



# Chit Chat



R.G.G.S. Old Girls' Association - Rockhampton

February 2018  
Volume 18, Issue 1

## President's Message

Welcome to the first Chit Chat of 2018 and unfortunately, this will be my last one as my tenure as R.G.G.S. OGA Presidency comes to an end.

I would like to thank all of my committee members along with the other members that have supported me over the last three years.

It is the time of year to consider how you can contribute to this wonderful organisation. Our Dinner on the Deck and Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th March on the deck at school – all are welcome!

We have a small dedicated and committed executive and membership of our Rockhampton committee. In order to continue to improve our service to you, we need your help.

If you live in or near Brisbane or Rockhampton we would love for you to join our committees. We only meet four times a year as a committee and our meetings are very social and relaxed.

Please consider joining us or sending us any ideas that you think will improve what we do as an Association for our members.

**Celebrate what you've accomplished, but raise the bar a little higher each time you succeed.**

MIA HAMM

Looking forward to another successful year within the R.G.G.S. community.

**Veronica Goddard (Bertram)**  
President



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[www.facebook.com/RGGSOGA](http://www.facebook.com/RGGSOGA)

**February 2018**

**Volume 18, Issue 1**

### Special points of interest:

- Online Memorial Auction
- 1971 & 2007 Seniors Reunions
- Christmas Celebration Photos
- Beef 2018 OGA Event
- The Headmistress' Ghost
- Speech Night Guest Speaker
- Old Girl's Prestigious Nomination

## Congratulations to Dr Moya Andrews

Congratulations to another R.G.G.S. Old Girl who has excelled in her chosen career. Dr Moya Andrews (Landsberg) is an Indiana University Professor Emeritus of Speech and Hearing Sciences and was a student at R.G.G.S. 1953-1956.

On 16 December 2017, Indiana University Bloomington President Michael A McRobbie presented Dr Moya Andrews with the President's Medal for Excellence.

Dr Andrews has held the roles of Dean of the Faculties and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs and was also a Founding Co-Director of Emeriti House whose mission is *to provide an environment to support the continuation of the intellectual and creative activities of retired faculty, to help maintain their connections with the University, and to encourage the use of their talents as a continuing resource for the University.*

Pictured right is Moya chatting in the robing room of the university before the award ceremony.



## New Members

Please welcome the following Old Girls as new financial members of RGGGS OGA.

**New Life Members:**

Sarah Guilfoyle 1990-1993

Congratulations and a warm welcome to the following **2017 Year 12 graduates** who have become Life Members of the Association:

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Britany Adams     | Bonnie-May Allen   |
| Caitlin Bartlett  | Natalie Bird       |
| Josie Bradford    | Sophia Buckle      |
| Melanie Conrad    | Kiara-Ann Crummer  |
| Tia Cunningham    | Tylar Cunzolo      |
| Lucy Davison      | Claire de Villiers |
| Georgina Driscoll | Meredith Fay       |
| Jessica Gunning   | Luka Hill          |
| Monique Hill      | Kelsey Kleier      |
| Emily Lang        | Mikaela Maskell    |
| Abby Butler       | Grace McCosker     |
| Lauren Pacey      | Alyssa Pickels     |
| Madison Rothery   | Caitlin Ryan       |
| Lacey Smith       | Rayne Sterritt     |
| Shanaya Tanna     | Natalie Tian       |
| Jada Weazel       | Felicity Weier     |
| Courtney Smith    | Layla Wilson       |
| Isabel Woo        | Montana McCamley   |

**Current Membership Numbers:**

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Annual Members:                    | 90          |
| Life Members                       | 937         |
| Honorary Life Members & Associates | 16          |
| <b>Total:</b>                      | <b>1043</b> |

## 1998 Seniors - 20 Years

We have had an enquiry from Kila Papaol as to whether the senior class of 1998 is planning a 20 Year Reunion.

If someone would like to take on the role as organizer, both the School and the Old Girls' Association can help with bookings for a School tour and contact details of 1998 Seniors who are members of the OGA.

School contact: Kim Dixon: Phone - 07 4930 0964  
 Email: [EnterpriseManager@rggs.qld.edu.au](mailto:EnterpriseManager@rggs.qld.edu.au)

OGA contact: Marilyn Watts: Phone - 07 3283 7265  
 Email: [marilyn\\_m\\_watts@yahoo.com.au](mailto:marilyn_m_watts@yahoo.com.au)

## 2018 Annual Subscriptions now due

If you are an Annual Subscriber to the Old Girls' Association, your annual subscription is now due. Fees are due as at 1 January each year. Many members find it convenient to pay at a function. Please feel free to continue to do so. Fees are as follows:

**\$10 for our senior Old Girls (60 years and over)**  
**\$15 for our junior Old Girls - Payment options:**

- Cash:** In person at RGGGS OGA Functions
- Money Order:** Posted to the Membership Secretary
- Cheque:** Posted to the Membership Secretary and made out to RGGGS-OGA
- Internet:**
  - Rockhampton members:**  
 ANZ Branch No: 014690  
 A/c No: 3944-13077
  - Brisbane members:**  
 CBA Branch No: 064001  
 A/c No: 1008-0446

**(For internet payments, please ensure you put your name first in the description for identification.)**

## UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to receive the *newsletter* in less time than it takes to arrive by post and help save on the costs of postage, join our email list. Just complete and return the form below.

**Notification of change of address**

Name:.....

New mailing address:.....

.....Postcode:.....

Phone/Mobile number: .....

Email address: .....

**Send to: Mrs Marilyn Watts, Membership Secretary:**

**Address: 2/37 Margate Parade, Margate Q 4019**

**Email: [marilyn\\_m\\_watts@yahoo.com.au](mailto:marilyn_m_watts@yahoo.com.au)**

### Did you know?

*Did you know that the Prue McKeague Prefect badge is a platinum replica of the Helen E Downs badge and was commissioned in memory of Prudence McKeague a 1985 senior who died during the Christmas holidays.*

*It is worn by the Head Girl other than the Helen E. Downs Prefect and was first awarded in 1986 to Hallie Bredhauer.*

# Helen Bredhauer Museum Cabinet Fundraising

Tragically, only 24 hours after the Paterson Heritage Museum was opened, Helen Bredhauer (Marsh 1958 alumna), one of the dedicated volunteers, passed away from Lymphoma not having witnessed the opening ceremony nor the final product of her years of voluntary work for the Museum, 125 Commemorative Edition and 125 Celebrations.



If this artwork is not your cup of tea, we are also still seeking donations towards the museum cabinet. Donations should be made payable to the Rockhampton Old Girls' Association by cheque or EFT to:

**ANZ BSB:** 014690  
**Account No:** 394413077  
**Reference:** Museum

Please email Treasurer Robyn Meredith to confirm your donation [robyn.meredith@gmail.com](mailto:robyn.meredith@gmail.com).

Helen, with five generations of Girls Grammar girls in her family, was a staunch advocate of Rockhampton Girls Grammar School and we seek to preserve her memory and commitment.

We have been donated an original Edith Neish painting of Paterson House by Gaye Luck (Carter) and are selling this rare artwork with an on-line auction to add to the Helen Bredhauer Memorial cabinet fund.

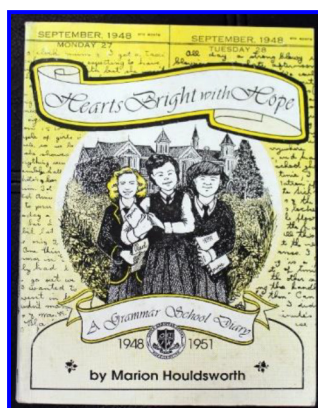


The auction will be **on-line and closes on 12 March 2018**. You can access the auction from the RGGGS website, click on this link (hold down the control button and then click) <https://rggs.qld.edu.au/store/>.

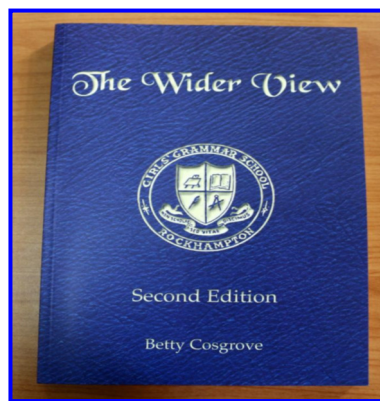
## RGGGS Memorabilia for sale



**125 Commemorative Edition**  
 A coffee table book that celebrates 125 years of RGGGS with specific attention paid to the last 25 years. **\$30.00 (now reduced to \$20.00)**



**Hearts bright with hope**  
 Marion Houldsworth writes about her time at RGGGS in the 1940s with hilarious detail. **\$25.00**



**The Wider View 2nd Edition**  
 A history of RGGGS written by Betty Cosgrove for our Centenary, complemented with 25 years of appendices for 125 years. **\$25.00**



**RGGGS 125 Years etched glasses**  
**\$10.00 each**

Also for sale are RGGGS golf umbrellas \$40.00 each and RGGGS 125th Tawny Port \$25.00. For all enquiries on the sale of memorabilia, please contact the School direct on phone 07 4930 0900 or email at [Reception@rggs.qld.edu.au](mailto:Reception@rggs.qld.edu.au).



## Reunion - 2007 Seniors

10 year reunions are so much fun! These lovely ladies had a tour of their old school as part of their celebrations in October 2017.

Welcome back girls, a great group of clever, confident and connected women.

**Front row L-R:** Katie McCann, Sheldon Olive, Jillian Carige, Carly Mafri (Balkin),

**Back row L-R:** Josephine Mumford (Schultz), Cassandra McGrath, Hannah Luck (Small), Nicole Green, Emily Wendt, Elizabeth Wagner, Cassandra Thomas, Kimberley Coonan (McMurtrie), Melissa Spencer.



## Do you know these teachers?



We are trying to identify the girls in this photo. From the clothes they are wearing, the time frame seems to be the 50s. They could be music teachers or perhaps even parents.

If you recognize any of these ladies, please contact Margaret Black on phone 07 4928 2490 or via email: [9margaretblack38@gmail.com](mailto:9margaretblack38@gmail.com).

## 1971 Seniors Road Trip



These 1971 RGGGS Alumni have just finished their 2017 Northern Road Trip with much laughter and reminiscing. On the trip they visited Mackay, Townsville and Charters Towers.

The girls did Tasmania in 2014, and previously have been to the Gold Coast and Hamilton Island. They called in for a tour of the School and are now making plans for 2019.

Pictured above is the group along The Strand in Townsville. The girls from Left to Right are: Carolyn Cusack (Milligan), Diane Kassen (Willmott), Lois Hynes (Osborne), Pat Chester (Cocks), Anne Tunnah (Kent), Jocelyn Wilkinson (Kavanagh), Robyn Rice (Kavanagh). Lois was the only day girl, the rest were boarders.

## Rockhampton Christmas Dinner on the Deck



L-R: Phillipa Leahy, Tayla Bidgood, Jenny Bidgood, Tasha Absolon, Chloe Atkinson, Lucy Boneham



L-R: Leya Olive, Veronica Goddard, Struan Ferguson, Kerry McKenzie, Janet McKenzie

## Brisbane Christmas Lunch



A very successful Brisbane Christmas Lunch was held at the Keri Craig Emporium on Saturday 2 December 2017. There were 55 attendees with many of the guests commenting that this was the best Christmas Lunch they had been to. All the tables were decked with gold tablecloths, Christmas decorations and bon bons.

**Top left photo L-R:** Elizabeth Keys, Margaret Cunningham, Pene Bennett, Carole Maurizi, Margaret Parfitt, De-Anne Kelly, Maree Bassett, Gil Tilney

**Top right photo L-R:** Eileen Baker, Jean Bulley, Elsie Speight, Dot Skewes, Shirley Crow, Melissa Shanks, Beres Walker, Cynthia McNeill.

**Bottom left photo L-R:** Genevieve Brazier, Rosslyn Greenhill, Meredith West, Anita Gustavsson, Andrea Turner, Libby Smith, Erin Goddard, Veronica Goddard

# Deaths



Delma Finlayson (Murphy) 1951-52, sister of Jill McDougall

Margaret Hardwick (Densley) 1953-54

Judith Bundock (Hutton) 1942-45, mother of Margaret Simpson

# Marriages



Chloe Piggott (Senior 2010) to Clay Hines

# Sympathy to:



Susannah Rowland, Fiona Moggitt, Meredith and Alice Kenny on the death of their father, Robert Kenny. Rob Kenny was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1984, becoming Chairman in the 1990s

Kylie Dwyer (President RGGGS P&F Association), Alyssa Close, Donna Velenchik, Suzanne MacCallum, Falkny, Joanna and Jasmin Dwyer on the death of their mother and grandmother Dianne Close

Marian Davies, Pam Evans and Janet Johnson on the death of their mother, Alison Ross. Alison was a past President of the RGGGS Parents and Friends Association. Alison's husband, Robert Ross, was a board member 1972-1982.

Pam Keune (Crunkhorn) on the death of her mother-in-law

Janet and Amanda on the death of their father, David Wilson

Claire Trotter on the death of her mother, Rhoda Mackenzie

Lola Wright (Batchelor) on the death of her mother

Lesley Chenoweth, Robyn and Chloe Clelland on the death of their mother and grandmother, Una May

**INVITATION TO RGGGS OGA SOCIAL EVENT**

**Will you be in Rockhampton for BEEF 2018?**

Don't miss the opportunity to catch up with old school friends for drinks and canapes in the Walter Pierce Pavilion Board Room (upstairs) at the Rockhampton Showgrounds before or after your other functions.

**Date & Time: Monday 7 May, 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm.**

The OGA will cover the cost of the venue and canapes.

There will be a private cash bar for our get-together.

Bring your friends and please **RSVP by Friday 27 April** to Kim Dixon (Bredhauer):

Email: [EnterpriseManager@rggs.qld.edu.au](mailto:EnterpriseManager@rggs.qld.edu.au) Phone: 07 4930 0964

## In Memoriam - Jean Bradley

**Editor's Note:** *Jean Bradley (Chisholm) was a student at the School 1926-1937 and was one of our many high achievers. A truly remarkable woman who devoted her life to community service. Sadly Jean passed away last year but memory of her service will live on.*

*The following article from the "Gladstone Observer" on 19/06/2007 gives detail of this service:*

**Mrs Jean Boreham BRADLEY Qld, awarded the Order of the Medal of Australia (OAM).** For service to the community, particularly through the Queensland branch of the Country Women's Association of Australia.

Jean Bradley doesn't know who nominated her to receive the Order of the Medal of Australia (OAM), but it's a good bet it was the Queensland Country Women's Association of which she has been a member since the 1940s.

She was awarded the medal last week for service to the community, particularly through the Queensland Branch of the CWA.

It's not the first award to come Jean's way. Other awards and recognitions include: the Stratford International Trophy, 1980; a Commonwealth Recognition for Senior Australians; the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal, 1977; two Service Bars, QCWA; and the United Nations Association of Australia Award (Queensland Division).

Jean said she owed her life to a member of the QCWA when she was with the Springsure branch.

'I didn't show up for one meeting, and one member kept insisting there must be something wrong,' she said.

'When they came out, they found me under a tractor that I had been driving which had overturned in a wash-out. I had been there for 12 hours.'



Jean held a number of positions in the various branches and divisions in the QCWA including stints as vice president in both the Central Highlands and Port Curtis.

Jean was instrumental in organising a trip to the Fijian village of Soso and drawing attention to the community's lack of pharmaceutical goods following storms that destroyed the pharmacy.

Following is a brief run-down of Jean's QCWA and other community interests:

- Women's Association (QCWA), 1974-1977
- Division president, Central Highlands Division, 1963-1966 and 1972-1974; also served as vice-president, international officer and division representative of Younger Sets
- Served in Port Curtis Division as vice-president and international Officer
- Member, Calliope branch, since 1970s
- Member, Dingo branch, 1940s-1969; served terms as president and treasurer
- Member, Springvale branch, 1969-1974; served terms as secretary and treasurer
- QCWA representative, Queensland Division, United Nations Association of Australia, 1974-1976

- QCWA representative, consumer affairs Co-ordinated welfare relief visit to Fiji, Associated Country Women of the World, 1984 - attended eight international conferences
- Supporter, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands Country Women's Associations
- Volunteer, Curtis Island Rural Fire Brigade, since 1985. Inaugural member (and life member) South-end Progress Association, since 1950
- Member, Australian Red Cross, Dingo and Springsure - served as vice-president
- Coordinator for the Girl Guides, 1980s
- Justice of the Peace for more than 25 years

### Reunion News 1978 Seniors

Plans are under way for a "40 Year On" Reunion to be held in 2018 for the 1978 Seniors and 1976 Juniors. A School tour and afternoon tea has been organised for 18 August 2018. For further details and bookings, please contact:

Gillian Blacket (Primmer)  
Email: [Blacket@bigpond.com](mailto:Blacket@bigpond.com)  
Mobile: 0413 944 685

### North Qld Group Catchup

Watch out for your invitation to the next North Queensland Group catch-up.

Organiser, Gail Russell, is planning for an April event. To express your interest in attending, please contact Gail via email:  
[grussell@tropicnet.com.au](mailto:grussell@tropicnet.com.au).

## Historical Happenings - The Headmistress' Ghost

**Editor's Note:** I hope readers have been enjoying *Historical Happenings* which I have commenced as a regular article in *Chit Chat*. This segment relates the story of the ghost of Miss Helen Downs, our first Headmistress, and was drawn from the following website:

website <http://www.chapelhill.homeip.net/FamilyHistory/Other/QueenslandHistory/TheGhostsOfQueensland.htm>

Rockhampton Girls Grammar School has a long and distinguished history. Founded in 1892 to provide a superior education for the daughters of wealthy pastoralists and the city's leading citizens, the school prospered.

This was due largely to the first headmistress, an English spinster named Helen E Downs. Miss Downs was a character, a free thinker with progressive ideas on female education, women's emancipation and most other subjects.

At a speech day in 1898 she reminded parents that 'the senior classes in her school were for training cultured women who would exert an uplifting influence in social matters- and not waste their time on prettiness.'

'Prettiness' was one of Miss Downs' chief dislikes. She was not pretty herself and may have been slightly lame. She refused to allow staff or students to restrict their bodies with corsets or 'paint' their faces.

Sensible clothes, sensible diet, fresh air, exercise and lots of soap and water were her recipe for building sturdy bodies and sound minds.

Helen Downs' unconventional ideas probably shocked and upset many people, but the scholastic achievements of her students reached such heights that she was tolerated by her critics and encouraged by the liberal minded. The impression one gets reading about her 100 years later is of boundless energy, a brilliant mind and total dedication to her vocation.

It is not surprising that such a strong and controversial character should still exert a powerful influence over the school she headed more than a century ago, but the form that influence takes is quite unexpected.

According to school legend Miss Downs' ghost lives in the school bell tower and comes down from her eyrie once a year, at 11 pm on 11 November.

The ghost makes its way through the girls' dormitories, selects the girl with the longest blonde hair, produces a pair of spectral scissors and hacks off the victim's tresses.

If you don't believe this story ask the girls of Year Nine. They will tell you that they believe in the ghost of Miss



Downs, and watch the mixture of excitement, embarrassment, pride and fear on their faces as they recount their experiences.

"We had our mattresses in the middle of E dorm, on the night of 11 November 1995. Another girl who lives in H dorm, and had the longest, blondest hair came in to our room- she was really scared that the ghost was going to chop off her beloved hair.

At 11.00 pm, we heard a noise in the roof. We all screamed. A mistress came in and quietened us. She said there was no such thing as ghosts and that it was probably a bandicoot in the roof. A bandicoot in the roof? I'm sure it was Miss Downs.

Miss Downs comes drifting down from her hideout and scares the living daylights out of new and old boarders. If the girl she selects puts up a fight the ghost will drag her up and down the stairs till her hair falls out- but wait, there's more.

We have three student ghosts as well. One is a girl who died of scarlet fever and another is Miss Downs' first victim. She wanders up and down the stairs trying to warn us. I was told Miss Downs was a nice ghost who goes around at night checking that we are looking after her school, tucks us in and gives us a kiss on the cheek. I think she is far too nice to hurt anyone."



## RGGS Speech Night 2017 - Guest Speaker

Sarah Guilfoyle boarded at Girls' Grammar from grade nine to 12, graduating in 1993. She was a prefect, Weaver House Captain, a rower and as one of the tallest in her class – quite often Pollywonga.

After school, Sarah continued with the rowing she fell in love with at Girls' Grammar, winning an Australian Title, making the Australian Junior Team and training at the Queensland Academy of Sport, before accepting a full athletic scholarship to attend Jacksonville University in Florida in the United States.

Captain of the Women's Varsity Crew Team for 3 years, Sarah received Most Valuable Player twice and in her Sophomore year, was awarded the Douglas B. Milne Award for excellence in Athletics, Academics, Leadership and Sportsmanship.

Sarah completed a double communications major in Public Relations and Journalism and a minor in Psychology, while also fulfilling a number of leadership, committee and



representative positions such as news editor of the college paper, President of the International Student Association and President of the Student Athletic Advisory Council.

While at college, Sarah also founded a not for profit assuming the role of Director, Media Relations. This included managing relationships, information and media for high profile personnel, athletes and celebrities including Grammy Award winner Alicia Keys and New England Patriots Cornerback, Ty Law.

Upon returning to Australia, Sarah established SG Promotions in 2005, a communications consultancy serving a client base from London to Jakarta, from Tasmania to the Gulf and across the Bowen Basin.

Her client portfolio included small to medium business, agriculture and not for profits and primarily serviced mining and resources including BHP Billiton, BMA and Peabody Energy.

In 2017, after working for herself for her entire working career, Sarah accepted a full-time role with an existing client and one of the largest family-run beef enterprises in Australia, Hewitt Cattle Australia, as Manager - Communications, Projects, Health and Safety.

Sarah is also a director on the board of Basketball Queensland.

**Editor's Note:** What an amazingly talented young woman. A wonderful role model for our current RGGS students. You have done us proud, Sarah.

## Our student leaders for 2018



Congratulations to our Head Girls for 2018, Sherri Green and Tanya Kulu.

Tanya Kulu is the daughter of Nuni Kulu (nee Titus) who was our Prue McKeague Prefect in 1991. The girls will be presented with their leadership badges on Investiture Day which is to be held on Thursday 8 February 2018.

Pictured L-R: Sherri Green, Principal Christine Hills, Tanya Kulu.

**Editor's Note:** Leadership runs in many of our RGGS families with a previous mother/daughter head girl combination (Ngaira Kane nee Amos 1960 and Naomi Kane 1992) and with sisters e.g. the Clay sisters (Jan 1963, Christine 1965 and Caroline 1972), the Donovan sisters (Eleanor 2001 and Jocelyn 2003) and the Godwin-Smith sisters (Kelsey 2013 and Abbey 2015).

## Old Girl nominated for prestigious award

**Editor's Note:** *The following article was drawn from the Rockhampton "Morning Bulletin" dated 28 September 2017. Whilst Jade was not the final winner of this prestigious award, just to be nominated was a magnificent achievement. Jade Collins (Bastin-Byrne) was a student at the school 1988-1994 and is the daughter of Vicki Bastin-Byrne (Dew) 1972-1976.*

As Jade Collins' ground-breaking business turned one, the former Rocky woman was still pinching herself after receiving a fitting birthday gift to honour her success.

The co-owner of global website Femeconomy has been nominated in the 2017 Telstra Queensland Business Women Awards celebrating her empowering and female-orientated business.

Jade was overwhelmed with the nomination in the For Purpose and Social Enterprise category saying when she was informed she couldn't stop her excited screams from running down the phone line.

With her sister-in-law, Alanna Bastin-Byrne by her side the powerhouses created their business from the ground up in a hope to diversify the concept of online shopping.

Femeconomy boasts exclusive female driven brands from businesses run by at least 30% of women on the board of directors or 50% female owned.

The former CQ University graduate said this tribute was a reflection of the growth of the business in the last 12 months.

"Being able to communicate this entirely new concept



we launched into a new brand onto the internet is so humbling, especially in such a competitive online environment," she said.

"People are really engaging with the content we are sharing and we are so proud of what we've created."

Since its 2016 launch, Femeconomy recorded a huge spike in overall online engagement jumping from a mere 2,000 people to 350,000 a month.

The company was also recently nominated for the 2017 Cosmopolitan Women of the Year Awards in the Entrepreneur category which is still open for public voting.

Jade said she couldn't have made this businesses a success without the support from Alanna.

She said the duo were a perfect collaboration and had ticked off some major goals with each other's support.

## Old Girls celebrate their 60th birthday



On 12 August 2017, 20+ Old Girls from the 1974 graduating year gathered together at Mooloolaba Beach to celebrate their combined 60th birthday.

A great time was had by all.

**Di Gartry**

**Editor's Note:** A previous get-together by this group was held in 2014 for their 40 Years On Reunion. It's great to see these girls keep in touch.

## Mackay Lunch - October 2017

On 28 October, 27 "Old Girls" gathered at the Shamrock Hotel, Mackay for their annual get together. Veronica and Margaret travelled from Rockhampton to be with us – thank you to you both. Plenty of chatter and laughter made an enjoyable afternoon.

As Janette had other commitments, Colleen managed to keep us all under control – not an easy job!!

Pauline Creber won the raffle donated by Kathy Terrance. \$150 was raised - \$100 was sent to the school towards the Museum Cabinet/Memorial Display cabinet in memory of Helen Bredhauer and \$50 was for the Award Prize to be given on Speech Night to one of the students.

Colleen provided Lucky Door prizes and she also had a Trivia Quiz with prizes for the winning team. Thank you also to the Rockhampton ladies for the glasses and also for bringing a range of 125 year Reunion items which were for sale.

Next year's luncheon is again at the Shamrock Hotel on Saturday, 27 October 2018 (last Saturday in October). We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and look forward to seeing you next year.

**Kathy Terrance (McCowan)**

**Pictured top right L-R:** Daphne McNichol (Kinnear), Jeanette Neil (Kinnear), Di Innes (Gauld)

**Pictured bottom right L-R:** Kristine Plath (Rees), Pauline Creber (Crichton), Lorraine Lambertson



## Brisbane and Gold Coast Groups Get-together



Four members of the Brisbane OGA Group recently joined the Gold Coast OGA Group for their annual get-together over a very pleasant lunch which, this year, was held at the Southport Golf Club.

Pictured in the left photo are Jean Bulley, De-Anne Kelly and Glenis Smith. Picture in the right photo are Dot Skewes, Shirley Wagner and Maree Bassett.



## Branch Contacts

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Ph: 07 4992 1170

## From the Editor

**Chit Chat** is the official newsletter of the RGGGS OGA. This newsletter has a distribution of over 1000 - to all financial members and associates of the RGGGS OGA. It is published thrice yearly - February, May and October.

Contributions are always welcome. Copy can be in any format accompanied by the writer's name and contact details and forwarded to the Editor:

### Post to:

Mrs Marilyn Watts  
2/37 Margate Parade, Margate 4019  
**or Email to:**  
marilyn\_m\_watts@yahoo.com.au

Articles received for publication will be included in the next edition depending on space available and timing of receipt of the article.

The purpose of *Chit Chat* is to provide general information on Old Girls of the School and to give an update on the School's current activities.

**Marilyn Watts (Elgar)**  
Editor

## Some memories to share

**Andree Day (Axelsen) 1939-1950:** Great fun at "the little school" time for drawing, sewing, music, art, not so much for maths or spelling! Fun creating program for the regular concerts held by each class during the war years to raise money to support Australian prisoners-of-war parcels. A very democratic school. We all learnt to take part in school activities – ink monitor, class office bearers etc.

Great respect for all teachers. Enjoyed the ballroom dancing lessons on Friday evenings with 'the grubs'. Day girls envied the stories of boarders midnight feasts and the train trips "home" with the 'grubs'. Long life friendships formed.

**Jill Liddell 1953-1956:** Apart from recalling my RGGGS school days as sublimely happy ones, I do clearly recall the afternoon Mrs Hartland gave us time out to "*do our own thing*". Boring me got on with my homework so that I could have the evening off – but Janice Moule impressed me the most – and Mrs. Hartland! Janice

climbed the flag pole to fly a pair of knickers and a bra from on high. The afternoon "experiment" was hastily called off when this innovative deed was discovered by Mrs. H.

Also – the day Mr. Pilbeam was shot; ducking Miss Dally's blackboard duster directed at me; **not** enjoying the class room at the back of Paterson Hall; lunch times down in the garden; fond memories of Mrs. Byres; special friends.

My mother worked two jobs to have me attend RGGGS. She thought that I was a bit of a 'wild child' and wanted the "rough edges rubbed off". It was an inspired decision on her part and one for which I was - and am - forever grateful.

**Margaret Pengelly [Kasem] 1963-1965:** In 1964, some girls took a June Dally-Watkins course and staff thought it a good idea to encourage deportment for all – so we had to walk around Paterson House with a book on our head.

**Editor**

Mrs Marilyn Watts  
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*"Not only for school but for life we are learning".*

## Committee Information

**Executive Committee:**

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| President                | Veronica Goddard (Bertram) |
| Vice President           | Kathy King (Elliot)        |
| Immediate Past President | Kim Dixon (Bredhauer)      |
| Secretary                | Kim Dixon (Bredhauer)      |
| Treasurer                | Robyn Meredith (Buchanan)  |
| School Liaison Officer   | Kim Dixon (Bredhauer)      |
| Membership Secretary     | Marilyn Watts (Elgar)      |
| Chit Chat Editor         | Marilyn Watts (Elgar)      |

**Rockhampton Committee Members:**

|                    |              |                   |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Margaret Black     | Betty Spence | Ngaire Kane       |
| Margaret Littleton | Val Phillips | Felicity Truelson |
| Erin Goddard       | Ann Creed    |                   |

**Email Address—Rockhampton Committee**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Veronica Goddard | <a href="mailto:v.goddard@bloomhearing.com.au">v.goddard@bloomhearing.com.au</a> |
| Kathy King       | <a href="mailto:adamking.builder@bigpond.com">adamking.builder@bigpond.com</a>   |
| Kim Dixon        | <a href="mailto:OldGirls@rggs.qld.edu.au">OldGirls@rggs.qld.edu.au</a>           |
| Robyn Meredith   | <a href="mailto:robyn.meredith@gmail.com">robyn.meredith@gmail.com</a>           |
| Marilyn Watts    | <a href="mailto:marilyn_m_watts@yahoo.com.au">marilyn_m_watts@yahoo.com.au</a>   |

**2018 Rockhampton Committee Meeting Dates:**

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Tuesday 6 March  | Tuesday 1 May       |
| Tuesday 7 August | Tuesday 27 November |

**2018 Brisbane Group Meeting Dates:**

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Tuesday 20 March    | Tuesday 15 May       |
| Tuesday 17 July     | Tuesday 18 September |
| Tuesday 20 November |                      |

## Dates to Remember

**RGGS OGA Function Dates 2018:**

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| AGM/Dinner on the Deck | Tuesday 6 March     |
| Yeppoon Lunch          | Sunday 20 May       |
| Queensland Day Lunch   | Wednesday 6 June    |
| Gladstone Lunch        | Saturday 21 July    |
| Townsville Lunch       | Sunday 5 August     |
| Biloela Lunch          | Saturday 25 August  |
| Mackay Lunch           | Saturday 27 October |
| Christmas Dinner       | Friday 2 November   |

**RGGS Brisbane Events 2018**

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Morning Tea     | Tuesday 20 March    |
| Christmas Lunch | Saturday 1 December |

**Membership fees for 2018 (Due January 2018):**

|                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Annual Fee             | \$15.00                        |
| Senior Annual Fee      | \$10.00 (Seniors 60 and over)  |
| Life Membership        | \$125.00 (Once only Fee)       |
| Senior Life Membership | \$100.00 (Seniors 60 and over) |

In accordance with our Constitution, all Old Girls wishing to become members of the Association are required to complete and sign the official RGGS OGA Membership Application Form accompanied by the relevant fee. Forms are available from the Membership Secretary: Mrs Marilyn Watts

Address: Unit 2, 37 Margate Pde, MARGATE Q 4019  
Phone: 07 3283 7265  
Email: [marilyn\\_m\\_watts@yahoo.com.au](mailto:marilyn_m_watts@yahoo.com.au)