River regatta. Photo supplied by *The Sunday Times*.



Natasha Gay Wins Scholarship To US University

Oarswoman Natasha Gay, was recently awarded a full Student Athlete Scholarship to attend the University of Washington in the Husky's Rowing programme from 2013.

Natasha commenced her rowing career as a 13 year old whilst in Year 9 at PLC. The School quickly recognised her natural talent and she was stroking for PLC's First Eight whilst still in Year 10.

The following year Natasha went on to win the National Schoolgirl Single Scull titles and was selected along with fellow PLC rower Hannah Vermeersch (2009) in the 2010 U19 Australian Womens Four, which won the Bronze Medal at the Junior World Championships that year.

Natasha followed up her selection by representing Australia in the same boat the following year before dominating the National Championships held in Perth earlier this year, where she won the Schoolgirl Single Scull, U19 Single Scull, U19 Double Scull and placed a credible fourth in the U23 Single Scull whilst still only 17.

The University of Washington Rowing programme is one of the most successful in the US with 12 current or former alumni representing their countries at the recent London Olympics.

On announcing her scholarship recently, Natasha indicated that she was pleased to have made a choice about her rowing future, "Rowing for the University of Washington will be a great challenge for me, and it goes to show the young girls following me, that sport can take you places you never dreamed possible."

Natasha was approached by several universities in the US but decided upon the University of Washington because she felt it was the best fit for her studies and she was keen to row for the Huskies. "I wanted to be involved in their incredible and celebrated top-ranked rowing programme under Head Coach, Bob Ernst," Natasha said.

"Being recruited by Bob Ernst to row for the Huskies in a city where rowing is nearly a community sport is a privilege and I hope it will help others to plan their dreams into reality," she added.

PLC Presents at Waste Wise Workshop

Environment Captain for 2013, Holly Schwelm, was this year invited to present at a workshop on sustainability in schools.

Holly, together with Catherine Berry (Year 10) represented PLC at the Waste Wise Schools meeting at Rossmoyne Senior High School on Thursday 20 September.

Students from eight schools met to discuss the environmental and sustainability initiatives that had been introduced at their own schools. PLC was one of four schools to present, with Holly and Catherine discussing the recent initiatives that PLC had undertaken to make the School more environmentally friendly.

PLC has a number of programmes in action that serve to better the environmental impact the School has on the community. PLC was one of the first schools in Western Australia to participate in the Earth Carers programme that aims to educate and support communities in reducing their waste. The programme saw students and staff managing waste at the School, participating in Plastic Free July and learning about the waste management process. PLC also participated in the Start the Switch Youth Climate Leadership Summit and the School has started its own permaculture garden.

"I was extremely excited about getting involved in this meeting as the importance of sustainability is of paramount importance and to have PLC involved in lessening our impact on the planet is of equal value," Holly said.

"Being involved in this meeting gave me a great sense of pride as I knew I was meeting with like-minded students who also wanted to make a difference," she added.

Holly is looking forward to continuing the good work of PLC's sustainability initiatives as Environment Captain next year.

Future Leaders Role Model Award

Year 12 student, Hannah Bougher was recently awarded the Future Leaders Role Model Award in the nationwide Future Leaders Environment Awards.

As Environment Captain for 2012, Hannah has displayed outstanding leadership in raising awareness of environmental issues.

The Future Leaders Environment Awards recognise and reward young Australians who have shown outstanding environmental leadership. They also aim to inspire others to engage in environmental issues.

Although Hannah did not win the environment category, her application was very strong and she was awarded a Future Leaders Role Model Award along with 15 other students Australia wide.



School News

Science Week

The Science Department embraced Science Week in August by inviting parents who are involved in industry, research or business related to science to run sessions with students during Science classes throughout the week.

From 13 to 17 August, Science students were treated to a range of presentations on topics ranging from sleep science, geoscience and chemical engineering to biotechnology and ecological studies.

Rox Resources Managing Director, Ian Mulholland, spoke to Year 11 Chemistry students about his work as a Geologist and Geochemist in the exploration and mining industry.

He talked to the girls about mineral exploration processes and how these have changed over the years with the growth of technology. Now, geologists can access immediate results from samples direct from the field rather than waiting weeks for lab results.

Ian gave the girls a valuable insight into the varied chemical techniques used to extract data from samples in the field, allowing them to relate their current chemistry studies to practices beyond the classroom.

These sessions provided students with an opportunity to see the many different directions that science could take them as well as share in the passion and success that a great number of the PLC community has enjoyed from the field.

GREG MORAN

Head of Senior School Science



L to R: Year 11 Chemistry students Tyla Cranswick, Isabelle Raiter and Alexandra Malone study a sample brought in by Rox Resources Managing Director, Ian Mulholland.



Year 5 Go The Distance participants accepting the School Spirit Award at this year's Chevron City to Surf.

PLC Wins School Spirit Award

Year 5 Go The Distance students were awarded the School Spirit Award at this year's Chevron City to Surf.

The 12 girls who participated in the 4km walk/run event accepted the award on stage at the finish area on behalf of all 44 girls who enrolled in the Go The Distance programme.

The girls were awarded the prize on account of their willing commitment to the 10-week initiative, the community spirit demonstrated through parent involvement in the programme as well as the publicity garnered by the girls.

The Go The Distance programme saw each girl complete the distance of a half-marathon by running and/or walking laps of View Street over a period of 10 weeks, culminating in the 4km run/walk event at Chevron's City to Surf.

LISA PHINNEY

Year 5 Parent and Go The Distance Co-ordinator

Mock Trials Success

The School has met with great success in this year's Mock Trials, winning the 2012 Grand Final of the competition. The Mock Trials are run by the Law Society of Western Australia, through the Francis Burt Law Education Centre. The Trials consist of a series of seven rounds, where schools compete against one another in mock courtroom trials.

Each school is allocated a side in each round's case (Prosecution/ Palintiff or Defence) along with material including legal notes and witness statements. It is up to each school to prepare a team including two barristers, two witnesses, a solicitor and a court official. The students then learn the law, prepare their case and compete for the right to progress to the next round.

In 2012 over 70 teams competed from around the State from Years 10 to 12, but it was PLC's Year 11 team that took the title this year, winning the Grand Final that took place in the Supreme Court of Western Australia on Tuesday 23 October against Penhros College.

The girls who performed consistently across the season in the Year 11 Mock Trials team were Siobhan Deacon, Alma Jovanovic, Ashley Dunne, Zoë Maxwell, Madeleine Lofthouse, Alisha Maclean, Rose Shaber-Twedt, Olivia Jurat and Anneliese Donaldson. Though not all the girls had the opportunity to compete on the Grand Final night, every one of them contributed to bringing their team success over the past nine months.

Alma Jovanovic also received a special commendation on the night for her performance as closing barrister in an earlier trial in the season.

The Mock trials season lasts from February until mid October, and requires a high level of organisation, knowledge of the law and presentation skills. The students can be very proud of their achievement.



The successful PLC Mock Trials team. Back Row (L to R): Rose Shaber-Twedt, Alisha Maclean, Madeleine Lofthouse, Anneliese Donaldson. Front Row (L to R): Ashley Dunne, Alma Jovanovic, Siobhan Deacon, Zoë Maxwell. Absent: Olivia Jurat.

We would like to acknowledge all of the staff and parents who have supported the girls during the late night trials and early morning rehearsals. A special thank you goes to Mr Keith Neale who has offered an extensive amount of time to assist the students, and Mock trials coach and Old Collegian Ms Kate Crompton (1999) who has, as always, been generous in giving her advice and of her time.

We look forward to continuing the tradition with the commencement of the 2013 season in February next year.

CHRISTOPHER SCHOLTEN

MYP Humanities and Politics & Law Teacher

PLC v Scotch Annual Netball Game

On Friday 29 June, the annual and keenly contested Scotch versus PLC Netball match was fought in the Hugh Baird Sports Centre.

Led by a vociferous crowd, the PLC girls were able to account for their more aggressive male counterparts with a skilful display of athleticism, technique and class.

In a tightly contested match, the PLC girls stepped up at crucial moments to close out the game. There was a good display of skills from all the girls including those who had very little netball experience.

The final margin was two goals in PLC's favour and was a triumph in teamwork and technique.

GARY GREEN

Acting Head of Senior School (Term 2)



The victorious Year 12 PLC netballers who overcame tough competition from Scotch College.

School News



L to R: Garnduwa elder, Marmadjee Hand with Jasirah Bin Hitam and Callee Pigram, one of PLC's Reconciliation Captains for 2012.

Jasirah wins Kimberley Klub Award

Year 10 student, Jasirah Bin Hitam was recognised for her leadership and community involvement at the Kimberley Klub Awards held on 7 September at the Claremont Football Club.

Jasirah received the Community and Volunteer Award from Garnduwa Amboony Wirnan's Kimberley Klub programme following her active participation within the Indigenous community this year.

The Kimberley Klub programme supports and recognises the achievements of Kimberley Indigenous youth who are in Perth for academic and sporting aspirations. Jasirah is currently studying at PLC through the School's Indigenous scholarship programme.

This year, Jasirah has become heavily involved in a number of initiatives, including the Indigenous Leadership Voyage on the Leeuwin and the Indigenous Communities Education and Awareness Foundation (ICEA) Classic Surfing workshops.

Before moving in to PLC's Boarding House last year, Jasirah had never ridden a surfboard. But after learning to surf through the School's surfing programme, Jasirah had become passionately involved in the ICEA Surfing Classic workshops and received a specially designed surfboard in honour of her participation.

In her short time at PLC, Jasirah has become a mentor to her Indigenous peers in the Boarding House. "She sets a great example to the younger boarders and can often be seen giving them sound advice. Her leadership potential is immense," Indigenous Co-ordinator, Tracey Walker said.

Black Swan Youth Portraiture Prize Successes



Jaimi Quinlivan (Year 9) won the Black Swan Youth Portraiture Prize – Years 8 and 9 category with this self-portrait.

Two promising Year 9 Visual Arts students were recently selected as finalists in the prestigious City of Perth Black Swan Youth Portraiture Prize. Jaimi Quinlivan won the Years 8 and 9 division while Janice Lai's self-portrait was Highly Commended by the judges in the same category.

Both girls submitted stunning and thought-provoking self-portraits that clearly stood out from the remaining 13 finalists. In addition to this prestigious accolade to be added to her portfolio, Jaimi received \$500 in prize money that she plans to put to good use by helping to fund her Personal Project that she has just started.

"When they first announced that I had won this award I personally couldn't really believe it as I had always just done art for fun, but I am proud of my artwork and I believe it was a valuable experience to see other young artists and to learn more about art in Western Australia," Jaimi said.

The Youth Portraiture Prize encourages students to take their art from the school environment and to exhibit alongside some of the most talented portrait artists in Australia. Jaimi and Janice each had their work shown at Linton & Kay Art Gallery as part of the exhibition.

This year the Black Swan Prize featured works from acclaimed artists including Dawn Stubbs, Joanne Morris and Cynthia Ellis.

Janice Lai was thrilled to see her artwork on display. "It was very exciting to see my artwork framed and put on exhibition in a public gallery where it could be seen by so many people," she said. "I have been to a few galleries in the past and never in my wildest dreams did I imagine seeing my work in one of them," Janice added.

Janice said that she learned a lot from the experience and it had given her the encouragement she needed to pursue her gift for the arts further.

Jaimi also found the experience exciting. "Knowing my work was in the same building as some of the best artists in the world is both thrilling and daunting and it makes you see what you can achieve if you practice and keep progressing in a skill. It is clear when you view the works of older and more experienced artists that a large amount of time and patience is required to achieve that amazing level of skill," she said.

Olympian Returns To School

This year, a Year 9 Physical Education class was very fortunate to receive lessons from former PLC student and Rhythmic Gymnastics Olympic Representative, Janine Murray (2007).

Janine returned to PLC following her Olympic commitments to assist the girls with their Aesthetic Sport unit as part of their Physical Education programme.

Girls at PLC are provided with a number of opportunities to participate in a wide variety of sports as part of the International Baccalaureate's Middle Years Programme (MYP) for Years 6 to 10. Part of the MYP in Physical Education sees students participate in at least one Aesthetic Sport per MYP year. Some of these aesthetic units include Jump Rope for Heart (Skipping), Sports Aerobics, Social Dance and Rhythmic Gymnastics.

Rhythmic Gymnastics is ideal for teaching students about body awareness and control – skills that will assist in the development of athletic potential for any of their sporting endeavours.

The aim of the Year 9 MYP Rhythmic Gymnastics unit is to introduce students to a variety of skills with a fun and challenging experience. Students learn a range of Rhythmic Gymnastic apparatus and work individually and in pairs to choreograph a routine.

Janine's lessons to the Year 9 girls were inspiring and insightful. Her experience and success in this area provided invaluable first-hand knowledge to the students.

Janine is currently studying for a degree in Sports Science at the University of Western Australia. She won a gold medal in the team event at the 2010 Commonwealth Games and earned a spot to represent Australia at the 2012 London Olympics. She was one of the first two gymnasts from Australia selected in women's Rhythmic Gymnastics for London and was the first Western Australian to compete in Rhythmic Gymnastics at the Olympics.

We wish Janine all the very best as she continues her journey in Rhythmic Gymnastics. The PLC Physical Education Department also looks forward to continuing this shared experience of past PLC students' successes with current students.

MRS CHRISTINA DAVINI

Physical Education Teacher



Olympian, Janine Murray (2007), teaches Year 9 Physical Education students some lessons in Rhythmic Gymnastics.



West Coast Eagles footballer, Matt Priddis paid a visit to the Boarding House to thank the boarders for their participation in the Red Shield Doorknock Appeal.

AFL Star Visits PLC Boarders

West Coast Eagles mid-fielder and Salvation Army Ambassador, Matt Priddis, visited PLC boarding students in May as part of the 2012 Medibank Salvos' Schools Challenge.

The Schools Challenge supports the work of The Salvation Army during the Red Shield Doorknock Appeal.

Salvo Ambassador Matt Priddis was excited to be involved this year. "This program is a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved in their local community. I hope I can motivate students to make a difference and support the Salvos' because it's a worthy cause that has my strong support," he said.

Matt visited the Boarding House to thank the boarding students who had supported the Appeal and to present the School with a certificate.

30 PLC boarding students raised almost \$1000 at this year's Doorknock Appeal. This was the fifth year the School had supported this fundraising initiative.

School News



The Artful Dog

Year 10 Visual Arts students designed and created Artful Dog Sculptures in Term 3 as part of a Community Art Project to raise awareness and fundraise for the RSPCA.

Each student constructed a unique and creative paper mache, paper pulp and hand-painted artwork inspired by their pet dog and a prominent artist's work from the *Picasso to Warhol Exhibition* at the Art Gallery of Western Australia.

The project was a huge success with all artworks sold at a silent auction at the opening night of *Flight*, the PLC Art Exhibition, raising \$1755 for the RSPCA.

PLC families and friends were delighted to take home a new pet after the event and bid excitedly for the latest addition to their family.

SARAH CHESCOE
Director of Visual Arts

Left: Year 10 students created these artistic paper mache dogs, raising \$1755 for the RSPCA.

Jump Cut Film Festival Reaches New Heights

PLC held a hugely successful follow-up to last year's inaugural Jump Cut Film Festival on the evening of 10 August. With this year's festival topping last year's ticket sales and Cambodia Service fundraising efforts, the evening was a triumph for both the Media Studies Department and Cambodia Service team.

Throughout the evening, PLC showcased the hard work of students from Years 8 to 12 in the fields of photography and film. Close to 300 people attended and over \$3000 was raised to support the Cambodia Service project. The funds raised enabled the purchase of materials necessary to build houses in Cambodia.

The students were not only proud to be able to showcase their films and photography to friends and family, but were also delighted to have been able to make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate and living in a developing country. The Stage Two and Three Media Studies WACE students particularly gained huge satisfaction from the opportunity to view their term's work on the big screen.

BIANCA CAZZULINO
Media Teacher



Harriet Haining features in a Perth lane in her group's music video, *Pop Music*, produced by Phoebe Donaldson, Noa Gubbay, Harriet Haining, Meg Stroud and Anjelica Young (Year 9).



Georgia Ladner (Year 12) starring in the film *Wish*, produced by Year 12 students Elizabeth Kuiper, Ariane Moir and Emily Abernethy.



Shaoting Feng from Huijia Private School helped Mandarin students with their calligraphy.

From Beijing to Peppermint Grove

The Middle School was fortunate to host 16 Chinese exchange students from Huijia Private School in Beijing earlier this year.

Huijia is a preparatory boarding school for more than 2000 co-educational students from Years 1 to 12 in Beijing and is a member school of the International Baccalaureate (IB).

Head of Middle School, Sharon Anderson together with Principal, Beth Blackwood, recently returned from a trip to Shanghai and Beijing where PLC is fostering strong relationships with two schools, including Huijia Private School.

It is hoped that PLC will be able to develop a reciprocal student exchange programme with these two schools in the future, while the Huijia visit to PLC earlier this year is said to have been an invaluable experience, particularly for our Mandarin language students.

"The PLC girls were very excited about meeting the exchange students. I think one of the reasons was because they had not had much experience in communicating in Mandarin with Chinese people. The exchange visit gave them the chance to use the language to speak to girls of a similar age to them," Mandarin teacher, Sarah Wang said.

Sarah used the Huijia visit to great advantage, organising a number of activities with her Mandarin classes to allow the girls to practice their language skills.

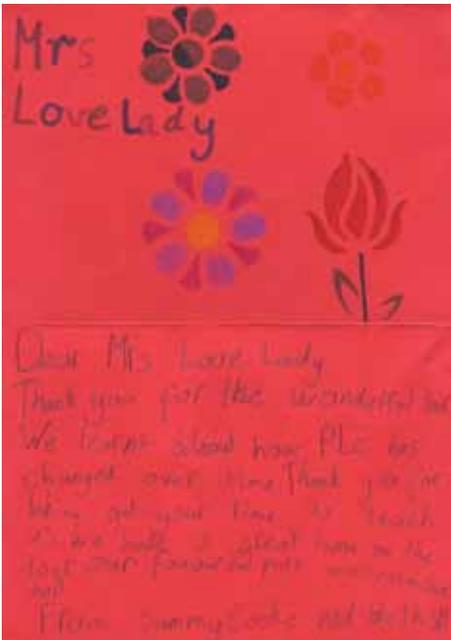
"The Year 5 students tried their hand at Chinese calligraphy. The exchange student, Shaoting Feng, explained how to use a calligraphy brush and taught the girls how to write some characters," she said.

Both the Year 5 and 6 classes participated in a game called "I am a little Journalist", which saw the PLC students interviewing the Chinese girls in Mandarin. The game helped students to put their Mandarin knowledge together, recalling previous lessons and practising what they are currently learning in class. "It was also a good opportunity for the PLC girls to develop their listening skills," Sarah said.

PLC introduced Mandarin to the LOTE programme in 2011 with a Year 5 class. The School currently has 61 girls from Years 4 to 6 studying Mandarin, with an additional 14 students in Pre-Primary and Year 1 participating in after school Mandarin lessons.

"The Huijia girls have engaged wholeheartedly with our teaching and learning as well as our co-curricular programmes and many have established firm friendships with their buddies," Sharon Anderson said of the Huijia girls during their exchange.

News from Archives



Thank you card from some of the Year 3s who enjoyed their Heritage Trail.

Year 3 Heritage Trail

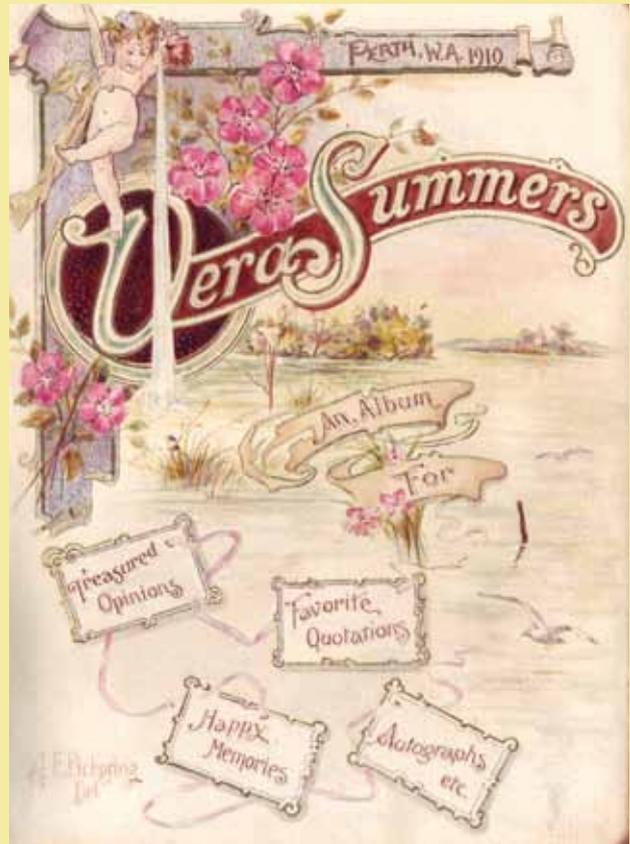
On 15 August, 35 enthusiastic Year 3s, their teachers and I embarked on a Heritage Trail around the School, catering to their PYP Inquiry Unit 'exploring how architecture has changed over time'.

There was much noise and excitement as we began our tour by closely examining the exterior and then interior of the Heather Barr Memorial Chapel within Carmichael Hall and Scorgie House (including Mr Anderson's office and the original green and white bathroom tiles that are still on the walls of what is now the stationery room).

With exams in progress, we made our way very quietly along the Maths corridor to view the quad from above on the westernmost top floor, before heading downstairs to Snowden Oval. The girls then ran across the quad and we regrouped at the old site of the Greek Amphitheatre and staff room, before heading over the road to more closely inspect the exterior of Finlayson House (the Music Centre), the Junior School buildings, the Vera Summers Pool and Summers House.

At each stop we closely inspected enlarged photos carefully selected from the Photographic Collection to show how the same buildings and areas looked many years ago. The girls not only identified what had changed over time but quickly spotted myriad details that were still the same, such as the arch in Scorgie House, the roofline of Finlayson House and the trees outside Summers House, which gave them a better understanding that they were looking across time, sometimes standing in exactly the same spot as the photographer, all those years ago. They also marveled that all those old pavilion-style classrooms, demolished in the 1970s, fit into what is now the quad. It was a lovely afternoon for everyone and a few days later I received four beautiful cards, giving thanks for their tour (see picture).

SHANNON LOVELADY
Archivist



Hand drawn front page of Vera Summers' autograph album, by A E Pickering, July 1910.

Recent Acquisitions

Robert King, godson of Dr Vera Summers OBE (Principal 1934-1961, staff from 1920)

Autograph album given to Vera by her father on 1 October 1910; Photo album given to Vera by Robert's father, Mr Herbert 'Bert' E King, who was the Reverend at St Luke's Anglican Church, Mosman Park and also took services at All Saints, View Street, adjacent to PLC. The album is filled with images of Mr and Mrs King whom Vera called 'Mother' and 'Father', Robert's older twin brothers, Vera, her family and her 1921-1922 travels to South Africa (see pictures).

Paul Hotchkin, Paul's Photographic Presentations

CDs of images from PLC School Ball 2010-2012.

Freda Livingston (Bunce 1949)

Signed copy of *The Light of Other Days* by **Dr Vera Summers OBE (Principal 1934-1961, staff from 1920)**; *Personalities and Places*, also by Vera Summers and once belonging to Dr Dorothy E Ransom OAM.

Sue Wooller (Gordon 1969)

Large, original, early 1900s photo of 74 students and teachers on the front verandah of Misses Nisbet's School (run by sisters, Misses Jane and Annie Nisbet) in Irvine Street, Peppermint Grove; Additions to the Church family tree for our records; Sue's mother **Shirley Gordon's (Church 1938)** 1928 hat badge, also worn by Sue (1961-1969).

Jenny Rankin (staff 1987-2010)

Pages from The West Australian of 14 January 1941 showing Junior Pass results with PLC girls' names underlined, which was amongst the possessions of Jenny's aunt, **Barbara Beard (1941)**; Programmes for drama and other productions including PLC Players (teaching, administration and maintenance staff) c1993, *The Pajama Game* 1997, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* 1999, *Agnes of God* 2002, *An Absurd Affair* 2003, *Little Shop of Horrors* 2003.

Paraphernalia relating to the retirement of **Hazel Day (Principal 1989-1997, staff from 1963)**, including: Order of service and menu for farewell dinner, 24 June 1997; Invitation and programme for staff concert *Day's Night*, a Farewell to Hazel Day of 2 July 1997; Post Newspaper article *Cruel Sea* almost ended PLC head's new career of July 1997.

Miscellaneous papers including: Order of service for the Induction of **Rev Susan Wickham, 1999**; Order of Service for funeral of Frank Craig, 1998; Transport of Teachers' Furniture advice, 1966; TISC circulars re English Literature syllabus changes and exam, 1978; Assorted Junior and Leaving Certificates, Year 11 and TAE exam papers from 1960-1978.

Leonie Broadhurst (Fallon 1962)

PLC beret (of original style) and hat badge c1958; Programmes from the Opening of the Pool 1960 and Speech Day 1959-1960; Kookaburras 1959-1961.

Judy McGuinness (Lovell 1961)

Three books Judy received as prizes: *Collected Poems 1934-1952* by Dylan Thomas (1959) for the John Stewart History Prize of Leaving B 1961; *The Tower of London* by W H Ainsworth (1953) for Proficiency in Sub-Leaving B 1960; *The Four Adventures of Richard Hannay* by John Buchanan (1960) for Dux of Leaving B 1961.

Susan Sim (Anderson 1962)

Susan's School reports from Forms IW, IIB, IIIG and Commercial (1958-1961); Kookaburras 1958-1961.

Kerry Shardlow (Peirl 1962)

1961-1962 Prefects' Dance tickets and 1962 dance card; blazer pocket, hat band, hat badge, enamelled tie pin, Stewart House badge, Presbyterian Fellowship Association badge; Programmes from the Opening of the Pool 1960 and Speech Day 1962; Kookaburras 1960-1962; Kerry's superb 1961 Mothercraft book for which she received 17.5/20.

Jocelyn Francis (Gibson 1949)

Jocelyn's silver hat badge, her Ferguson House badge and enamelled tie pin, all c1941.

Lesley Barrett-Lennard (Gibson 1942)

Lesley's enamelled tie pin and her Ferguson House badge, both c1938.

Pat Mannolini (Gribble 1951)

The Light of Other Days by Vera Summers (1977); 1977 newspaper clipping of unknown origin 'Main missions accomplished for college principal'.

Margaret Pember, Archivist, Iona Presentation College

Autumn 2000 edition of *Blackwatch*.

Joan Cooper (Lodge 1943)

Photo of Joan and Dorothy Stratton (Whyte 1942) c1940 (see picture).



Miss Vera Summers at Cottesloe Beach, 1920.



Miss Vera Summers at PLC, 1920.

News from Archives



Miss Vera Summers relaxing at 'The Glen' Gooseberry Hill, January 1919.



Joan Cooper (Lodge 1943) with Dorothy Stratton (Whyte 1942), c1940.



Aerial view of PLC (looking to the west) in late 1930s.

Sheena Hesse, Archivist, Uniting Church in Australia (WA)

Three black and white photos of PLC c1945: Scorgie House as taken from the corner of View and McNeil Streets; Classroom inside Baird House (demolished 1979); Aerial shot of PLC campus; Hand painted artwork for a joint PLC/Scotch College advertisement to "Send your Boys and Girls to your OWN Schools!" (see pictures).

Patricia Hines (1967)

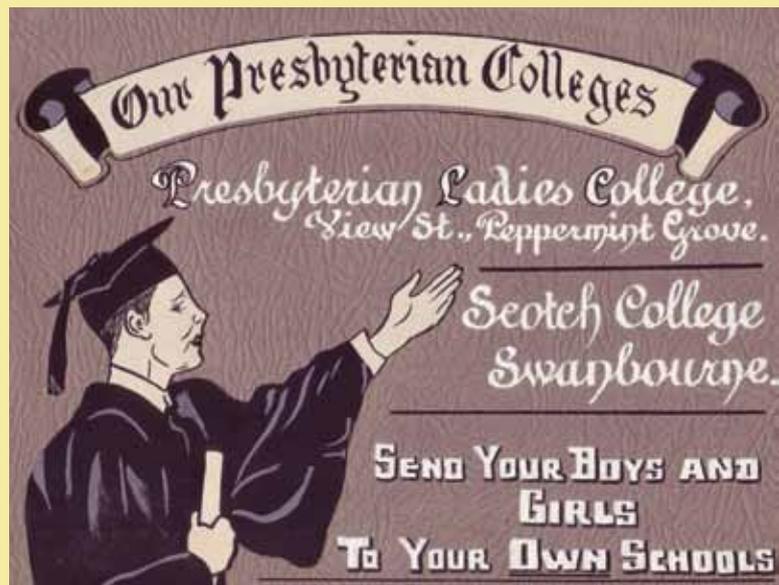
PLC crested, silver plated teaspoon presented to Patricia in 1965 for Champion Athlete (Under 15); Patricia's sprigs (running shoes) with spikes; Four photocopied newspaper clippings (most likely from *The West Australian*) from 1964-1965 on Inter School Athletics; CD containing two coloured images of Patricia winning a) the Hurdles and b) the Sprint at her last 'Inters', 1965. These items now form the Patricia Hines (1967) Collection.

Nita Martin (McFarlane 1947)

Black and white photo of McFarlane's Boat Sheds on the Peppermint Grove foreshore, run by Nita's parents 1919-1950. (Nita's father died in 1939 after which it was run by her mother, Nellie McFarlane, known as 'Mrs Mac' or 'Aunt Nellie'.) A copy of a Post Newspaper article about the boat sheds during the time it was run by Nita's family.

Judith Amey (McCulloch 1962)

'School Memories', an evocative account of Judith's days at PLC (1954-1962).



Artwork for an ad that appeared in a Presbyterian magazine c1940s.

Thanks to Archives Volunteers

Weekly volunteer **Coralie Gadsdon (staff 1987-2008)** is well on the way to completing a list of staff from 1916 to present day using a variety of primary and secondary sources. This is painstaking work that requires an eagle eye for detail. Without her, this list would take years to compile.

Current parent **Kendal Shaber** comes when she is able and now that all early *Kookaburras* have been scanned, is concentrating on 1954-1969, the last of those to be digitized.

Julia Douglas (Year 8) is a boarder who comes for an hour after school most weeks and performs myriad tasks with the utmost concentration. This term, she went through the Ferguson Year 9, 2005 time capsule containing letters the girls wrote to their future selves, meaning all but one of the letters were returned (Samsara Limin's contact details are not known). She has also filed many photos with captions, returned the reference set of *Kookaburras* to order countless times, recorded *Blackwatch* issues and scanned *Kookaburras*.

Parents

From the PLC Auxiliary

As I look back on 2012, and reflect on the events and assistance that Auxiliary members have provided, hosted and co-ordinated over the course of the year, I feel honoured to have worked alongside such an outstanding, tireless and giving group of people.

I refer to those involved in big events such as the **City Country Lunch**, which brings together country and city parents as they share a quick bite and a cuppa before boarding families load up and head home. Or the team that organised the fourth annual **PLC Outdoor Cinema Evening**, our free, family-friendly movie night. Then there was our **Tennis Morning** held in May, a relatively recent addition to the calendar, but which, thanks to the input and skills of its organisers, looks set to become a permanent fixture in the Auxiliary calendar. Springtime is a great time to visit the country, and what better way to enjoy it than as part of our **Country Day Trip**, so wonderfully brought together by some of our country families.

I'm also thinking of the **Valedictory Dinner**, beautifully set up by Year 11 parent volunteers; the **Junior School Disco**, another roaring success thanks to a committee of dynamic Junior School parents; and let's not forget **Open Garden Day**, and the army of over 200 volunteers without whom this Auxiliary fundraiser simply could not take place!

And I also refer to the lesser-publicised Auxiliary occasions such **class and year events**, run by the network of Auxiliary Class and Year Representatives and Co-ordinators; the **Orientation Days** for which Auxiliary parents provide assistance with morning tea; the **Pastoral Care** programme which comes under our remit; the **service projects** run by Service Representatives and Co-ordinators under the Auxiliary umbrella; and the **New Parent Liaison Representatives** who are there to welcome families new to the School throughout the year.

There can't be many areas of PLC life that we do not touch in our endeavour to foster friendships and include everyone in the PLC community.

With that in mind, I invite you to join us for our first meeting of the year on Monday 25 February 2013. As usual, the venue is the Boarders' Sitting Room, with tea and coffee available as of 8.30 am, and the meeting itself starting at 9.00 am; parking is available at that time at the Star of the Sea (corner of McNeil Street and Stirling Highway).

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

SIOBHAN ROLLINSON
President



L to R: Lucy Wilson (Year 1), Catherine Banks (Year 4) and Sarah Banks (Year 1) enjoying this year's Open Garden Day.

Parents

Parents' Committee

It is with great pride that I write about the recent achievements of the PLC Parents' Committee in the realm of learning. While our infrastructure projects are more tangible and obvious (eg automatic doors for the Middle School, a performing platform for the Junior School and a sheet music compactus for the Music Department), the projects that often excite the Committee involve promoting learning within the students and staff of PLC.

Each year, we provide scholarships for Year 9 and 11 girls and it is an absolute privilege to interview these outstanding girls. These girls are accomplished in many varied ways and are a good example of holistic excellence in education. It never fails to amaze me how difficult it is to shortlist candidates for these scholarships and this year was no exception. Congratulations go to Aude Mangharam and Grace Harris – scholarship winners for Year 9 and 11 respectively.

I would also like to mention our expanding role in supporting the professional development of teaching staff at PLC. The Committee is particularly passionate about this aspect of PLC. This year we sponsored 30 PLC staff to attend the Dr Martin Seligman conference on the topic of Positive Psychology. The aim of promoting positivity and resilience in our girls is an important one in our fast moving world of ups and downs, twitter trolls and global change. In addition, we have funded two staff research/travel grants this year in partnership with PLC. Niamh Fitzpatrick will attend the World Congress on Positive Psychology in Los Angeles, and a member of Junior School staff will attend a workshop on Conceptual Based Learning, also in the USA.

Before I finish, I would like to mention Suze Leitão and Veronica Jarrett – our retiring Secretary and Treasurer. During their time on the Committee, they have always been the voices of reason and encouragement, and have made my role as President easier. I value their friendship immensely, and thank them for their sound advice and hard work. Suze has taken the Parents' Committee into a new electronic era – particularly with "The Dropbox in the Cloud". Veronica has been an exceptional treasurer and can make spreadsheets understandable even to me. They leave the Committee in good hands with our new Treasurer (Barry Dutton), new Secretary (Gary Mack), and new Committee members (Peter Hudson, Jim Debenham and Taylor Crawford).

I encourage everyone within the School community to consider attending our 7.30 pm meetings at Scorgie House. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions or would like to attend a meeting.

Sincerely

JENNY PLAYFORD



PLC Teacher, Niamh Fitzpatrick will travel to Los Angeles to participate in the World Congress on Positive Psychology next year on a staff research grant provided by the Parents' Committee.



L to R: This year's Parents' Committee scholarship winners, Aude Mangharam (Year 8) and Grace Harris (Year 10).

Old Collegians' Association

OCA President's Report

We continue to learn. Strong foundations for learning are established and nurtured at PLC and we then take them beyond the School environment. The ways in which we learn are many and varied. All of our learning journeys differ and the path they take may be unexpected.

Four members of our PLCOCA Committee have shared their learning journey. They are each different and reflect the diversity of the Committee. The common elements shared by committee members are that we all attended PLC and that we want to reconnect with the School. We are always happy to welcome Old Collegians to our Committee and also to our functions.

LIZ LANGDON (1978)

President

Liz Langdon (1978) studied at the University of Western Australia, graduating in 1982 with a Bachelor of Education, majoring in Special Education. She spent the next seven years working for the Department of Education, teaching at Merredin, Kalgoorlie, Kewdale and Thornlie Senior High Schools.

Liz began teaching at Christ Church Grammar School in 1990. During this time she gained a Masters of Educational Management and a preliminary Doctorate of Education.

Following her marriage to husband, Drew, and the birth of her two daughters, Liz resigned from CCGS in 2004 and began working part-time at Scotch College and the Underground Backpackers, as assistant Manager, until 2006. Liz has continued to study, completing a Graduate Certificate of Career Development that has helped to facilitate a change from Special Education to Careers. She currently works at Penrhos College as a Careers Adviser.

Following her graduation from PLC, **Sally Cook (1982)** immediately immersed herself in Medicine at UWA, where she was joined by five other PLC leavers from the same year. In her second year post graduation, she moved to Queensland to work at the Mackay Base Hospital where she was exposed to new learning experiences such as scuba diving.

Madame Kotai had laid a good foundation for French language at school and Sally continues to love the language, aiming to pursue it further next year.

She currently works in General Practice in East Fremantle and is an Assistant Professor in the Medical School at UWA. Her experiences as a Professor at UWA provide opportunities to contribute more broadly to the medical profession as well as to share her passion for thinking "bigger", utilising her enthusiasm for cognitive re-patterning and neurosciences and encouraging the students to be better doctors. This position has also allowed many new learning experiences and contributed toward her studies to complete a Fellowship in General Practice.

Chris Longwill (1978) traveled the east coast of Australia before commencing Nursing at WAIT (now Curtin) in 1981. Chris graduated in 1983 with a Diploma in Applied Science and returned to study in 1984/5 to undertake a Degree in Nursing.

She has worked predominantly in critical care at SCGH, Murdoch and Fremantle hospitals. She traveled to the USA in 1988, settling in Los Angeles to work largely with AIDS patients.

After three years in the USA, she returned to Perth, working at Sir Charles Gardner Hospital (SCGH) and commencing postgraduate studies in Nursing at Curtin University.

Following the births of her three children, Chris remained in the workforce in a part-time capacity and actively progressed into more senior roles over the years.

She has taught Advanced Life Support Resuscitation at SCGH, co-ordinated a course for Critical Care nursing staff and worked with postgraduate Medicine students at Royal Perth Hospital, co-ordinating a survey of all interns and RMO's regarding their work experience following their employment at the Hospital. The information gathered from this survey was used for planning the educational needs of this group and provided the Health Department with essential data for ongoing budgetary considerations.

The last three years have seen Chris tutor and provide clinical supervision to undergraduate Nursing students at Edith Cowan University.

Rachel Ashby (Page 1987) sailed through the first year of a Bachelor of Commerce at UWA, having learnt much of the coursework at PLC. It was not until this time that Rachel really appreciated what a wonderful job her Mathematics and Science teachers at PLC had done.

During her second year at university she was awarded a scholarship with Touche Ross (now KPMG), enabling her to gain paid work experience during university holidays for the remainder of her Commerce degree.

Following the completion of her degree, she commenced full-time employment at KPMG where she continued to study, gaining the necessary experience over the next three years to become a Chartered Accountant. In 1993 she relocated to Sydney to work for KPMG in their information systems' assurance area where she focused on reviews of financial institutions' information technology systems. This gave an insight into the working of banks and led her to pursue a career in banking.

In 1995 she joined the finance department of Deutsche Bank in Sydney to run the Head Office reporting area, an experience she found extremely enjoyable, prompting her to seek full-time IT projects. Rachel moved to London in 1997 and began working with the Deutsche Bank in the Finance projects area, where she remained for the next 14 years in various roles in London and Singapore.

Rachel returned to Perth last year and is currently working in the Department of Finance as a project manager.

Old Collegians' Association

PLC Old Collegians' Association Bursary Recipients



Heather Barr Memorial Bursary

The Heather Barr Memorial Bursary has this year been awarded to **Caitlin O'Shea (Year 11)**. The bursary recognises "participation and contribution to the school" and is awarded to a student entering Year 12 who most clearly displays the qualities that reflect the principles espoused by Miss Barr.



Olive Cusack Bursary

The Olive Cusack Bursary has been awarded to **Amy Manton (Year 9)**.

The recipient of this bursary must be a boarding daughter or granddaughter of a financial member of the PLCOCA and in Year 9, entering Year 10. The applicants are asked to submit an essay that reflects the unique experiences associated with being a boarder at the School. Amy's Mother is **Natalie Manton (Dall 1988)**.



Dr Vera Summers Bursary

Year 10 student, **Kathryn Froend**, has been awarded with this year's Dr Vera Summers Bursary. The recipient of this bursary must be a daughter or granddaughter of a financial member of the PLCOCA and in Year 10, entering Year 11. The selected student should demonstrate an exemplary character, attitude, conduct and academic achievement. Kathryn's mother is **Dr Barbara Bowen (1978)**.

PREFECTS' MORNING TEA



MOVIE NIGHT

Alumni

Alumni Connect Breakfast

EMERITUS PROFESSOR JUDITH GARDAM (1962)

The annual Alumni Connect Breakfast was held on Friday 31 July at the Karrakatta Club, providing an opportunity for our professional past students to connect with current students who share a common interest.

This year's guest speaker, Emeritus Professor Judith Gardam, spoke about her stellar career in law, international relations and human rights. She is particularly interested in the rights of women in areas of armed conflict.

Judith's presentation to past and current PLC students provided excellent insight into the work of humanitarian law, especially in respect to its impact on women and girls who have little or no control over their own personal safety or future.

Her experience in this area is profound. In 2002 she wrote the Expert Report on *International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law Applicable to Women and Girls in Times of Armed Conflict* commissioned by the Secretary General of the United Nations.

As a member of the academic staff at the University of Melbourne she completed her doctorate on the protection of civilians in times of armed conflict. Judith currently works at the University of Adelaide Law School where she researches and teaches in areas of public international law, international humanitarian law, the use of armed force and feminist theory.



Year 12 students, Maddison Loxley, Georgia Ramm and Lara Borshoff with Emeritus Professor Judith Gardam.



Old Collegians, Phoebe McLarty (2002) and Liz Humphry (1998) enjoyed this year's Alumni Connect Breakfast.



Catherine with Year 10 students Tessa Moon, Stephanie Leibovitch and Annabel Watts.

Academic Guest Speaker

DR CATHERINE HASSELL SWEATMAN (HASSELL 1982)

While in Perth to attend her 30-Year class reunion, Dr Catherine Hassell Sweatman spent time addressing some of the School's senior students about her work and experience in the fields of mathematics, chemistry, physics and zoology.

On Friday 29 June, Catherine gave the students an inspiring and warm account of her life, from her beginnings as a shy student at PLC through to her remarkable career and involvement in ground-breaking research projects.

Catherine is currently working on modeling diabetes as an Honorary Research Associate at Massey University in New Zealand. She has also been instrumental in creating mathematical modeling in epigenetics, contributing to the study of how DNA affects the way our genes are expressed. As a Research Fellow in the Department of Electrical Engineering at Edinburgh University in Scotland, Catherine studied signal processing, maximizing the efficiency of mobile communication network.

Catherine has had an important and rich career and provided the PLC students valuable insight as to where a career in the Sciences could take them.

Alumni

Grandparents and Special Friends Day

A number of PLC alumni, joined more than 200 grandparents to share their favourite childhood books with Junior School students at this year's Grandparents and Special Friends Day.

Six past students acted as 'special friends' to students whose grandparents were not able to attend this important occasion on the Junior School calendar.

After spending time chatting, reading and drawing with their new friends, the group enjoyed a morning tea in the Swim and Recreation Centre.

Each of the 'special friends' reported that they very much enjoyed being part of this annual event and were delighted by the children's response to them.

Grandparents Day is usually held in August and we will be looking for volunteers for 2013. If you would like to be a 'special friend' next year please contact Colette James on 9424 6520 or alumni@plc.wa.edu.au.



Past students Barbara Evans (Baty 1951), Barbara Finch (1950), Aurelie Yeo (Shearer 1951), Muffie Rogers (Prater 1948), Sandy Viol (White 1962) and Gwen Manser (Morgan 1953) enjoyed taking part in this year's Grandparents and Special Friends Day. ABSENT: Alison Tweedie (McNeil 1951)



Judy McGuinness (Lovell 1961) with her PYP group: Katya Dharmananda Day, Siena Mitchell, Chloe Sneddon, Isabel Veitch, Sadie Malcomson, Gabby McDonald, and Shannon Wood.

Back To School

A number of past students and teachers participated in an inaugural mentoring programme in the Junior School in Term 3 this year.

The mentors spent an hour a week working with and supporting groups of Year 5 students in preparation for their Primary Years Programme (PYP) Exhibition.

Head of Junior School, Heather Pope, was delighted with the success of the mentor involvement in the Exhibition. The Year 5

students learnt a great deal from their mentors and very much enjoyed their weekly sessions.

Given this year's success, the programme will be repeated next year. Our warm thanks go to this year's mentors, **Patricia Miles (McLennan 1960)**, **Eve Dethlefsen (Lang 1960)**, **Helen Green (Novakov 1961)** and her husband Barry Green, **Judy McGuinness (Lovell 1961)**, **Christine Venables (McMillan 1963)** and former teacher **Diana McArthur (Staff 1977-1993)**.

Independent Girls' Schools Annual Golf Day



The PLC Golf Team

The 47th Combined Independent Girls' Schools annual golf day was held on Monday 8 October.

The trophy this year was won by St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls. Despite finishing sixth, the PLC team showed wonderful spirit and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Founders' Day

The 97th Annual Founders' Day Service and celebration was this year held on Friday 17 August with **Karen Fleischer (1980)** as guest speaker. Karen is a senior lawyer and President of the WA Regional Council of Redkite, a charity that provides practical support to children and their families suffering from cancer.

Karen gave an inspirational presentation about her experience with Law and her role with Redkite.

Nikki Chung (Year 12) also gave a heart-warming and inspiring account of her journey as an elite gymnast. This year Nikki combined her Year 12 schoolwork with a grueling training schedule in order to be selected to compete at the London Olympics but was unable to complete the journey due to injury.

The Service was followed by lunch in the Boarders' Dining Room for 100 past students who left school 50 years ago or more.

The Founders' Day Service is always a popular annual event that allows past students to reconnect with the College as well as old friends.



L to R: Audrey Chrystal (Bolton 1950), Jeanette Rodda (1950), Joan Meston (Wallace 1950) and Barbara Finch (1950) at this year's Founders' Day Service.

Dalkeith Primary School – 75 Year Celebration

Dalkeith Primary School is celebrating 75 years in 2013. An alumni database for past and present students, teachers and members of the community is being established now. Register your interest at dalkeithps.wa.edu.au/alumni and reconnect. For further information contact Marion Tuck on 9386 3710 or Peta Van Heurck (Gibson 1980) 0438 860 222 peta@woodrecruitment.com.au.

Reunions

2011 – Year 13 Sundowner

On Sunday 9 September the Class of 2011 returned to PLC to attend the Year 13 Sundowner held in the foyer of the Hazel Day Drama Centre.

Due to a large number of the group travelling, studying or working interstate and overseas, only about 60 girls were able to attend.

It was a very successful event with the girls enjoying an opportunity to catch up with one another as well as some of their former teachers, including Neesha Flint, John Fry, Philippa D'Sylva, Linda Bynon and Greg Moran.



Lilian Hedges (2011), former teacher Linda Bynon, Lotte Boyle (2011) and Caroline Smirk (2011).



1982 – 30 Year Reunion

On a clear night in June, a gathering of the Class of 1982 was called. The group met at the Heather Barr Memorial Chapel/Carmichael Hall and then took a tour around the School as they chatted.

After relocating to the Nedlands Golf Club, the Old Collegians enjoyed a wonderful evening, catching up and reconnecting with old friends.

SALLY COOK (1982)

Above: Class of 1982 class photo on the steps of the Chapel.
Left: Sally Simpson (Evans 1982) with Sally Cook (1982).

30

1962 – 50-Year Reunion

Those who attended the 50-Year Reunion on Friday 27 July will remember it as an occasion of fun and companionship. This year's event was regarded as one of the happiest reunions for the year group.

The group enjoyed returning to PLC as well as the opportunity to meet and speak with Principal, Beth Blackwood.

Our warm thanks must go to all those who contributed to making the reunion such a memorable day.

JAN HALL (TELFER 1962)

Below: The Class of 1962 on the steps of the Chapel.



1952 – 60-Year Reunion

The 60-Year Reunion for the Class of 1952 was held at the School on Friday 14 September. It was a very successful day and we were delighted that five colleagues traveled from the Eastern States for the occasion: **Jan Hodge (Geddes)**, **Eunice Osborne (Seddon)**, **Kay Kolsky (Gruer)** and **Joan Buttenshaw (Earl)** from NSW and **Margaret Reardon (Whittle)** from Adelaide.

After touring the School, the group was astounded at the facilities and opportunities currently available to PLC students. Scorgie House is the only building remaining from our era.

Following a Chapel Service, the group enjoyed a lovely lunch in the Boarders' Dining Room and were honoured to have former Principal, **Mrs Hazel Day (Principal from 1989-1997, staff from 1963)** as well as current Principal, Ms Beth Blackwood present.

The previous morning, nineteen members of the group had gathered at the Place of Reflection in King's Park for a very pleasant and relaxing Morning Tea. This was another opportunity to catch up with old friends, especially for those unable to attend the reunion at the School.



The Class of 1952 on the steps of the Chapel.

LEONIE KIRKE (JEANES 1952)

Reunions

1947 – 65-Year Reunion

The Class of 1947 celebrated their 65-Year Reunion on Founders' Day on Friday 17 August.

A small group of girls attended and very much enjoyed the Service and lunch in the Boarders' Dining Room.

Having been friends for so many years, it was a special time to celebrate 65 years since leaving school and to relive old stories.



Old friends enjoying the 65-year celebration. Left of table:

Isla Kohler (Miler 1946), Alison Stocker (Miller 1952), Hon June Craig AM (Lynn 1947), Sue Carew-Reid (Copely 1947), Betty Gaze (Stewart 1947) and Elizabeth Flynnne (Shearn 1947). Right of table: Thelma Webster (Fisher 1947), Margaret Atkins OAM (Cusack 1947), Joanne Bullock (Gibson 1947), Lynnette Cook (Owen 1947) and Elizabeth Green (Plastowe 1947).



Hon June Craig AM (Lynn 1947) with Sue Carew-Reid (Copely 1947).

1942 – 70-Year Reunion

In conjunction with Founders' Day on Friday 17 August a small group from the Class of 1942 celebrated 70 years since leaving PLC.

There was much excitement with **Lady Jean Brodie-Hall (Slatyer 1942)** organising her classmates, a task made much simpler following the earlier research work carried out by Anneke Rose (Year 10) to identify pupils of that year from a photograph taken in their sub – junior classes.

To commemorate the occasion the Old Collegians were each presented with a school scarf as a special gift.

BARBARA ELLIS (1941)



70-Year Reunion table of friends. Dorothy Stratton (Whyte 1942), June Hawkins (Henning 1942), Wendy Hawkins (1969), Caroline Farquhar (Stratton 1976), Maxine White (Parker 1941), Phyllis Gildersleeve (Winter 1942), Barbara Ellis (1941), Anneke Rose (Year 10) and Lady Jean Brodie-Hall (Slatyer 1942).

New York Reunion

Save the date – Sunday 14 April 2013. PLC will host a reunion for Old Collegians residing in or near New York on the aforementioned date. A formal invitation will follow. In the meantime, please mark this date in your diary for the opportunity to connect with fellow past PLC students.

NEWS OF OLD COLLEGIANS

Patricia Cooke (Wright 1944)

Patricia has been a reporter with Country Newspapers, a social editor with the South Western Times and scriptwriter and presenter on radios 6KY and 6PM.

Fay Lorimer (Jordan 1948)

Fay completed a Bachelor of Education at UWA in 1949 and taught in Donnybrook, Collie, Midland Junction, Perth Girls and Perth Modern secondary high schools. She also studied for an Art Teachers' Associateship at Western Australian Institute of Technology (WAIT) and taught Art part-time. She married in 1960.

Lorna Bingemann (Foreman 1952)

Since the 50-year reunion, Lorna has continued with her adventures, embracing caravanning, overseas travel and cruising. She has three sons and one daughter. Sadly, her husband and childhood sweetheart, Max passed away peacefully in May this year. They had a wonderful life together. Lorna has many new challenges ahead as she moves forward with a positive attitude, into the next stage of her life.

Olga Ferstat (Hutchens 1952)

After leaving PLC, Olga attended Underwoods Business College, and then worked as a secretary at various places, including a year in Melbourne. She married Murray Ferstat in 1962 and they have four children and four grandchildren. Once her children were older, she resumed work as a Medical Secretary and retired in 2007, aged 71. Over the years, she traveled to Bali, New Zealand and the Eastern States. Sadly, Murray passed away in 2006. Olga has been kept busy babysitting her grandchildren and continuing her travels.

Jan Hodge (Geddes 1952)

Jan qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1955 and worked in Perth in both hospital and private practice before spending a year in Canada. When she married, she moved to Adelaide and had two children. In the 1960s the family moved to London where Jan studied ceramics, sculpture and painting at a community art school and had her third child. After four years they returned to Adelaide before moving to Canberra in 1972 where Jan established a domiciliary service for ACT Health. Divorce led to re-evaluation and travel. Jan traveled with her two daughters for a year from Afghanistan to London. Subsequently she spent several

years living intermittently in Turkey and working in Real Estate in Canberra. Her son is a professional cyclist living in Europe so Jan moved to Sydney in 1987 to be closer to her daughters and continued to work in Real Estate until retiring in 2003. She then studied for a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the National Art School, completing this in 2006. Today her life revolves around her wonderful family and three gorgeous grandchildren and her ongoing love for, and involvement in, art.

Leonie Kirke (Jeanes 1952)

After leaving PLC, Leonie studied at the University of Western Australia, completing a Bachelor of Science degree and a Diploma of Education, before teaching science and biology at Kent St SHS for three years. After marriage, Leonie and her husband, Errol, moved to Sydney, where they lived for the next eight years. Here she taught at Abbotsleigh Girls' School for three years and her two older sons were born. After a break for a number of years, Leonie returned to part-time work in the Curriculum Branch of the Education Department of WA, writing science books for students and teachers. Following further postgraduate study, she became a foundation member of All Saints' College in Bull Creek. The next 16 years were both interesting and challenging, firstly as Head of Science and then as one of the Assistant Principals. Since retirement, Leonie has been able to enjoy golf, gardening and playing the piano. She is also involved in a number of community activities, including supporting a high school chaplaincy, sitting as a Council member for an independent school and as a Board member of the Bibbulmun Track Foundation. Leonie enjoys travel, bushwalking and attending classical music concerts, opera, theatre and ballet. She and her husband take special pleasure in their interactions with their nine grandchildren, ranging in age from 18 months to 17 years.

Jill Lawson (Underwood 1952)

Jill obtained a BA at UWA in 1956 before marrying Eric Lawson and having four children. She returned to work and further study completing degrees in Education and Psychology, including a Master of Psychology in 1994. She also became a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society in 1995. Jill has worked as a psychologist and is currently a volunteer counsellor at Solaris Care Cancer Support Centre. She has had many hobbies, but is now focused on quilting. With her husband, she enjoys live classical music, ballet and opera, good



Nancy Balstrup enjoying her 90th birthday celebration in France.

Nancy Dowling (Balstrup 1939)

After leaving PLC, Nancy studied at Underwoods Business College where she qualified in secretarial studies. She then worked as a stenographer at Dalgetys, a Stock and Station firm. During World War II, she joined the Australian Army Womens Service (AWAS) and was commissioned as Lieutenant. She spent over four years in the Army in WA and Melbourne.

Nancy married in Geelong in 1946; her husband was a Prisoner of War of the Japanese for over three years. Together, they lived at Lismore in Victoria before moving to a family property in the Riverina where they had Merino sheep and Hereford cattle. Nancy raised three daughters.

In 1973 Nancy and her husband relocated to the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, in Buderim. There she became involved with various committees including the Hospital Auxiliary, Library and Red Cross.

After living on her own for ten years following her husband's death in 1997, Nancy moved to Melbourne to be near family. She plays bridge and Mah Jong and manages to keep very busy.

Nancy has recently returned from an overseas trip which saw her travel from Venice to Barcelona and celebrate her 90th birthday in Aix-en-Provence (France) with her youngest daughter.

Tartan News

food and wine, travelling, friends and family activities with children and grandchildren.

Ann Macliver (Bird 1952)

After leaving school, Ann worked in a bank whilst attending night school to learn shorthand and typing. She married Rex in 1959 and they had three sons and one daughter. They spent eight years in Merredin and seven years in Kalgoorlie before returning to Perth in 1974. Sadly, Rex died in 1987. Ann worked at PLC in the kindergarten for one year followed by 12 years as Assistant to the Librarian in the Junior School, part-time. She has 11 grandchildren and is currently living in East Fremantle with her partner, Bruce West, a retired farmer from Kondinin.

Margaret Reardon (Whittle 1952)

Margaret and her husband Peter still live in the same house in Adelaide, enjoying their retirement. With three children, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild living in the USA and four different states in Australia, they spend time travelling to visit family or host visitors at home. For many years, Margaret has been a volunteer guide with Zoos SA, both at Morarto Zoological Park and Warrawong Sanctuary.

Alison Stocker (Miller 1952)

Alison left PLC in 1947 and moved to Darwin with her family. After school, she worked in general nursing at Royal Perth Hospital and traveled to Sydney to gain a Midwifery certificate.

Robin van Dongen (Teasdale 1966)

Robin recently retired after teaching mathematics for 28 years at All Saints' College, Bullcreek. She and her husband are about to embark on a 'grey nomad' caravanning holiday around Australia for as long as it takes.

Meredith Wright (Pearson 1973)

Meredith obtained a teaching degree at UWA and taught history at St Mary's Anglican Girls' School from 1985-2011. She is currently at Great Southern Grammar in Albany and lives in Denmark with her husband on a rural block surrounded by karri trees. She has grown-up sons and one granddaughter in Perth.

Ashley Lyon (2000)

Ashley completed a Bachelor of Marketing and Public Relations at Notre Dame University and a Master of Teaching (Early Childhood). In 2009 she traveled to Italy to study the Reggio Emilia Education Approach in situ, an experience that strongly shaped her passion for teaching. She worked at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls before moving to the USA to teach at the Reggio Emilia inspired Gan Yeladim Preschool in Connecticut. She is currently enjoying living in New York, working in a progressive school environment at the Blue School, which was started by the co-founders of the Blue Man Group that inspired an exciting Broadway production.

Kelli Taylor (2000)

Kelli is living in Dublin where she works in the music industry. She has two children, Isla and Archie.

Joanne Bannister (2001)

Joanne completed an Animal Science Degree with honours at UWA in 2005, traveled the world for one year in 2006 and started a degree in Veterinary Science at Murdoch University in 2007. She graduated as a vet in November 2011 and is now a fish pathologist in training for the Department of Fisheries.

Jacqueline Morgan (2002)

Jacqui obtained a Bachelor of Science (Environmental) at UWA. She is currently studying for a Masters in Marine Biology at James Cook University in Queensland.

Claire Stewart (2002)

Claire studied Arts and then Education at UWA. She has been working at Mount Lawley SHS for the past four years teaching English and Psychology.

Hope Gilmour (2008)

Hope traveled around the world by herself for a year after leaving school. She changed her studies from law/economics to literature/philosophy. At present she is planning her honours thesis in the value of magical realism in postcolonial literature as well as childrens' literature and is experiencing the full depths of life.

Hannah Meier (2011)

Hannah is currently attending Stephen F Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, USA, majoring in Rehabilitative Services.



Judith Wilton (1972)

Judith has worked in upper limb rehabilitation as a clinical practitioner and academic since graduating as an occupational therapist from the Western Australian Institute of Technology in 1976. She currently works in her own hand therapy private practice.

She joined the Faculty of the School of Occupational Therapy at WAIT (later Curtin University) in 1981, teaching undergraduate courses.

Judith completed a Master of Science degree in the USA before establishing the first Australian University-based graduate hand and upper limb rehabilitation programme for occupational therapists and physiotherapists. She returned to full-time practice in 2002.

Judith has published a book on hand orthosis/splint design and fabrication and has written numerous journal articles. She has presented many courses and workshops both nationally and internationally.

She has been an active member of the Australian Hand Therapy Association and was awarded life membership in 2002.

Photo: Judith Wilton (1972) has extensive experience in hand therapy and was awarded life membership to the Australian Hand Therapy Association in 2002.

Obituaries

We are saddened to learn of the deaths of the following Old Collegians:

Jennifer Barrett-Lennard (1964)
14 June 1947 – 25 February 2011

Prudence Leake (Cusack 1947)
18 August 1930 – 24 October 2012

Rene May Lillywhite (Moseley 1941)
25 May 1924 – 23 Feb 2012

June Aylesbury Lobry de Bruyn (Demel 1942)
25 November 1925 – 27 July 2012

Joyce Locke (Evers 1937)
10 May 1920 – 21 September 2011

Joy Frances Lynas (1947)
13 November 1930 – 7 November 2012

Hon Justice Carolyn Elvina Martin (Hoare 1969)
29 May 1953 – 1 October 2012

Sandra Lynette Murphy (Ridge 1956)
10 August 1939 – 25 December 2011

Wendy Margaret Silberstein (Merry 1952)
30 September 1934 – 18 October 2012

Elizabeth Dorothy Gooden 'Beth' Spencer (Dunn 1943)
29 March 1926 – 1 July 2012

Nylsalie Erica Audrey Hope Tandy (Newton 1941)
26 June 1925 – 5 August 2012

Valma Betty Thornton (1948)
5 January 1931 – 2 August 2012

Patricia Kathleen Vander Sanden (Graham 1949)
1 November 1931 – 13 October 2012

Lynda Joanne Vermeer (1984)
29 June 1967 – 3 July 2010



1. The Hon Justice Carolyn Elvina Martin (Hoare 1969).

The Hon Justice Carolyn Elvina Martin (Hoare 1969) 29 May 1953 – 1 October 2012

Carolyn was born in England on the day Sir Edmund Hillary reached the summit of Mt Everest. Not due for another six weeks, she only weighed approximately 4 lbs and was so small and elf-like, her parents gave her Elvina as a middle name.

She was five and already showing signs of extraordinary intelligence in early 1959 when the Hoare family emigrated to Australia on the *Dominion Monarch*. She could already read and the primary school Carolyn attended placed her in second grade; subsequently she was usually a year younger than her classmates.

In Grade 7 Carolyn received a scholarship to PLC where she studied for the next six years. She was conscientious and excelled at history, Latin and chemistry. It was in Latin class at PLC in 1965 at the age of 11 that Carolyn first met **Jocelyn 'Joc' Wilson (Lee 1969)**. It was a small class of about 12 students and **Miss Harrington (staff 1964-1973)** asked each student why each had chosen to study Latin. Joc admirably explained she was there because Latin was the root of the English language, but Carolyn's response was that she chose Latin because she had heard that the Latin teacher brought a block of Cadbury's chocolate to every lesson (which she did)! Joc and Carolyn subsequently became the very best of lifelong friends.

She graduated from UWA with honours, followed by a Master of Laws at the University of London and was admitted as a lawyer in 1977. After several years in private practice she joined the WA Family Court as a Registrar, the first female to be appointed

to the position. In 1985 she became the first female stipendiary magistrate and in 1996 the first female judge of the Family Court of WA. She was particularly interested in the law of adoption and was the leading authority on that law in WA, if not Australia.

Carolyn loved to travel and at last count she had visited over 100 countries. She loved exploring different cultures and cuisines across the globe and, until her mother was in her 80s, they went on overseas holidays together each year. They shopped for bargains, enjoyed curries and local delicacies, played scrabble and completed cryptic crosswords; and still managed time to relax around the pool. She was someone who made the most of every day, was full of the zest for life and lit up every room with her laughter and vibrant nature.

The quiet courage she showed during her long battle with cancer, and her constant concern for others rather than herself, was extraordinary. She is missed by her family and friends who imagine her surrounded by good friends and equally good books, dressed in her trademark bright, colourful, floaty fabrics with fabulous jewellery and a limitless supply of French champagne.

Obituaries



Nylsalie Erica Audrey Hope Tandy (Newton 1941)

26 June 1925 – 5 August 2012

Nylsalie was born in London, the daughter of Percy Newton, a professional musician who co-founded WASO in the 1920s with his brother, Harold. The Newtons came to WA in 1927 when Nylsalie was two and she completed her senior schooling at PLC from 1938.

At school Nylsalie excelled at swimming, sometimes against her friend **Betty Greig (Graham 1940)** to whom she often lost, in typical good humour. During the war she swam in the State championships and was the State belt champion for Cottesloe Surf Lifesaving Club.

She married Dick Tandy in 1946, with six year-old sister, **Andrea Wharton (Newton 1957)** as flower girl. They settled in Adelaide following their marriage. Their first child, **Kerry Moss (Tandy 1961)**, was born in November 1947 and over the next five years, another three children arrived; John, Alec and Tom. They were busy, happy times and Nylsalie loved every moment.

For a while, Nylsalie worked at the Spastic Centre in Adelaide and was chosen to chaperone the then Miss South Australia on a three-month, round-the-world boat trip. Her husband lost a huge amount of weight pining for his much-loved wife, so much so, he met the boat in Fremantle as he couldn't wait until it reached Adelaide to see her. Sadly Dick died in 1979 and Nylsalie later returned to Perth to live.

The Newtons are an extraordinarily musical family and it was music that enriched Nylsalie's later life. She was a long-term member of the Perth Oratorio Choir, and was one of the cast of over 1000 in Verdi's opera

Aida at Burswood in the early 1990s. As part of the Perth Oratorio Choir, she was able to join an international choir singing (soprano) Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at New York's Carnegie Hall at 80 in 2004 and at 82 in 2006 watched by her family, she sang *The Messiah* at the Sydney Opera House. The Choir was disbanded in 2009 and Nylsalie missed it dreadfully.

She was a much-loved part of her family's life and they remember many happy occasions shared. She had a good sense of humour, social justice and fair play and loved lively, intense discussions about current affairs, especially politics. She also endured great sadness in the loss of her daughter, Kerry in 1999 and younger son, Tom in 2011.

In November 2011 Nylsalie failed her drivers' test and her licence was withdrawn. She greatly feared the loss of her independence and this was a major blow. While she had been living happily and independently until then, her health went into sudden, rapid decline, which she bitterly resented. Despite the implementation of all available home services, two months later she moved to Park Lodge at Hollywood where her decline continued and she passed away aged 88. Her family are grateful her unhappiness ended comparatively quickly.

Members of Nylsalie's family to attend PLC are:
Vanessa Barrable (Wharton 1986)
Ticia Juniper (Newton 1982)
Jenny Newton (Cowan 1953)
Grace Newton-Wordsworth (Year 11, 2012)
Kelly Newton-Wordsworth (Newton 1977)
Tara Newton-Wordsworth (2005)
Kerry Moss (Tandy 1961)
Victoria Torrance (Newton 1980)
Andrea Wharton (Newton 1957)
Rachael Wharton (1988)
Stephanie Wharton (1988)



1. Stephanie Wharton (1988) with her aunt Nylsalie Tandy (Newton 1941) amongst the Kings Park wildflowers.
2. 1982 Junior Basketball team:
Back row, L to R: J Marsh, F Warn, K Miles, N Brown, S Wakelam, L McGlew, K Wilson, N Day. Second row: R Benda, L Vermeer, J Seymour, A Robertson, L Baldwin, J Bowman, R Larard. Front row: H Gibbs, C Barrows, G Purser.
3. 1984 Senior Hockey team:
Back, L to R: K Prior, M Hele, K Wilson, S Page, M Dickins, J Lang, S Hewett, N Coulson. Third row: D Willmott, T Hicks, A Ferstat, C Kneebone, G Castle, R Egerton-Warburton, J Terry, J Reid, J Bunny. Second row: P Orr, J Lefroy, L Vermeer, T Staines, C Barrows, L Baldwin, G More. Front row: A Scanlon, S Macliver, A Brown, N Brown, G Purser, L Bremner, R Cotton.

Lynda Joanne Vermeer (1984)
29 June 1967 – 3 July 2010

Lynda followed her older sister **Patricia Lovell (Vermeer 1979)** to PLC, where she was a boarder from Years 8 to 12. While at the School, she fully participated in the activities available. She wrote poetry that was published in the 1980 *Kookaburra* and played in the Hutchinson (brass) Band in 1981 under **Eric Page (staff 1975-1982, deceased)**. In 1982 she played in the Junior Basketball team and the Senior Hockey team in 1984.

After leaving PLC, Lynda completed her general nursing training at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, followed by her midwifery at King Edward Memorial Hospital. She then finished her Bachelor of Nursing degree via correspondence while nursing in Kalgoorlie. During these years, Lynda also traveled extensively through Europe and the USA.

1998 marked the beginning of Lynda's health problems and multiple sclerosis (MS) was diagnosed shortly after this time. At this point she was an intensive care nurse and her condition improved sufficiently for her to continue her nursing duties. Unfortunately a second MS attack was so severe that, over a few short months, her sight, mobility and independence were taken away and never returned. She lived at home, cared for by her mother, Jennifer Vermeer (Allen 1950), until her illness required several weeks in hospital at 'Charlie Gairdner', where so many happy years had seen her achieve her ambitions.

Linda was talented, independent, gregarious and loving. Despite the enormous frustration, she fought her battle with dignity and courage. Her wonderful friends and the caring MS Society were a marvelous strength to her and her loving family. Her special qualities have enriched all those who knew and loved her.

PLC Old Collegians' Association 2013 Dates

MONDAY 4 FEBRUARY	WELCOME LUNCH
TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY	OCA MEETING
THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY	SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT - CAMELOT, MOSMAN PARK
TUESDAY 5 MARCH	OCA MEETING
THURSDAY 7 MARCH	"INSPIRING WOMEN" INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY GUEST SPEAKER – LINDA WAYMAN (1972)
TUESDAY 2 APRIL	OCA MEETING
SUNDAY 7 APRIL	CONCERT ON THE GREEN WITH SARA MACLIVER (1985)
TUESDAY 14 MAY	OCA MEETING
FRIDAY 17 TO SUNDAY 19 MAY	ART EXHIBITION
TUESDAY 11 JUNE	OCA MEETING
TUESDAY 6 AUGUST	OCA MEETING
SUNDAY 18 AUGUST	OCA AGM
SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER	YEAR 13 SUNDOWNER
TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER	OCA MEETING
THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER	GUEST SPEAKER, TBC
TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER	OCA MEETING
THURSDAY 31 OCTOBER	NEW PREFECTURE MORNING TEA
THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER	WINE AND CHEESE EVENING
TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER	OCA MEETING

If you are interested in attending any of these events please contact PLC's Alumni Co-ordinator, Colette James on +61 8 9424 6520 or email alumni@plc.wa.edu.au.