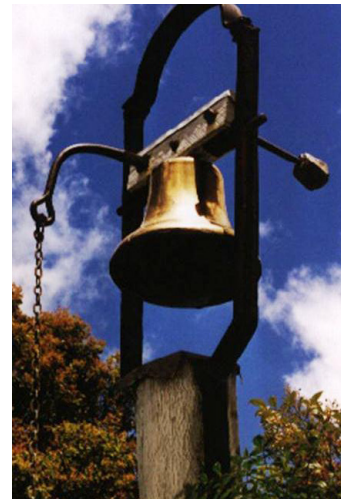




OGAPRESS

Edition 21

April 2014



The Newsletter of the Ipswich Girls' Grammar School Old Girls Association

A novel OGAPRESS

At first glance, you are right in thinking that it looks much the same as previous issues. So, why novel?

Because several of the articles included are the size of a chapter of a novel, but, I believe, with good reason.

Inspirational ladies

Since the last OGAPRESS went out there have been three occasions on which I have heard the stories of wonderful Old Girls – at the funerals of Mildred Morris and Margaret Evans and at Commemoration Day when we honoured Anne Robertson and Betty Tomkins.

At the funeral of Mildred Morris, her daughter Sue – herself an Old Girl – outlined aspects of her mother's life which fascinated the congregation. We knew so much, and yet so little, about this faithful Old Girl.

By contrast, for me, at Margaret's funeral there was little of her life that I did not know but much I would like to share.

As we listened on Commemoration Day to the stories of Anne and Betty, so ably compiled by Brisbane President Joan Meecham, it was impossible not to feel

inspired by their stories.

It was equally impossible not to make comparisons with the opportunities available for today's students as outlined by the 2013 Dux, Lauren Booth.

When I started to compile this edition I had an excess of copy and felt I really had to significantly condense these ladies' stories and then I thought, "Collectively, these women have given in excess of 225 years of service to the OGA and their School. This is their newsletter so why should they not be lauded in its pages?"

While this issue does concentrate on 'older' Old Girls, I really hope that younger girls will take the time to read and reflect on how times have changed, and what opportunities there are for young women today in contrast to those of past generations.

However, through their stories, as with Lauren's, there is a strong message that the IGGS and OGA values have remained constant throughout the generations. The school continues to produce wonderful women who are doing great things in all walks of life.

Helen Pullar Editor

Another happy Commemoration Day function



Once again the School hosted a pre-Commemoration Day Luncheon for those Old Girls who serve on Committees and are the backbone of the organisation.

It is one of the very rare occasions when Old Girls from all branches have the opportunity to enjoy each other's company in a relaxed atmosphere, free of any 'organisational' demands. All Branch Committees are invited and we urge more of you to join us at this regular event. This year a significant number from the Brisbane and Gold Coast Branches joined the Ipswich Committee.

This luncheon is very much appreciated and we thank Principal, Dr Britton, for hosting the event and the IGGS Catering staff for providing our lunch.

This year we were delighted to have with us two much-loved former teachers – Misses Alison Goleby and Dorothy Marsden (*Left*).



Unveiling our past

One of Dr Britton's great aims has been to restore the area at the front of the School which has recently served as a car park.

The OGA contribution to this project was the reconstruction of the old arbours and very generous donations were received from Old Girl benefactors for which we thank them sincerely – in particular, Susan Petersen and Helen Burlinson.



Trustee and current parent, Mr Savos Varitimos, OGA President Mrs Leah Bell and Principal Dr Peter Britton unveil a plaque explaining a little of the arbour's significance.

In the background can be seen the newly planted Moreton Bay figs which, despite the drought, are flourishing.



Carter House Arbour with a view through to the newly restored Grammar Green and beyond to the Five Ways.

There were originally three arbours so the last two houses formed – Connell (1958) and Carter (1981) – now have arbours as well as Hunt, White and Armitage formed by Miss KC Carter in 1948.



For as long as any current Old Girls can remember the Music Department has always featured in our Commemoration Day programme.

This year was no exception and we enjoyed musical items from the Senior Chorale, conducted by Mrs Katherine Rixon, (above) and from Mai-Lien Olsson, Sophie Witherspoon (below) and Alexandra Bartetzko.



Mai-Lien and Sophie delighted the audience by playing a Mozart duet for two violins, composed when Mozart was only 15. What is more, the piece can be played – and indeed was – right way up by one violinist and upside down by the other!! What a treat. The last item of the day was a Bach Symphonia played by Alex.

We really thank all these girls and the staff of the Music Department who give up their Saturday afternoon and hope to continue our support for them through our fundraising initiatives. (see page 8)

Once again, Dr Britton was pleased to accept the annual contribution to the Lady Edna Francis Memorial Collection in our Library, presented by Sue Morris on behalf of the Cribb family.

Lauren Booth was awarded the Fanny Hunt Prize for achieving an OP 1 and also the Helen White Prize for Dux of the School, gift of the Brisbane Branch. Lauren returned from Canberra for the occasion where

she is now undertaking a Bachelor of Philosophy in Science at ANU.

Lauren spoke animatedly of her trip to South Africa as an Australian representative for Youth Science Week in Pretoria and her wonderful experiences travelling through that amazing country.

Helen Pullar



Anne Robertson & Betty Tompkins – OGA Honour Board 2014

Anne Robertson (Thompson) has been a member of the Brisbane Branch of the Old Girls Association since 1977 – a total of 36 years! In that time Anne has missed only TWO meetings! Anne is also a faithful supporter of OGA activities in Ipswich and rarely misses a dinner or fête, travelling to events by train.

Anne came to IGGS as a boarder in 1944, and completed Senior in 1947. It was daunting for this country girl from Miles, particularly as she was only 12 years old, two years younger than most of her class. Nancy Kleinschmidt, a Brisbane Branch member and Dorothy Graham-Wilson, an Ipswich OGA member, were also in Anne's class. 1944 was also the year that Dorothy Marsden, one of Anne's favourite teachers, commenced teaching at IGGS.

Miss Kennedy was Anne's other favourite teacher, and she remembers with particular fondness, Miss Kennedy reading to the girls for half an hour each Friday night in Prep. A not-so-flattering memory Anne has was the habit of the then-Headmistress, Miss Armitage, of pushing her false teeth in and out of her mouth in class, much to the horror of the pupils!

Though an academic student who had always wanted to study Medicine, Anne did not have the means to pay University fees and her mother needed support following her marriage breakup. So after finishing Senior, Anne went home. The subsequent events in Anne's working life demonstrate the sheer tenacity and determination with which Anne ensured she followed a career in her area of interest.

On returning to Miles, Anne approached the new local hospital and persuaded them to allow her to train as a nurse. This she did for three years under the tutelage of the local doctor.

However, Anne left on a matter of principle following the appointment of a new matron, and as a result, did not sit her final exams. With no other opportunities for medical work in Miles, she moved to Brisbane and approached the Pathology Department at the Royal Brisbane Hospital for a job as a laboratory technician.

This was a textbook example of 'creating your own future' by being entrepreneurial. Her approach bore fruit, and she worked there for two years during which time she met her future husband, and married in 1952. Frustratingly, because Anne did not have a University degree, she had to resign.

Undaunted, she approached the Queensland State Health department and secured a position in the tuberculosis laboratory for eighteen months until the birth of her first child.

This was an interesting time in public health in Queensland as it was the height of the TB screening program. Anne's skills were obviously of a high order as it was virtually unheard of in those days for a married woman to be employed in the public service.

After raising three children, Anne again joined the paid workforce in 1968 as the practice nurse for two doctors in Woodridge where she lived. She remained with this practice for 17 years and after it closed had a break of twelve months, before being approached by another practice where she worked until 1995.



Anne's busy paid-work life has been matched by an equally busy home and family life. She was active in the scouts and guides for over twenty years, outgrowing her children's involvements by several years. She was active in the St John's Ambulance and is currently an active member of the National Seniors Association, as well as the OGA. She is very closely involved in the lives of her three children and their families – 12 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Like so many of the older members of the Brisbane Branch, Anne is a wonderful role model and example. She is the sort of member that every organisation dreams of having. Always there; always supportive; always facilitating fund-raising whether selling books of raffle tickets, donating goods, or helping out. A quiet achiever who expects no accolades; but forms the backbone of any successful organisation. It is fitting that her name has been placed on the OGA Honour Board.

Joan Meecham – Brisbane Branch President

Betty Tompkins (Mooney) says, her "four years at Grammar were amongst the happiest in my life." As Betty Mooney, she grew up on her grandparents' property at Mt Perry, in the Wide Bay-Burnett region, and came to IGGS as a boarder in 1946, leaving at the end of 1949 after completing Senior. In 1950, Bet joined the IGGS Old Girls Association, and has been a member ever since – that is 64 years that Bet has been supporting the OGA and her School.

An academic student, Betty also played A Grade tennis, and was a Prefect and the Captain of White House in 1949.

Bet's favourite subject was Geography, taught by Miss Carmody, who may well also have been her favourite teacher. It was Bet's habit to walk down each morning to the then side gate – now the front gate on Chermiside Road – to meet Miss Carmody as she walked up from the train at East Ipswich, and carry her briefcase the remaining distance to the school.



It is obvious from her anecdotes that our Betty was not averse to the odd bit of mischief while at school! We now know that Bet, along with four other girls, was the perpetrator of the “Twenty Seven Little Apples” mystery related in the book *120 Years: Our stories, Our memories* by Margaret McDougall. The 27 little apples growing to juicy sweetness on a tree being nurtured by Miss Armitage and the domestic staff disappeared in their entirety one dark night! Bet well recalls her punishment of a dose of castor oil administered by the matron, Miss Kilner.

Betty's time at school spanned the last years of Miss Armitage's headship, and the first of Miss Carter's. War rationing was still in place at the time, but because Betty lived on a farm she was able to bring back spare coupons for meat and butter to the school. Bet maintains that the supply of these coupons shielded her from Miss Armitage's wrath on many occasions as she did not want to lose a source of extra butter!

After leaving school, Bet commenced teacher training in 1950. Sadly however, she was only weeks into that training when she was called home to help on the property because her grandfather was dying of cancer. She remained on the property until her marriage to John Tomkins in April 1958. Betty then moved to Brisbane and subsequently had two children, Geoffrey and Elizabeth. Tragically for the family, Geoffrey died in a motor boat racing accident in 2007.

Bet has maintained a close connection with the school since 1950, but particularly since she moved to Brisbane after her marriage when she became active in the Brisbane Branch. Bet's considerable sewing and handicraft skills –



Betty with her daughter Elizabeth, also an Old Girl (IGGS 1973-75) and Joan Meecham.

tatting, crocheting, needlework, and more recently patchwork and quilting – have been employed in great measure to support the work of the OGA over all these years. It was not unusual in earlier years for Bet to have a suitcase load of items to take to the school for the annual fête. In recent years, the Brisbane Branch has benefitted from her donations to the bring-and-buy stall, and particularly from her donations of quilts, which have allowed us to raise over \$3,000 in raffle proceeds.

Betty is donating her 'last' quilt to us – a beautifully rich blend of Australian flora. It is quite stunning! So, it is only fitting that this enthusiastic and loyal supporter of IGGS and its Old Girls Association should be honoured by having her name on our Honour Board together with Anne Robertson.

Joan Meecham – Brisbane Branch President

Vale Ann Muller — Head Girl 1977

At the end of last year I received a number of emails from girls who had enjoyed the friendship at IGGS of Ann Muller whose cohort elected her their Head Girl. They were very distressed about Ann's sudden and untimely death on 6 November following a six year battle with breast cancer.

An Ipswich girl, Ann attended Central State School and then IGGS. Ballet and Art of Speech were among her passions while academically she enjoyed French and German.

Ann attended Griffith University from 1978 to 1981 studying Modern Asian languages. Having majored in Chinese and Economics, Ann obtained her Honours degree and won a Scholarship to Stanford University in Taiwan.



She declined this offer choosing instead to work for ADAB (Australian Development Assistance Bureau) in Canberra – the first of many Public Service jobs.

In 1988 Ann married Justin Brown and departed for Copenhagen for three years during which time daughter Sophie was born.

This posting exposed Ann to a lifestyle she loved – fine cuisine, cooking, champagne, European Arts, theatre and travel.

After her return to Canberra, Ann's son Hugh was born. Subsequently, Ann separated from her husband. In 2003 Ann and her children lost all their possessions and their family home in the Canberra bushfires, but with the wonderful support of family, many friends and work colleagues moved to a new house at Narrabundah.

A celebration of Ann's life was held at Canberra's Arboretum.

Ann's parents, Pat and Graham Muller, say “We will miss her infectious laugh....her positive strength... and style.

Many others from the OGA will miss her too.



Mildred Morris (Cribb): 1922 – 2013

Mildred Morris (Cribb) was born in Ipswich in 1922. Growing up with her brothers, Les and Ken at the family home 'Elamang', in Booval, and spending time with her paternal Cribb grandparents at 'Garowrie' (in Whitehill Road), Mildred had all the experiences of a comfortable upbringing of that era – sports, riding, music and dance lessons. It was with her mother's Kennedy family at their property in Dalby that she developed her love for rural life. So, despite growing up in town, she became an accomplished horsewoman.

Her mother, Gertrude had chosen to study nursing at a time when it was an unusual career choice for a girl from a "good family" – indeed it was unexpected that young girls should have much in the way of career aspirations at all. But Gertrude was adamant that she was going to be a nurse, and by the time she married Reginald Cribb, had served as a Nursing Sister in WWI and was a Tutor Sister at the Ipswich Hospital.

Retiring from her position at Ipswich Hospital when she married (as ladies did in those days), Gertrude never stopped being a nurse. Medical services weren't quite as readily available, and it was known in the Booval/East Ipswich area that if anyone was seriously ill or injured, and especially if they couldn't afford a doctor, the thing to do was "go get Mrs Cribb". So as well as running a household, Gertrude Cribb was also out and about in the community – setting fractures, delivering babies, laying out the dead, treating fevers and was also the first res-

sponder for accidents in the nearby Blackstone coal mines.

As soon as she was old enough, Mildred began escorting her mother on these trips. Her job was to take along toys and entertain any children in the house, while her mother delivered babies, or treated the sick or dying.

Not surprisingly, in early 1939, while



still at school, Mildred undertook a St John's First Aid class and a St John's Home Nursing class. Upon leaving school, she still had a year to wait before a hospital would accept her as a nursing student so she qualified as a VA by completing additional volunteer hours at the Ipswich Hospital. As soon as she turned 18, she joined the army as a VA and spent five years nursing in the areas of Casualty Clearing Station, Camp Hospital, Australian General Hospital and Orthopaedics in tent hospitals and re-purposed buildings in Redbank and Toowoomba.



1st Australian Orthopaedic Hospital, Toowoomba, Ward 6.

Needless to say, the work done by nurses in the war years would horrify nurses today – night shifts where there was one nurse on duty for a ward of 70 surgical patients, where duties included having to wash, repack-age and sterilise all the day's used dressings and gauze (at least the patients helped roll the bandages) and then sponge all the patients before morning, starting at 1am with a hurricane lantern hung on the bed for lighting.

At the end of the war, her brother Ken asked her to help him on his recently-acquired sheep property in Cunnamulla. She jumped at the chance to immerse herself again in bush life, and spent several happy years working on the land with her beloved horses and dogs, mustering sheep and helping with fencing, dipping and all the chores of running a property. Upon returning to Ipswich around 1950, she was asked by her cousin, Harry Wilson to work as the practice nurse/receptionist in the practice he was starting with Alec Clark and four years later when Dr Clark completed his Radiology specialisation, Mildred went with him to start Ipswich's first specialist radiology clinic and learnt to be a radiographer in what was to become Clarke and Robertson Pathologists.

In 1960 Mildred married Humphrey Morris and in 1963 they bought the East Ipswich Newsagency, which they ran for 18 years until retirement, with Mildred managing all the accounts and bookwork for the shop. While working as a practice nurse, and later after retirement, she was heavily involved in community activities and associations including the Girl Guides and Trefoil, Business & Professional Women, the Red Cross, Legacy, the RSL and many others.

Mildred joined the IGGSOGA in the early 1940s and was Secretary in 1949 and President 1953 – 1955. She cooked countless cakes for fêtes and functions and with Margaret Boulter was one of the two Ms who ran the cake stall at the OGA fête for many years. Mildred did not suffer fools gladly and kept us all on our toes so in recent years, as her health has failed, we have missed her attendance at our meetings and functions. Thank you, Mildred for all you did for OGA – and your community.

Helen Pullar (based on the eulogy by Sue Morris)



Margaret Evans (Teall) – Old Girl and IGGS Choir Conductress and Music Teacher

It is not often that I can pay a tribute to an Old Girl in these pages without reference to School Archives, Old Girls records, an obituary or information supplied by others, but these words I can write straight from the heart and, while it is a very personalised farewell, I know it will resonate with many.

On Sunday 10 March IGGS and IGGSOGA lost a dear friend, past student, OGA Member and teacher of hundreds of students when Margaret Evans died after some years of very indifferent health.

I have known Margaret all my life. In the years when I was growing up in Ipswich, Margaret and her husband Bruce were stalwarts of St Stephen's Church Ipswich – my family church. In 1957, Margaret started teaching music at Ipswich Girls Grammar the year before I started in Sub-Junior – joining another sessional music teacher, Old Girl Cleve McKenzie. This partnership lasted till 1981.

A beautiful solo soprano herself, Margaret certainly knew how to get the best from the girls in her choir. Margaret's choral work is the stuff of legends and everyone looked forward to the choir singing on special occasions such as Speech Night.

Over the years the standard of music from both the Choir and the Orchestra at IGGS improved enormously with Margaret being joined by two other Old Girl teachers – Colleen Schneider (Pennell) and Glenys McKenna (Smallwood). Margaret fought administration tenaciously for rehearsal time, firmly insisting that excellence was the result of effort. She usually prevailed! And who but her choristers would stay behind, after the day had ended for everyone else at midday, rehearsing for Speech Night that evening and then for the traditional 'break-up' party.

When Music was introduced as a Board subject in the early 1980s, Margaret (by now in her 50s), undertook further studies to upgrade to a classroom teacher. No mean achievement!

Perhaps the highlight of Margaret's musical career at IGGS came in 1992 when, at the instigation of the then Principal Mrs Judith Hill, Margaret gathered together 120 choristers and a full orchestra – schoolgirls, Old Girls and members of Ipswich choirs – to perform "The Messiah" in the School Hall. What a triumph that was!

There are many Old Girls who owe their musical careers to Margaret, not only for her teaching but also her ability to perceive and foster special talent. And, she was so much more than a teacher. When I returned to teach at IGGS in 1980, I was able to observe this first hand. Margaret's students loved her – many calling her, affectionately, Ma Evans (a diminutive of Grandma). She listened to them and for many, especially the Boarders, she was a grandmother figure in their lives. My own children benefited from her kindness as often, when I was required to be late at school or they had to stay late for some reason, a bed at Whitehill Road was quickly on offer for them.

I have previously written of Margaret that I "perhaps admired her most of all for her ability to accept the girls for what they were. For all her standards and traditions, she had an amazing ability to move with the times and adjust to changing situations. In her heart she remained as young as her students."

My closest involvement with Margaret came, when as Head of Drama, I directed school musicals for which Margaret was musical director. What an unbelievable time we had! The memories will last forever. Margaret's involvement was absolute – and Bruce didn't escape either. He was dragooned into assisting Ian and the dads who built the sets. In those days, as well as Music Camps, we held Drama Camps prior to Interhouse Drama – at Duckadang, Minden, Caloundra and many other places. Margaret and Bruce were always there lending support. I think Margaret would be as sad as I am to know that Interhouse Drama is no longer.

In her very private home life Margaret raised three children – Marian, Elizabeth and David – and was intensely proud of their success. (Libby was recently inducted into the IGGS Hall of Fame). She was devoted to her extended family and for years called on her parents and, latterly, her elderly mother, every afternoon when her teaching day finished. I well remember one Easter Thursday when the hapless cast of a musical had once again been held back for rehearsal. As it broke up there was discussion about Easter plans. "What are you doing, Mrs Evans?" one student asked. "Taking my mother shopping", Margaret replied. Margaret **was** one of the older teachers (and all teachers are over 50!!). There was a brief silence, then a chorus of "Your mother!!!!"

In her retirement Margaret joined a Book Club formed by IGGS teaching colleagues. We each talk about our own reading and sometimes we were a little startled by her choice of book. But, on being asked if she had not found it a little racy, she would reply, "Oh, I skipped all that nonsense."

As with her mother before her, Margaret's cooking was legendary. Her freezer was always full. (She is the only person I know who could freeze iced cakes and then set them on the table looking like perfection.) On one occasion, after a theatre performance, we were invited back to the Evan's household for supper. We had with us two friends who were embarrassed that there might not be enough food. As we left, one of them remarked, "We didn't even make an impression on that food!"

Margaret will live long in our memories and her contribution to the life of music at IGGS will continue through the work of her niece, Katherine Rixon, (daughter of her sister Marian) – another talent fostered by Margaret – who among other things, conducts the chorale which performs for us on Commemoration Day and all special School occasions. A great tradition continues!

Helen Pullar (Pupil, fellow Old Girl, teaching colleague & friend



OGA Office Bearers 2014

OGA President

Leah Bell (Sanger)

Vice President

Kay Jones (Roach)

Secretary

Judith Hill

Treasurer

Sue Stewart

Subscriptions Secretary

Dorothy Graham-Wilson (Wilson)

Past President &

OGAPRESS Editor

Helen Pullar (Birrell)

Brisbane Branch President

Joan Meecham (Parsons)

Secretary/Treasurer

Jocelyn Green (Hutchison)

Darling Downs Branch President

Ros Scotney

Secretary

Cheryl Wilson (Hine)

Treasurer

Lyndall Madden (Scotney)

Canberra Branch Contact

Faye Noonan (Edmondson)

Sunshine Coast Branch President

Jan Wright (Swan)

Secretary

Lynne McLaren (Black)

Treasurer

Dell Huey (Brown)

Gold Coast Branch President

Denise Armstrong (Whitehead)

Secretary

Lurline Campbell (Bellingham)

Treasurer

Ruth Thompson (Penglis)

OGA Calendar 2014

Ipswich

General Meetings 28 April, 28 July, 13 October

AGM 24 November

Annual Luncheon 14 June

Heritage Markets & Fête 2 August

Annual Dinner 18 October

Theatre Night 20 November ILT

Brisbane

General Meeting 3 May

AGM 15 November

2.00pm Reading Room Toowong Library

Sunshine Coast

Meeting and luncheon dates be advised

Darling Downs

Theatre Night 29 April Toowoomba Repertory

Lunch 23 August at Danish Flower Art. Highfields

Lunch 13 December including Christmas Tree Festival at Middle Ridge Uniting Church Hall

AGM 2015 Sunday 22 February

Gold Coast

General Meeting 10 May at 10.30 am at 41 Rix Drive, Upper Coomera.
Finger food lunch after the meeting.

Sunshine Coast Branch News



*Back: Nita Carsberg; Ellen De Chastel (Norman); Joan McFarlane; Katherine Kingston (Wilkie); Dell Huey (Brown); Lynne McLaren (Black);
Front: Julie Birch (Forsyth); Phyllis Ommensen (Wilkie); Karen Page (Hinrichsen); Tessa Luders (Foote); Narelle Fancourt (Cribb); Jan Wright (Swan)*

In recent years our group has not been as active as in the past due to our small numbers. Only four members attended our Annual Meeting on 22 February. We were delighted to welcome Leah Bell and Kay Jones from Ipswich. Leah reported on Ipswich OGA activities and the latest progress of the School. As always we'd be most pleased to welcome any interested Old Girls in our area.

In January this year we were saddened to lose one of our members, Joan McFarlane (nee Williams), who passed away after a short illness. Joan attended IGGS in 1950-1951. After leaving school, she worked in an Office before studying to become a teacher. She taught at Ashgrove State School and other Brisbane schools. (Photo above)

Last year we were able to give \$500 to the Principal's Special fund and \$60 was donated once again for an Annual Book Prize for Speech Night.

In September last year 12 Old Girls enjoyed a Luncheon held at See Restaurant, Mooloolaba. (Photo above) It was a delightful venue overlooking the river and a great opportunity for Old Girls to reminisce and swap stories of the old school days.

Jan Wright

Reunions 2014

The OGA Committee has received several requests for the Reunion Booklet but at the time of this newsletter going to press there had been no official confirmation of any actual plans.

The Seniors of 1994 are planning a reunion later in the year and have advertised it on Facebook through Paula Hyde or Laura Proctor on 0407 714 800 or by email to laurageertsma@hotmail.com.

It is essential that organisers make contact with the OGA especially if a reunion is being planned at either the Luncheon or Dinner so that we can facilitate and advertise the event.

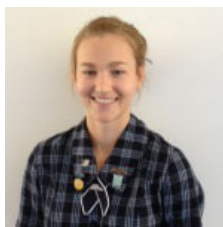
email: oga@iggs.qld.edu.au



Lylie Argus Bursary Winner 2014 Head Boarder

The OGA Committee were delighted to hear that Lylie Argus Bursary winner – Jane Scheffe – was appointed one of the two Head Boarders for 2014.

I asked Jane to tell us a little about herself and what the bursary has meant to her



New doors were opened for me when I was given the opportunity to attend Ipswich Girls' Grammar. I have been able to achieve more than I ever thought I could. It is an experience like no other, and has helped make me the person I am today.

I come from a small country town called Roma, located in South West Queensland. Attending IGGS has given me rare opportunities that I would not otherwise have had and for that I'm extremely grateful. Sport was always an integral part of our Roma community with many to choose from. However, our being five and a half hours away from Brisbane meant that opportunities for higher achievement and consideration for higher sporting selection was unattainable. At sporting events such as state trials though our teams were always known to give a 110% effort in everything we did and for our sportsmanship. I have taken these qualities and utilised them in all aspects of school at IGGS. Personally, I have improved tremendously, not just on the sporting field, but also academically. I have had the opportunity to compete in higher levels of sport and be trained by some really inspirational coaches.

When I started boarding I must admit I was slightly nervous, though quite excited about being at boarding school – something I had always wanted to do. The routine was a bit different from what I was used to, but I soon became accustomed to it. The only thing I remember being a bit scared about was how many people were going to be here, and how big the school was! It was quite a change coming from a co-ed school with a year level of roughly 35 students to one with over a hundred and all girls. It was a shock at first trying to get used to having so many people around, so many people who knew my name, while I had no clue who they were. The only way I can really explain boarding is by saying that it really is exactly like having 60 sisters, all with different personalities, problems and attitudes. There are good days and then there are not so good days, but we help one another in different ways to get through it and that's what creates the sisterhood in boarding. Usually the only time when you really want to go home is when you're sick, or it's half-way through the last term of school for the year. I don't know about others, but I am so proud to be a boarder. We form a bond with the school as it's our second home and on weekends it is literally just our home, I don't even think of it as school.

Being a boarder means a lot to me, and the memories, and the things I have learnt will stay with me forever.

Jane Scheffe

Lylie Argus Bursary Selection Criteria

Full details of this significant bursary in memory of a loyal Old Girl, Lylie Argus (Stevenson) are available from the School and there are several criteria, but of particular interest to Old Girls is the following:

Applications for the Lylie Argus Memorial Scholarship are open to students entering Year 11 in 2015 who are descendants of former IGGS students and who would not otherwise be able to attend IGGS.

A brief document describing the student's family position in relation to the former IGGS student should accompany applications for this Scholarship.

This is an ongoing scholarship and Old Girls are asked to advise families who might qualify now or in the future to go on line or enquire directly from the School.

88 KEYS piano fundraiser

Enrolment numbers into the Instrumental Music Department have grown exponentially in the past three years with many of our current students performing at a professional level. This is placing our school very much at the forefront of musical development in the wider community of Ipswich.

The School will be seeking over the coming months **88 "key" donors** for the fundraising campaign for the purchase of a new **Kawai Grand Piano**. For the students to be able to practise on a such a piano in a quiet setting at any time of the day would be absolutely invaluable.

The OGA Association is enthusiastically endorsing this effort and has already pledged a significant contribution.

While any member can make a direct contribution to the IGGS Development Office, we feel that smaller donations via the OGA could be combined and this way many more people could have the opportunity to make a donation of any amount. (Donations will be acknowledged in the next OGAPRESS).

This is a way for the OGA to acknowledge once again the close affiliation between us and the IGGS Music department.

Cheques payable to IGGSOGA PO Box 16 Ipswich or by on line deposit.

IGGS Old Girls Association

Queenslanders Credit Union

BSB 804 059

Account 1000 85266

