creating the ultimate learning environment

bring out her best.

strathcourier
winter edition 2012
**From the Principal – Creating the Ultimate Learning Environment**

Are young people today different from their parents? Compared with previous generations, do today's students bring different capabilities and approaches to learning to school? Have new technologies altered the way classrooms function? The answer to these questions is a resounding “yes.”

In the 21st century, young people are bombarded with a huge amount of information. The world of learning in this context emphasizes the acquisition of skills and knowledge to negotiate this information in a discerning way. Interpersonal, self-directional, and communication skills as well as problem solving, technological abilities, and creativity are vital tools.

If the differences between the previous and the current generation of young people are real and, if there is validity in the needs for 21st century learning, then schools are enabled to gradually move away from teacher-directed whole group instruction to create more learner-centred situations for a collaborative culture of students at work (Pearlman, 2010, p.102).

Changes in pedagogy need to be supported by the physical environment in schools. In reviewing research and literature on school facilities design, Elliot Washor (2003) indicates that facilities designs have been shown to have an impact on learning and on both students and others who work in schools (p.10).

At Strathcona, the design of new facilities has taken changing pedagogies into account. Our architects, PMDL, Architecture and Design, have undertaken a detailed briefing process for the new Learning Centre. Many staff have contributed by clarifying their approaches to teaching to suggest ways the physical learning environment can support these styles. At the heart of this new environment is technology which will enable students to research and learn in the broader School community. In Term 3, you will discover the ways we are ensuring learning and teaching come together. You will also see examples of how learning takes students beyond the school grounds into the local and global communities. We are providing strong foundations in knowledge and skills, supporting our students as they strive to understand their world and progress to the tertiary level and career.

Helen Hughes

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**References**


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*Proposed new Learning Centre.*
Helen Hughes, students, Amy (2002), Jo (2004) and Clare (2006), she is steeped in the work of School community groups, the Old Strathconians Association and the wide range of staff and student activities, seeking to support all programs with the resourcing and facilities required.

I pay tribute to all Board members and express deep gratitude to Dr Timothy Day who retired from the role of Chair in April after six years in this role and nine years on the Board. Dedicated to Strathcona and father of two daughters, Felicity (2004) and Genevieve (2009), Dr Day has guided the Board and overseen key recent developments, namely, the Creative and Performing Arts Centre, the expansion of the Early Learning Centre, new staff facilities, the Aquatic & Fitness Centre and the early development of plans for the new Learning Centre. I personally thank him for his encouragement and support. Dr Day will continue on the Board, and we wish him well with his ongoing professional responsibilities as a practising neurologist and Clinical Associate Professor at Melbourne University.

At the April AGM, the Board unanimously endorsed the appointment of Mrs Laurinda Gardner as Chair. Mother of three past Strathcona students, Amy (2002), Jo (2004) and Clare (2006), she is steeped in the life of the School and its values. A senior executive with the Department of Treasury and Finance, responsible for corporate strategy and service delivery, she brings to the role of Chair her expertise in strategic planning and governance reform. She also serves on the Board of Berry Street, Victoria, the children’s services organisation, and was Chair 2008 – 2010.

Helen Hughes

Mrs Laurinda Gardner, Dr Tim Day with wife Rowena and daughters Felicity and Genevieve.

school board members

Chair
Mrs Laurinda Gardner, B.A., Honi 12

Deputy Chair
Mrs Sonia Rendigs, B.Public Relations and Organisational Communication (Vic. Marketing) 1

Secretary
Mrs Trudy Skillbeck, B.Sc., LLB 2

Treasurer
Mr Peter McGreggor, B.Com., FFin, ASA 13

Property Chair
Mr Ivan Andolfatto, B.A., LLB, M.U. ASBL 11

Marketing Chair

Mr Robert McFea, B.Arch, Cert.Tech., Member ARB (Associate)

Mr Steve McKenna, AFMA Diploma Financial Services 10

Mr John McKinnon, B.Sc., Grad. Dip.Comp. (absent)

Mrs Judy McMaster, B.Theol., TPPC 4

Mr Edward Cohen, B.A., MCM, Cert. Credit Management 6

Mrs Libbie Smith, Dip.Arts (Fashion Design) 8

Ex Officio

Mr Richard Saltown, B.Bus. (Actcj), CPA, 14

Baptist Union
Community Groups rep.
Old Strathconians Association rep.
Ex Officio

tribute

Anne Warren
1956 – 2012

Anne was a dedicated supporter of Strathcona from the time her daughter, Clare, commenced in Year 1 in 1993. Always generous with her time, creative skills and organisational ability, she served on the Mothers’ Club in her early years, and then on the Family Association, for part of the time as President. She was also a keen supporter of the Friends of Kayaking. In 1998 she joined the School Board and served as a Director until 2009.

Anne was held in the highest regard and affection. She was a woman of integrity, appreciated for her warmth and care. She will be remembered always and greatly missed. Our love and sympathy go to Anne’s husband, Keith, and children, Clare, Jonathan and Richard.

Dr Keith Thomas Henry Farrer OBE

The Principal, School Board and community of Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School mourn the passing of Dr Keith Farrer whose long association with the School as parent, supporter and friend has been deeply valued. Sincere sympathy goes to members of the family.

The extensive Owen Farrer Collection in the Strathcona Information Resource Centre is a generous bequest of the Farrer family in memory of Dr Farrer’s wife who passed away in 1968. This will be an ongoing tribute to the Farrer family.

welcome to our new staff members

Kimberley Bate
Head of Physical Education

Kim Bate comes to Strathcona from Camberwell High School, where she was Director of Sport and House Coordinator and Leading Teacher for Health, Physical Education and Sport. Kim has a Bachelor of Exercise Science from the Australian Catholic University and a Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) from the University of Melbourne.

Cathy Brotherton
Advanced Learning Teacher

Cathy Brotherton has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia (Anthropology major), a Diploma of Education from Randen and a Master of Special Education from Monash University. Prior to coming to Strathcona, Cathy was a Special Education teacher at Caulfield Grammar.

Karla Ellard
Mellar House Class Teacher

Karla Ellard has been teaching in both government and independent schools for the past eight years, most recently as Prep teacher at Carey. Prior to this, Karla was the Physical Education teacher and then Prep teacher at Greythorn Primary School. She has a Bachelor of Education (Primary) and a Bachelor of Applied Sports Science (Human Movement) from Deakin University.

Nicole Kapiniaris
Mellar House Classroom Teacher

Nicole Kapiniaris commenced at Strathcona in mid-2011 on a contract to cover a staff member’s long service leave. She has since been appointed as an ongoing Mellar House classroom teacher. Nicole is a graduate teacher, with professional practice undertaken at Strathcona, Carey and Camberwell Grammar. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Music/Performance from RMIT and a Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary).

Staff news

Christy Kertes
Maths/Science Teacher

Christy Kertes has a Bachelor of Forensic Science (majoring in Chemistry and Biology) from Deakin University, Geelong and a Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) from the University of Melbourne. Prior to coming to Strathcona, Christy was a General Science and Mathematics teacher at Melbourne Grammar, teaching Year 9 and Further Mathematics to Years 11 and 12. Prior to this, she worked at MacKillop Catholic Regional College, Werribee, for five years.

Samantha Lake
Early Learning Centre Teacher

Samantha Lake has a Bachelor of Education from the University of Melbourne and a Diploma of Teaching with Distinction (Early Childhood major) from the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education, Queensland. After a variety of pre-school teaching positions in Queensland and six years working at Fordham Avenue Kindergarten, Camberwell, Samantha lived in Switzerland from 1997 to 2003. On her return she was employed as Kindergarten teacher (3 year old) at Malvern Memorial Kindergarten, Armadale.

Erin Frawley
Psychology/Science Teacher

Erin Frawley joins Strathcona from Yarram Secondary College where she held the position of Science/Biology/Psychology teacher for three years. She graduated in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) from Monash University.

Geoff Little
Mellar House Classroom Teacher and Deputy Head

Geoff Little joins Strathcona from Carey Baptist Grammar School, where he most recently held the position of Middle Primary Coordinator. Prior to this, he worked at Camberwell Grammar School and Overseaswin Anglican Community College. Geoff has a Bachelor of Education and a Master of Education from the University of Melbourne. His Masters comprised Assessment and Reporting for Student Learning, Computers and Curriculum, Teaching with Information Technology and Software Environments for Learning.
The contribution of Strathcona staff and an environment that aims to foster the best teaching and learning practice meant that the class of 2011 had the people and the place essential to support a successful VCE. I am sure that the girls would endorse this assessment of the ways in which the School fosters achievement in the senior years.

On one level this achievement is measured by academic performance and ‘statistics’ that illustrate our students’ performance in VCE – the median study score was 35, the median ATAR was 87.4, 23.3% of students achieved a Study Score of 40+ and an ATAR of 99 and above was gained by 5.5%.

However, Strathcona is part of a broader educational environment and our students extend their learning into this bigger pond. Three students undertook Enhancement Studies, two at the University of Melbourne and one at Monash University. All completed their studies with distinction and Gemma Hallett was awarded as the highest achiever in Media Studies Enhancement at Monash. She was also one of four students who achieved a perfect score of 50 for English. Georgia Pandel, whose talents in the performing arts are well known to many members of the Strathcona community, achieved a score of 50 for Theatre Studies and was selected to perform in the VCE Season of Excellence in Top Acts. We congratulate Georgia also in receiving a prestigious Premiers’ Award.

Undertaking a Vocational Education and Training (VET) course also allowed students to pursue their dreams and interests and the Applied Fashion and Hospitality courses remained two of the most popular.

We extend special congratulations to Claire Smith who was Dux of the School, receiving her award from Trudy Skilbeck, Secretary of the School Board. Claire was also the recipient of an Australian Student Prize. All of the girls are commended on the way they contributed to a successful 2011 and we wish them every success in their chosen future paths.

Vicki Treidel, VCE Coordinator

The Barbara Green Memorial Award, a bequest of the Green family, is presented annually to a Year 11 student of the preceding year in recognition of her achievement, dedication and enthusiasm for the Visual Arts. The Award recipient receives a cheque to assist in the purchasing of art supplies and materials during the final year of schooling.

Named in honour of the late Barbara Green, the Award was generously established in 2004 by the Green family in conjunction with the School. Barbara Green was a devoted teacher of the Visual Arts at Strathcona for almost 20 years and this award continues her legacy of inspiring students in the pursuit of achieving their best. This year’s Award recipient was Monique St. Clair.

Brit Biviano, Head of Visual Arts

Each year the Monash Prize is awarded to the highest achiever in Year 11 in the preceding year and is presented at the commencement of Year 12. Rebecca Schwarz was awarded this prize at the Dux and Awards Assembly in February by Dr Chris Ryan, Associate Dean (Education).

Monique St. Clair with her parents.

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Vicki Treidel, VCE Coordinator

Lots of rides, activities, food and produce stalls and the launch of Best Recipes, Strathcona’s special cookbook, encouraged a big crowd to “roll up, roll up” for the Strathcona Fair on Saturday 24 March 2012.

Monash Prize

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Rebecca with her parents and Dr Ryan and Mrs Hughes.

Strathcourier Winter Edition 2012
co-production "The Witches of Eastwick" by the Performing Arts Festival for 2012.

The cast of Strathcona students from Years 8 to 12, led by the director and co-choreographer together with Georgie Emma Watkinson as Stage Manager and Kristen Waters as Assistant Director, worked under the tutelage of past students, beyond their years. The hardworking cast managed to perform with poise and aplomb. The Witches of Eastwick required flying witches and large moving set pieces that added to the difficulty. Yet, it was a rewarding experience. Unlike a standard musical, "The Witches of Eastwick" is a magical experience. The production of "The Witches of Eastwick" was a significant achievement, and the cast and crew should be proud of their hard work and dedication.

The Performing Arts Festival for 2012 was another shining jewel in the crown of Strathcona. The festival was a masterclass in organization, planning, and execution. The festival provided a dynamic setting for students to showcase their talents of Years 10 to 12. After three weeks of rehearsals, the final hours were spent perfecting items, and costumes were paraded around, with House spirit soaring high!

Each House had the chance to sneak a peak at each other's performances, promoting a bit of healthy competition, but also allowing everyone to realize just how much talent the girls possess. The standard and thorough organisation of each House was a real credit to their creative leaders. The evening performances were a joy for all senior students to be involved in and the feedback was very positive from audience members and teachers. Big congratulations go to Findlay who deservedly won the Performing Arts Festival for 2012 with their outstanding performance. The results were extremely close and every girl involved is to be commended on a superb evening. The Performing Arts Festival 2012 was a masterpiece.

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Courtney Stephens and Monique Warren – 2012 Dance and Drama Captains

A new shining jewel in the crown of Strathcona is the unique Year 9 campus "Tay Creggan". Rich in history, hailing from 19th century Melbourne, and sensitively updated with advanced facilities, the campus provides a dynamic setting for girls confronting the challenges of adolescence in today's diverse world.

Following extensive review, the new I-Learning program (introduced in 2012) offers interactive, inquiry-based and interdisciplinary experience for our students. The theme continues across the Tay Creggan year.

I-Learning comprises four distinct channels, running for approximately 8 weeks each term:

- 1st term: History
- 2nd term: Science
- 3rd term: The Arts
- 4th term: Sustainability

Tay Creggan's unique location allows us to embrace the CBD as part of our learning 'playground'. Students regularly venture to the city, exploiting the rich texture of cultural and community resources on offer: museums, galleries, theatres, multi-cultural precincts and more. Flexible application of the weekly timetable allows for whole or part days off-campus for expeditions by student teams.

I-Learning does not replace core subjects. It complements them, thereby encouraging learning beyond the curriculum of each discipline, to understanding its intrinsic application in our world.

In the History channel, the students investigate Melbourne's history, focusing particularly on the period 1850 – 1900 and exploring how events and attitudes of the period shaped the city and people of today. In small groups, students conduct a walking tour through modern Melbourne, incorporating five key sites of significance in the late 19th century. They document their tour using multimedia elements (video and stills) presented via iMovie on their iPads. An added benefit of the History channel, is the development of navigation and compassing skills, and increased understanding of the identity of this wondrous city.

The Science channel allows students to directly interact with real scientists and other professionals. We have been privileged to have many Strathcona parents offering their services to this aspect of the I-Learning program. Students then undertake extensive research into a commercial product such as a cosmetic, with particular reference to investigating chemical additives that are deemed 'healthy', 'natural' or 'synthetic'. The students ultimately present to a panel of teachers to 'sell' their product using a science pitch.

The Arts channel will see the students experience many forms of art expression, and there may be times when school starts at 4pm in the theatre, and finishes at 10pm! (No homework set for that night!)

Students will also enjoy the Sustainability channel, whilst benefiting from advanced exploration of this important and relevant topic.

An integral part of I-Learning is its use of the physical space in which learning takes place. The redesigning of learning spaces at Tay Creggan has incorporated a Learning Lounge with a desire for a multi-purpose space that promotes effective learning and innovative teaching practice. Two separate spaces were transformed into one bright, open space that facilitates dynamic variety in learning, with easy access to resources.

The Learning Lounge is furnished with large and small round tables, occasional chairs, sofas, fabric stools and fun beanbags for relaxed yet guided tuition. The space allows for creative reorganisation to accommodate large groups for presentations and performances, more intimate settings for collaborative/creative work in smaller groups and individual zones for independent work and reflection. Traditional reference sources like books, newspapers, posters and journals are readily at hand, while laptops and iPads provide wireless internet access.

A 21st century place for learning is so much more than a structure to house learning and teaching. It calls for more than an ‘address’, but an environment that promotes creative interaction, provides meaningful, relevant knowledge of the world, facilitates inquisitive exploration, and reaches beyond curricular constraints. Strathcona's Tay Creggan, through its refurbishment of thinking, presentation, technology and curriculum, epitomises these ideals. As such, I-Learning excels by providing students a holistic learning environment – a springboard to wider possibilities and a strong sense of self.

Margaret Bowden and Geoff Wreath
created to learn in mellor house

Our teachers work with the children to decorate the learning spaces. Children feel a sense of belonging when they are surrounded by their own items. Work is proudly displayed around the room as well as in corridors. Our girls learn from the work of others, being inspired and stimulated by it.

Two new outdoor displays, created by Years 3 and 4, not only beautifully our playground but also represent their research and learning about endangered animals. The ceramic fish (Year 3) and birds (Year 4) are the visible end products of a unit of work that taught the girls about a range of environmental complexities and concerns. In many ways, the environment of Mellor House is created for and by the girls to provide the ultimate space for creative learning. Christopher Painland – Head of Mellor House

Mellor House is created for and by the girls to learn and socialise. Children can easily move between rooms to create larger learning spaces when required. Preps. Other classrooms are flexible spaces that respond to the original use of the room – perfect for our Prep classroom of the year. In the Primary School, our Prep classroom was previously a family lounge room. The atmosphere is warm and inviting, reflecting the original use of the room – perfect for our Preps. Other classrooms are flexible spaces with large windows and sliding doors that create larger learning spaces when required. Children can easily move between rooms to learn and socialise.

friends of rowing – 2012

The sixth season of rowing at Strathcona was full of highlights! For the third season in a row there were more than 70 girls from Years 9 to 12 competing at the Head of School Girls Regatta (HOSG) on 17 and 18 March, which is a fantastic achievement for a school so new to rowing. The regatta itself was our most successful yet, with nine crews making the semi-finals and three crews achieving A finals.

The weekend was very well supported, with the Strathcona tent overflowing with family and school supporters, and 180 attending the annual HOSG Dinner in Torquay on the Saturday night.

The Rowing Presentation Night is always a great event and this year was no exception with over 200 attending the evening at the Creative and Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) at the end of March. On the night, we acknowledged and celebrated the great achievements of the season. There was a host of awards presented, as well as a fantastic DVD of the rowing season.

The Strathy Regatta was held on a cold Sunday morning in early September. There were 100 girls and their parents competing in the regatta on the Maribyrnong River in Footscray. Gilbert won the House Cup for the first time. In-sink took out the men’s event and The Fab Four won the ladies’ race. The Strathy Regatta is always a feature of the rowing season, providing a unique opportunity for parents and girls to compete at the same regatta.

The development of our senior rowers and the leadership of the Year 12 girls was another highlight this season, in particular our Captains, Anna Cornwell and Tahlia Milhau, whose commitment and work ethic were an inspiration to all of the girls. Through their leadership and support of the squad over the season, they were able to bring all of the girls from Years 9 to 12 together and make rowing a great experience for all.

One of the features of Strathcona Rowing is the team spirit that has been created across all levels and the high standards of sportmanship and dedication displayed by all of our rowers. All girls are to be congratulated on how they conducted themselves, supported one another and represented their school with such pride.

Thanks to the parent group who volunteered for tasks and, most importantly, provided wonderful support at regattas; to Mr Battey for all of his work at Tay Creggan during the season and at the HOSG Regatta; to Rick Stephens for transporting boats to and from regattas; to Mr Sallows for his continued assistance and support during the season and to Mrs Hughes for her commitment to Rowing at Strathcona. Finally, I must acknowledge the Friends of Rowing Group for their ongoing guidance and, in particular, for their organisation and hard work to make the HOSG weekend the great success that it was.

These highlights demonstrate what is good about rowing and what was great about the 2011/2012 season. Reflecting on the season, girls described rowing at Strathcona as a fulfilling experience and a fantastic sport. All agreed that they have learnt to push themselves beyond what they ever thought possible and achieve things they didn’t think they could. During the season, they learnt about discipline, commitment, self-belief and teamwork. They have improved their fitness and determination, made new friends and, most importantly, had a great time – creating the ultimate learning environment for girls at Strathcona.

Michael Cornwell – President, Friends of Rowing

year 8 camp
canoing the goulburn river

On 12th March, 95 eager Year 8 Strathcona students set off to Crystal Creek Christian Camp. Half of the year level were dropped off at the river to start their camping and canoeing adventure, while the remaining half headed off towards base camp for a day of exciting activities that focused on communication and group work. The camping was filled with new and rewarding experiences for most of the girls, such as cooking on the outdoor cooking equipment, pitching tents and canoeing down the Goulburn River, all while coping with the challenging elements and going two days without a shower! All of this helped us realise the value in appreciating the luxuries of home that we sometimes take for granted. We had a great time and now work even better as a year level.

Bronnie Hough, 8D

Canoeing on Year 8 camp was a great experience! Through canoeing with a partner, we learnt team and communication skills. We learnt the importance of patience, teamwork and encouraging others. The canoeing skills we learnt included the forward paddle, the sweep, the rudder and the most important skill, the back sweep to help us navigate away from the trees along the banks of the river. Persistence and a positive attitude were needed to canoe the distance of 9km over the two days, putting into practice our new skills. Our favourite part was canoeing along the straight, peaceful water of the Goulburn River where there was no current, this is where everyone had time to take in the beautiful surroundings and the fresh air. These are moments we really value and will remember forever.

Nina Odgers and Danielle Killick, 8B

sport report

Years 9 to 12 together and make rowing a great experience for all.

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Michael Cornwell – President, Friends of Rowing
Henry David Thoreau pondered an objective
Through experiencing a “Life in the Woods”,
not necessarily conclude.
happiness of play, and time to wonder, yet not
time to appreciate
your body clock recalibrate; time to appreciate
the little things, time to revel in the natural
interuption, time to learn from mistakes and
not talking about a style of Bunnings furniture
could cover by foot.
hand and we take vehicles to cover distances we
make 100 of something we could have made by
when energy-saver lights take more than a
messages and drink instant coffee. We struggle
today. We are caught up with the rapid pace of
slow
existence. This place is about

Many greats of human history have been
inspired and educated by nature – astologists,
physicists, chemists, philosophers and emperors.
We have learnt much from nature, and will
continue to do so both individually, and as a
society, if we allow ourselves the opportunity.
At Strathcona, there are many opportunities
to experience outdoor living. Hikes, ski trips,
river journeys, and overseas travel are but some
of the many options for our students.
Dare to pursue this scene within which you
can explore your life and its true bounds —
the journey, the stimulus for finding your
questions; the catalyst for finding your answers.
This is the ultimate learning environment.
Liesel Woods, Outdoor Education Coordinator

P
cipal activity –
providing many types of learning

Physical education has much to offer young people in our community.
Engaging in a variety of physical
disciplines encourages young women’s physical,
social, emotional and intellectual health
and development.

Girls who are involved in physical activity
and sport experience higher levels of self-esteem
and confidence; they are better able to manage
stress and the demands of school and to
maintain a healthy school-life balance. Girls
who are regularly engaged in physical activity
experience valuable opportunities for social
interactions with their peers and, of course,
... have a lot of fun!

Physical Education classes provide a setting for
positive, practical learning experiences. The
focus goes beyond the development of skills as
the girls experience the joy, anticipation and
excitement that physical movement can bring.

Sport provides many different opportunities to
be physically active and is also a great way to be
a member of a team, to develop friendships and
build self-esteem. Sport can specifically develop
and enhance skills in leadership, communication
and organisation. Sport challenges girls to work
outside their comfort zone and discover new
areas of interest and talent.

Students are encouraged to experience physical
activity in a variety of ways and understand the
benefits associated with regular physical activity
to maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Megan Barber, Head of Sport and Kim Bate,
Head of Physical Education

Durham Exchange
In December of last year, I headed off to North
Carolina with two boys from Trinity Grammar
School for what became the trip of a lifetime.
We had already got to know each other earlier
in the year when our exchange partners came
cross from Durham Academy, and now it was
our turn to visit them. We had many wonderful
opportunities while we were there, including
a fantastic weekend in New York, a beautiful
houseboat trip along the waterways of Florida
and an amazing three weeks spent at Durham
Academy. The boys and I enthusiastically helped
to build the set for Durham’s school musical
West Side Story, taught the junior students
AFL and netball and took much delight in
introducing the locals to the delicacy that is
Vegemite. Our host families and the friends we
made were so warm, generous and welcoming
that we can’t wait to be reunited!

Laura Collins, Year 11

Somerset College Exchange
Each year Strathcona girls take part in a
reciprocal exchange with Somerset College,
South Africa.

Monique Fernandez, 1IC and Georgie Tobias,
1ID, are in this group photo in South Africa
with students from around the world.
During July of this year, Strathcona will
welcome four students from Somerset College
and in August, Tara Gablot, 1BC, Charlotte
Martin, 10A, Chelsea Newton, 10C and Jessica
Stewart, 10D will represent Strathcona in
South Africa.

Ciao from Italy!

Chihari Iida and Atsuko Aoi from Strathcona’s sister
school, Ewha, Yokohama, Japan enjoy an
outing at Lake Etna during their visit. Next stop
at Strathcona in 2012! They were hosted by the
Shinkle and Downie families.

Gluten free in February for exchange students and
host families. Chiyan and Atsuko are in this group with
Ji hyun Jang and So yeon An
from Strathcona’s sister school
Ewha Girls High School in Seoul.
Korea. A holy and Si year girl
studying this year in Year 10
headed for the first semester by
the Gelme and Szemeti families.

Year 7 Camp for 2012 was awesome! It was
an experience in which many new friendships
were formed and old friendships grew stronger.
Spending a week in Baccus Marsh with the
Strathcona Year 7s made me discover things
about the girls which I did not know before. Not
only did we all grow closer because we were
eating every meal together, but because we all
had the chance to support each other when it
came to facing our fears. Year 7 Camp 2012 was
an experience like no other!
Millie Cincotta, 7B

Physical activity

learning internationally

The girls were absolutely wonderful, made great
traveling companions and all worked to get the
most out of the experience. Joining the Italian
class in Mondovì as novices, Kit Moore and
I found the girls to be very supportive and
encouraging.

Roy Phillips, Dean of Studies

Sport provides many different opportunities to
be physically active and is also a great way to be
a member of a team, to develop friendships and
build self-esteem. Sport can specifically develop
and enhance skills in leadership, communication
and organisation. Sport challenges girls to work
outside their comfort zone and discover new
areas of interest and talent.

Students are encouraged to experience physical
activity in a variety of ways and understand the
benefits associated with regular physical activity
to maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Megan Barber, Head of Sport and Kim Bate,
Head of Physical Education

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Dr Barbara Martin, winner of the 2011 Strathcona Medal, was guest of honour at the Foundation Day service held at St Dominics’ Church on 16th February.

In her address, she talked about her path towards her medical work in South Korea, resulting from a desire to work on the mission field. A period of service at the E Sin (“Daily New”) Christian Hospital in Pusan ensued from 1964 until 1995, during which time she trained doctors in obstetrics and gynaecology and nurses in midwifery. Her particular interest in Rhodophial Disease, a complication of pregnancy, led to the establishment of a special clinic which became the leading centre for treatment of this disease in Pusan andKyong Nam province.

The interweaving in her talk of quotations from Dr Seuss’ Oh, the Places You’ll Go! highlighted her theme of being open to possibilities in our lives and able to deal with changes and challenges. She touched each age group from the Preps to the staff and parents present with her encouraging address.

Following the service, Dr Martin enjoyed a morning tea with past students from her time at Strathcona and friends of the School.

Helen Hughes

strathcona connection spans four generations

From 1926 – 1928 Boyd Tyson attended Strathcona with his elder brother Bruce. When Strathcona became a girls only school, both Boyd and Bruce transferred to Scotch College. Boyd took his two great braeins for many years, only retiring when he was well into his 80s. He is celebrating his 70th wedding anniversary this month with Grace and turned 92 in May. Boyd has two children, Graeme and Ann, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Boyd is pictured here with his great-granddaughter, Tegan Hocking (Year 7) on her first day at Strathcona this year.

Elizabeth Major (’79)

At the age of 50 Elizabeth completed a long standing career ambition. In the last academic year, she has been studying at Oxford University and has successfully gained a post graduate diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. Elizabeth and her classmates celebrated by staying a night in the famous Magdalen College where that will take her.

With her hospitality background, work was easy to find. While in Canada she lived and worked at the Big White Ski Resort in British Columbia where she was the front with detachable skirt. You can imagine the beret and the sports uniform was a flattering yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy beret and the sports uniform was a flattering yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy

Engagements

Sally Bromby (’02) to James McCormack on 24.9.11. Wedding to be held on 17.11.12 at Melbourne Grammar Chapel and afterwards at Abbotsford Convent.

Marriages

Elizabeth Blaze (’04) to Scott McGrath in the Dandenong Ranges on 14.10.11.

Amey Moore-Chantry (’02) to Daniel Higgins on 11.6.11.

Lindy Hay (’95) to Richard Vaser at Lorne on 28.1.12.

Tracy Petersen (’93) to Andrew Low at Highfield Road Uniting Church on 14.1.12.

Elyssa Silvestrini (’91) to Paul Clark at Lorne on 31.3.12.

Lauren Ferne (’07) to David Careagh at St Dominics Church, Camberwell on 3.12.11.

Births

Beth Armstrong (’99) and Andrew Wilson, a son, Fletcher Andrew Wilson on 18.2.11.

Melanie Binnie (Maidonald ’91) and Martin, a daughter, Ella Victoria on 8.2.12. A sister for Jacob, Laura and Jordan and Ethan.

Kristen De La Cruz (’99) and Santos, a son, Jase Maddison on 31.10.11.

Bianca Dingle (Sutherland ’97) and Hayden, a daughter, Milla Charlie on 15.12.11. A sister for Indigo.

Kate Evans (Caitlin Fletcher ’93) and Hamish, a daughter, Harriet Louise on 14.12.11. A sister for Archie.

Claire Kellie (Ellis ’96) and Neil, a daughter, Jasmine on 15.11.11.

Hayley Franklin (Porter ’93) and Anthony, a son, Joshua James on 15.9.11.

Rebecca McMillan (’92) and Andrew, a son, Thomas Andrew on 11.12.11. A brother for Ambre.

Fiona McNeill (Eldridge ’98) and Mark, a son, Jay Levi on 22.9.11. A brother for Lachlan.

Kirsten Miller (Tysen ’02) and Andrew, a son, Spencer Tysen on 20.12.11. A brother for Zara Grace.

Jodi Sharkey (Thompson ’90) and Dean, a son, Tom Charlie on 25.01.12. A brother for Sam.

Catherine Shattock (Brigham ’01) and Andrew, a daughter, Claire Lily on 12.3.12. A sister for Ella Rose.

Vale

Elizabeth Marie Pike

(’87) 2010 – 2011

Elizabeth was born in Caulfield in 1920 and attended Strathcona from the age of five. She was Head Prefect in 1936 – 1937 and Dux in 1937. She studied Education and Arts at the University of Melbourne. In 1947 she joined the Scotch College Junior School where she composed the Junior School Hymn used at morning assemblies and services. In 1954 she became Headmistress of Lowther Hall Church of England Girls’ Grammar School in Essendon. She was Principal of Jeanette Girls’ Grammar School (1963 – 1968) and St Peter’s College School in Adelaide (1969 – 1975). Elizabeth regularly attended the Strathcona – 1924 – 1942 Luncheons at Strathcona, sharing that her life direction was influenced by her students, Henrietta Hughes and Florence Livingstone. Elizabeth died at Ferntree Gully in Cranbourne, in 2011. She was aged 90.

Glen Tatham, Archivist

Margaret Chadwick

(Baillie ’42)

Margaret, who lived in Bayswater opposite our School, started at Strathcona in the Kindergarten when Miss Hughes and Mrs Livingstone were Strathcona Principals. Her younger brother, David, followed in the kindergartens when boys were invited to attend the School.

Margaret attended all the Former Strathconians’ luncheons. She loved Strathcona and all her dear friends.

Margaret was well travelled and met her husband, John Chadwick, when overseas even though they both lived in Canterbury.

For many years, Margaret ran the Charity Card shop at Camberwell until her retirement two years ago. She was involved with her Church, firstly St Paul’s, Canterbury, and after her marriage, St Stephen’s, North Balwyn.

She was a tireless worker for the Brotherhood of St Laurence. After her mother’s death, Margaret ran the family business, Ivo Dickens, in the Melbourne Arcade for many years.

Sadly, the youngest of her two sons, Paul, passed away just two months before Margaret.

In recent years, Margaret lived at Heffy Sutton where she was an active and much loved member of the residents’ group. Strathcona has lost a special Old Strathconian, whose memory will always be with us.

Shelley Lawton (Balle’ 40)

Margaret Spencer

1915 – 2012

Strathcona pays tribute to Mrs Margaret Spencer, BUV representative on the School Board 1951 – 1971.

One of her contributions at Strathcona was on the Uniform Committee. They revolutionised Strathcona’s School Uniform, introducing a lightweight summer uniform.

The old grey tunics and white shirts and blouses were replaced with a Miliken cotton pique with yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy hat and the sports uniform was a flattering yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy hat

Margaret was involved in many Major Events and top hotels as well as the hosting of the Winter Olympics. Tess spent many years there travelling through the town.

With her hospitality background, work was easy to find. While in Canada she lived and worked at the Big White Ski Resort in British Columbia she was the front with detachable skirt. You can imagine the beret and the sports uniform was a flattering yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy beret and the sports uniform was a flattering yellow shirt and no tie. The winter hat was a navy

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osa news

Main Campus: Senior/Middle School & ELC,
34 Scott Street, Canterbury

Year 9 Campus: Tay Creggan,
30 Yarra Street, Hawthorn

Junior Campus: Mellor House – Prep to Yr 6,
173 Prospect Hill Road, Canterbury

Tel: 8779 7500 Fax: 8888 5440
E: registrar@strathcona.vic.edu.au
www.strathcona.vic.edu.au

bring out her best.

reunions

OSA Cabaret
21st Century Musicals: 
Songs from Stage & Screen
Six shows over two weekends!
August 17th, 18th, 23rd, 24th & 25th
Thursdays and Fridays at 8pm
Saturdays at 2pm and 8pm
Strathcona Drama Studio
Canterbury Campus
Please direct enquiries to Strathcona
Community Relations on 8779 7500

Feliciter Connection
Lunch – Past Staff
Saturday, 10th November 2012 at 12.30pm
Canterbury Campus
Register to attend with Diana Little,
Strathcona Community Relations,
on 8779 7517 or dlittle@strathcona.vic.edu.au

2012 OSA Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, 4th September, 7.30 – 8.30pm
Senior Centre Gallery, Canterbury Campus
All Welcome!

OSA General Excellence Scholarship 2013
A half scholarship (40% of tuition fees) will be offered to a daughter, granddaughter or family
member of a past student of Strathcona for tuition in Years 11 and 12. The Scholarship is open
to a current or new student to commence in 2013. The recipient will be chosen on the basis of
academic achievement and wide co-curricular involvement.
Applications close 5pm on Friday 31st August 2012
For further information please contact Elisabeth Chalmers on 8779 7500

Strathcona
Medal
2012

The Strathcona Medal will be awarded
at Presentation Night 2012. It will be
presented to an Old Strathconian in
recognition of exceptional service to the
wider community, either within the state,
nation or internationally.
For further information on the process
of nomination, please write to:
The Chair of the Strathcona Medal Committee
Strathcona BGGS
34 Scott Street, Canterbury, Vic 3126
OR email admin@strathcona.vic.edu.au
OR visit www.strathcona.vic.edu.au/OSA

Above: Shirley Lowthian (Balfe ’42)
photographed with winners of the Florence
Livingstone Cup, Henrietta Hughes Cup,
Former Strathconians’ Cup and the Balfe
Cup which were awarded at the Pre-1942
Luncheon on 17 November 2011.