

Akaroa

SEMESTER ONE 2021



NEGS
MORE THAN
A SCHOOL

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Akaroa

SEMESTER ONE | 2021



We hope you enjoy this edition of the Akaroa.

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Akaroa is produced for the NEGS community - students, parents, staff and Old Girls. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this edition of Akaroa a celebration of the NEGS community.

THANK YOU!
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Our Akaroa magazine this semester showcases a sample of the events and activities highlighting the success of our School community. At NEGS, we nurture strong girls and young boys who grow up to be strong women and men, changing the world, confident to stand up and try new things, and be leaders in their communities. The legacy of our NEGS Alumni continues to teach, inspire and motivate our students, where they can reflect on those accomplishments and dream big for their own possibilities.

My visits within the community and attendance at events with students, current and past parents, alumni and community members reinforced that our vision and values remain as compelling and as necessary as the day we were founded.

NEGS unashamedly pursues excellence in providing an exceptional education through academic, sporting, cultural, spiritual and service endeavours, and this is under the umbrella of pastoral care and wellbeing, personal development and a growth mindset. To maintain this focus, academic and corporate staff are the agents of change and develop, in our students, forward thinking and new capabilities which our youth have not yet considered.

I enjoy sharing time with and watching our girls and young boys focused in the classroom, participating and competing in sport and equestrian challenges, presenting in cultural and academic ventures, and experiencing success in competitions and performances. They bring warmth, joy, energy and passion to all they do. These experiences are designed to expand their social involvement, encourage active contribution to the School community,

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



Emma Steele, Deputy Head Prefect at UNE GRASS Award presentation



Maggie Halliday, Dux 2020, celebrating her name on the Dux Board

and help them develop teamwork, leadership and associated skills.

The School prides itself on being small enough for each student to be personally known and nurtured, yet large enough to offer an extensive, ever-changing and dynamic range of opportunities. Our boarding community remains at the heart of the School and it is delightful to share this space with such friendly and joyful young souls.

Please enjoy the stories, photos and memories of NEGS in 2021 in this edition of Akaroa. Thank you to our dedicated, professional academic and corporate staff, our wonderful families, both current and past, our Old Girls and Alumni, NEGS Board, and friends of NEGS who have, in some way, supported, advised, nurtured and celebrated the girls and young boys in their commitment to excellence.

Kathy Bishop

KATHY BISHOP
PRINCIPAL



Mrs King, Senior Prefect, 1949

CLASS OF 2020

HSC Results

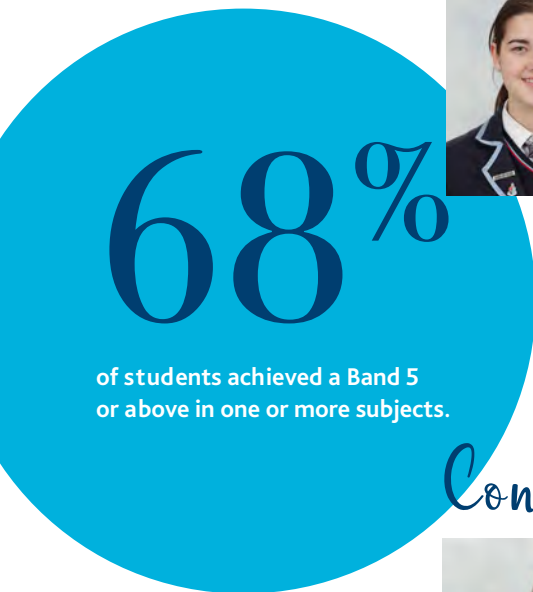
Our Class of 2020 achieved fantastic HSC results, with excellent individual performances, even though the year was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Maggie Halliday, from Walcha, School Dux, achieved outstanding results across all of her demanding subjects, including a Band 6 in Mathematics Advanced and PDHPE, and Band 5s in Physics, Advanced English, Chemistry, and a Band E3 in Mathematics Extension. Maggie plans on studying Biomedical Engineering at the University of Sydney. A terrific and well-deserved result for a very diligent student.



Charlotte Stone, from Armidale, achieved outstanding results, with Band 6s in Music 1 and Visual Arts, and a Band 5 in English Extension 1 and 2, Advanced English and Ancient History. Charlotte undertook a demanding schedule, and we congratulate her on her performance.



Congratulations

Distinguished Achievers:



Priscilla Clonan



Maggie Halliday



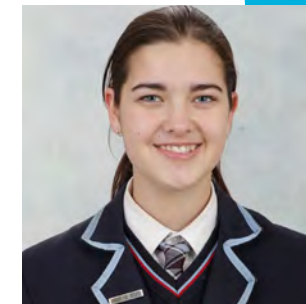
Katie Hancock



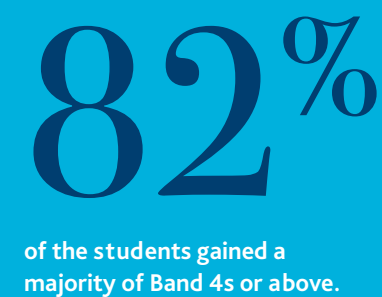
Alexandra Rose



Annabelle Simpson



Charlotte Stone.



A significant number of our courses achieved stellar results.

- All Music 1 students studied Voice and received Band 6 results. In addition, we were privileged to enjoy some memorable performances from them throughout the year at significant School events.
- Two-thirds of our Visual Arts students received a Band 6.
- In Agriculture, most students received a Band 5 or 6, achieving marks significantly above the state average.
- Half of our PDHPE students received a Band 5, or above.
- The entirety of the Ancient History, and Design and Technology classes received a Band 5 significantly above the state mean.
- All Biology, Drama, Physics, Textiles and Design, and Advanced English students received a Band 4 or above.
- Across the Year 12 cohort, students studied 25 HSC subjects, with Band 6 results achieved in five of them: Agriculture, Mathematics Advanced, PDHPE, Music 1 and Visual Arts.

Students who desired university courses, received placement offers through their results or early entry into their chosen path. This year, some have started their tertiary studies, and others are enjoying a gap year. A number are now well-entrenched into the workforce.

We know how well-equipped and resilient the Class of 2020 are, and we are confident of their future success. We look forward to following their post-NEGS journey.

TONY JONES
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING





Anna Jarvis

What are they up to this year?

We asked some of our youngest Alumni (graduates of the Class of 2020) to share their insights. Enjoy reading about their adventures post-NEGS.

Maggie Halliday



Grace Cassidy

Reflection from Maggie Halliday

This year has been a bit of a whirlwind, and I'm sure the Year 12 of 2021 are feeling a bit burnt out. My advice is to hold on, you're so close to finishing. The years after the HSC are going to be a blast.

I'm currently taking a gap year. If you feel like you haven't got an exact plan set out over the next few years, I would recommend it. You're able to learn life skills and take a big breath before starting university or an apprenticeship. I've found multiple jobs that I love doing. I have developed a genuine interest in saving and budgeting my new cash flow, and it's a bonus. Next year, I plan to start either a Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering or a double degree in Science and Business. The business interest is new and has come from working in hospitality jobs, finding a passion for business, and assisting my colleagues in advertising and building their business. Entrepreneurship opens up a range of career paths, and I'm excited for what the future has to offer.

Don't be afraid to have a voice either; NEGS is an environment that allows you to build confidence and respectfully voice your opinions - take advantage of this. — GRACE, CLASS OF 2020

Reflection from Grace Cassidy

I am currently studying a Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science, and Doctor of Physiotherapy at Bond University on the Gold Coast, QLD. I thought our year had it tough when it came to the whole COVID-19 debacle. The frustration of cancelled events, exams under a cloud, the rush to get all of our stuff out of lockers before the initial lockdown began was nothing when compared with this year. Looking back, we had it easy in a way. I guess it was uncharted waters, but the ship steadied its path relatively quickly and, soon enough, life seemed to go back to being somewhat normal. However, with the current situation and a statewide lockdown in NSW, I really sympathise with the Class of 2021. I know this is an emotional time. I hear your frustrations, and I understand that it isn't fair. But you will only come out the other side of this stronger and more versatile.

I know it is hard right now but, in hindsight I wish I had used the opportunity to enjoy extra time with family and friends. These lockdowns present an opportunity to reconnect and enjoy their company before you head off into the world to forge your path. I am coming to realise this more

and more as I am currently unable to return home due to border closures.

I know you will have heard this a thousand times before, but enjoy your final years of schooling. Soon enough, you will be flung into a new environment, whether it be work, university, or travelling (COVID pending). Don't stress about grades or marks; it's important that you try your best. But rest assured, there is more than one way to skin a cat and, if you are genuinely passionate about pursuing something, you will find a way.

While your time at NEGS is relatively short, create connections and build a support network. This will only put you in good stead as you all navigate life together. These friendships and relationships will last a lifetime.

Upon reflection, one of the most important things I wish I knew during school was how important it is to surround yourself with the right people. Don't compromise your happiness, values or opinions to keep someone else happy. Don't be afraid to have a voice either; NEGS is an environment that allows you to build confidence and respectfully voice your opinions - take advantage of this.

Reflection from Anna Jarvis

What I know now

You will miss school. So many opportunities await you after school, so don't stress. Compared to being out in the 'big world', school is pretty easy and cruisy. Unfortunately, though, I have learnt everything is expensive!

What I wish I knew last year

The majority of things that you want will still be where they are once you've finished, so focus on school while you're still there.

Life is entirely different after school, so make sure you have time for yourself this year; it's important.

Tips for our current Year 12's

- Don't give up, you'll thank yourself.
- Make sure you cherish every moment. It sounds cliché, but the memories you make at school will stick with you forever.
- Knuckle down, even if you haven't already; you don't have long.
- Prioritise school; it's important. Ask for help. This was the best thing I did in Year 12. NEGS teachers are there for you and don't want to see you struggle!

What am I doing now?

I am currently working on a cattle station on the Queensland/Northern Territory border near Mount Isa. I highly recommend it to anyone thinking about doing it! It's hard work and long days but so worth it. NEGS has given me many traits, such as persistence, which has been super helpful up here.

I miss seeing all the girls and teachers every day. They do become like family after being there for so long. I also really miss all of the memories you make while being at school; you take them everywhere. I'll never forget when Britnee and I took Mrs Watson through the Macca's drive-through last year and got her to order KFC. It's things like this that you will miss. Trust me!



THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE

NEGS Regional Sporting Complex

The Complex defines NEGS as a regional school with facilities that surpass many large metropolitan schools.

After three years, Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce officially opened the NEGS Regional Sporting Complex on Thursday, 22 April 2021. This new \$3.7 million multi-purpose facility will benefit the students and the entire New England community. The Sporting Complex, funded through philanthropic donations to the School, is among the best multi-sport venues in the region, providing NEGS' athletes with a state-of-the-art facility for daily training and competition.

The Complex features a synthetic hockey field, built to Federation of International Hockey (FIH) Standards, seven netball courts, five tennis courts resurfaced with artificial turf, plus a rugby field. It marks the most ambitious

infrastructure project at NEGS. However, the complex also defines NEGS as a regional school with facilities that surpass many large metropolitan schools and with programs supported by NSW Rugby, Hockey NSW, Netball NSW and the UNE Lions.

The Armidale community has also benefited hugely from the NEGS Regional Sporting Complex, as it is available for external training, sporting camps and competition. For example, early this year, Mark Knowles, Olympic Gold Medallist and former Captain of Australian Hockey Kookaburras, and Caitlyn Nevins, from the Australian Diamonds hosted hockey and netball clinics. NEGS was also a joint host

of the Under 15s State Hockey Championship Carnival.

We are indebted to Old Girl Jeannie Ross Fraser, whose initial bequest dared NEGS to conceive, design, and build such a long-lasting and beneficial project. We are grateful for the generosity of benefactors Annette and John Cassidy, for their contribution to this project. As well as the generosity of Sally (nee McLaughlin '74) and John Grimble, the Armidale and Queensland Branches of the NEGS Alumni who funded the Goalposts and Electronic Scoreboard. The completion of the Sporting Complex has come at the end of a particularly tough time for Regional NSW, following drought, fires, floods and COVID-19, making the realisation of this project even more special.

To celebrate the Complex's opening, NEGS hockey players participated in a two-hour private session with Mark Knowles (Hockey Olympian), followed by a clinic attended by 55 children from the wider Armidale hockey community.

Guest speakers at the official opening included The Hon Barnaby Joyce, Mr John Cassidy (Chair NEGS Board), Senator Bridget McKenzie, Mr David Thompson (CEO of Hockey NSW) and Mr Mark Knowles (Hockey Olympian). In addition, the Honourable Marise Payne, Minister for Women and Foreign Affairs recorded a particularly poignant message as she couldn't be in attendance on the night.

Everyone felt proud to be part of the NEGS community and excited for the sporting opportunities available to our boys and girls. Parents, Alumni and Friends of NEGS all attended the event and key members of Armidale's community, including the University

of New England, the Mayor, Armidale Regional Council, and various sporting bodies. We even got to see Barnaby Joyce and Professor Brigid Heywood (Vice-Chancellor of UNE) hit a hockey ball!

The night ended with a hockey game under lights; NEGS vs The 'Rest of the Best' of Armidale. Mark Knowles donned a NEGS jersey and, with his help, the NEGS girls were victorious 1:0. An incredible opportunity for the girls to play with or against one of Australia's greatest ever hockey players. The only goal scored was by Year 12 student Olivia Clarke.

Achievements of NEGS HOCKEY GIRLS

Kate Atkin is in the NSW AAP (Athlete Acceleration Program) Squad

Lydia Farrar and Olivia Clarke made the NSW combined IGSA (Independent Girls Schools' Association) team

Danika Watson and Alyvia Wilson made the NSW 16 and Under combined IGSA team

'It's not just about turning out athletes for the next Olympics, but it is a great connector for the girls to participate in physical activity and all the health and social benefits that sport provides'

– SENATOR BRIDGET MCKENZIE



LEGACY OF JEANNIE ROSS FRASER

A Transformational Gift

We are indebted to Old Girl Jeannie Ross Fraser, whose initial bequest dared NEGS to conceive, design, and build such a long-lasting and beneficial project.



Jeannie Ross Fraser was born in 1923 in Glen Innes. Her mother, Margaret Pearl Chaffey, matron of Inverell Hospital, married David John Fraser, a mechanical engineer from Inverness, in 1922. They lived in camps around Coolatai and Yetman in the early years, where Jeannie's father was a successful water boring contractor. Their mobile home was a large tent surrounded by a wooden frame covered by fly wire.

Jeannie began her education, like many in those days, by correspondence. Then, on the advice of Bishop Moyes and his wife, she enrolled at NEGS. Jeannie started her NEGS education in 1939. She was a few years older than most of her classmates; however, that didn't seem to matter. In Jeannie's words, 'thus, as a 16-year-old, began a marvellous four years amongst wonderful friends who understood, and loved and helped me with a most genuine concern, both teachers and fellow pupils.' The NEGS motto 'Whatever you do, do it unto the Lord, do it for good' she said had always acted as a guiding light for her. On being asked years later about her first impressions of boarding school, she replied, 'The noise!'

Jeannie's father died in October 1942, and her mother ten months later, so her guardian, Gordon Fraser (her father's cousin), supported her for the last two years of school.

When Jeannie arrived at NEGS, she wasn't considered 'academic' but was well educated in worldly affairs. Her father encouraged her to read the newspapers every day. So, she was always well informed about what was going on in the world. One of her old NEGS friends remembers that her father almost interrogated her with questions

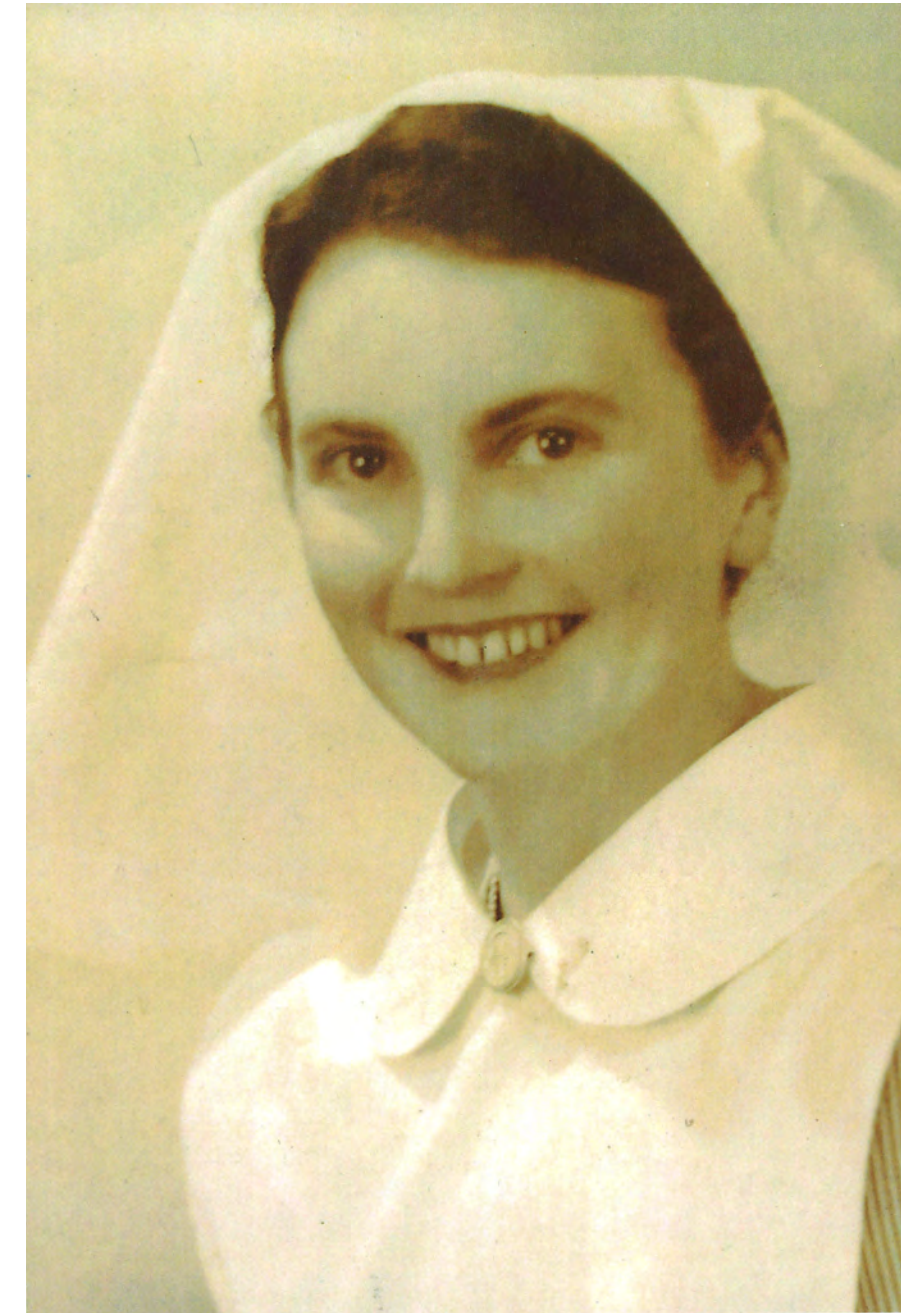
on world affairs. Her classmates were not as interested in the rest of the world, except for what was happening in the war. Everyone had a brother or sister in the Army, so they were all worried about that.

At 20, Jeannie passed the Leaving Certificate with an A in English and Bs for her other subjects. However, at the last minute, she had to add Art to make up enough subjects – about which she wrote airily... 'Not that I could draw or paint, but the history of Art was relatively easy to learn and most interesting!'

Jeannie began her nursing career at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney. There were eight girls from NEGS doing their nursing training at the same time. Jeannie did four years of nursing at RPA and then went to Launceston to complete the study of Midwifery at Queen Victoria Hospital. In 1951, she ended up in London and continued to nurse there. She worked at Westminster Hospital for 18 months. With the hospital providing staff for Buckingham Palace, she was privy to the arrangements that went into setting up an operating theatre in the palace for surgery on King George VI. When the king died and was lying-in-state, in St Stephens Hall, Westminster, there were always nurses in attendance as an Honour Guard. Jeannie was with the first nurses on duty.

She returned to Sydney in 1954 and spent the rest of her working life as Theatre Sister at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children until her retirement in 1985. Jeannie returned to Glen Innes, where she bought her first house, having never had a home, having always lived in the Nurses Home.

Jeannie was very active in the Glen



Innes community. She was a member of several organisations, including the Red Cross, Back to Glen Innes Week Committee, Meals on Wheels, Glen Innes Bowling Club and the Glen Innes Writers' Group. She was also a patron of the Glen Innes and District Historical Society and curator of the medical section at the museum, called 'The Jeannie Ross Fraser Memorial Medical Wing'. Jeannie also made numerous donations to the RPA's Education Trust.

Jeannie died in 2016, aged 92. She was a very quiet, private individual who lived a frugal life but dedicated herself to her work and community.

Thank you

Special thanks to Judy Miller (daughter of a cousin of Jeannie's), Eve Chappell (Glen Innes and District Historical Society and good friend of Jeannie's), Margaret Turnbull (an old school friend of Jeannie's from NEGS and RPA) and Bill Liston (Executor of Jeannie's Will).

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Exciting Start to 2021

This year's identified priority area is our approach to Literacy. With the inclusion of 'Little Learners Love Literacy' into our Early Years' Program, NEGS Junior School remains committed to implementing current, evidence-based best practices and pedagogy. All staff have been involved in a series of collaborative opportunities to ensure Literacy is taught explicitly and systematically, across all cohorts. Research notes the elements of phonemic instruction, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension for reading instruction as crucial.

We continue to celebrate our students, their families and our school community. What we learnt from last year in building resilience in these times of uncertainty is key to promoting mental health and wellbeing. Drawing on the principles of positive psychology and supported by the Grow Your Mind Program, students have engaged in activities emphasising the understanding of character traits that build future leaders.

In Term 2, Stage Three participated in the 'Illuminate JNR Challenge'. This exciting program introduces key skills to develop leadership and consider what it takes to think like an entrepreneur and succeed in education into the future. Facilitated by skilled staff from Illuminate Education, and with the local business community's support, students learnt about solving a relevant problem in the world, developing and refining an idea, looking at how to make it financially viable, and present it compellingly – all skills needed for success.

Our staff and students are not alone

in driving the strength of our school: it comes from our culture and community. This has been clearly evident at our many events held this semester. The way our students and the wider NEGS community support each student across the many facets of school life is a testament to the values that underpin NEGS. These events allow for our students to step out of their comfort zone and experience success in different environments.

A Snapshot of our Community and Connections

Class Dojo

NEGS Junior School implemented the use of Class Dojo across Pre-K to Year 6. This program allows us to build our classroom community with teachers sharing learning moments, with parents/carers, through their class stories.

Meet and Greet

Our annual Meet and Greet was held in Term One. This event provided an opportunity for parents to come in and meet with their child's classroom teachers. It was a fantastic evening, where families and staff were able to come together and set the intention for the year.

ANZAC Service

Students from Pre-K to Year 6 joined with our Primary Prefects at the Armidale Remembrance Service, to recognise the importance of ANZAC Day, showing their respect for those who have served our country.

Years 3-6 Camp

Years 3-6 attended a three-day camp at the Coffs Coast Adventure Centre, focusing on team-building skills, developing positive peer relationships, engaging in challenge-by-choice activities, and promoting courage.

Sunhill Dairy Goat Farm Visit

Stage 1 enjoyed their excursion to our local dairy goat farm, focusing on learning more about sustainability and the impact that drought has on farming. While they were there, they learned about farming and the extensive range of goat products, including tasting goat cheese and milk.

Harmony Day

Students across the Junior School participated in fun activities to celebrate Harmony Day. The activities focused on celebrating diversity, fostering inclusiveness and respect.

DaVinci Decathlon

A team of students from Years 5 and 6 joined other local primary schools to participate in the Da Vinci Decathlon. This event is an academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate school students' minds across ten disciplines.

Pre-K-1 Mini Olympics afternoon

Our Early Years teachers hosted a fun-filled afternoon with parent/student collaborations and

activities. In addition, each Pre-K student competed with, and against, their family members in an Olympic style competition.

Easter Eggstravaganza

Students celebrated Easter by constructing a Diorama featuring eggstraordinary adventures of eggs. Students displayed creativity in their eggcellent creations which were displayed in the library.

The way our students and the wider NEGS community support each student across the many facets of school life is a testament to the values that underpin NEGS.



Harmony Day Sujana Oishorjo and Dionnysia Jansson 3 Y3-6 Adventure Camp 3 Stage 1 Sunhill Dairy Goat Farm visit 4 Class Dojo has been implemented from Pre-K to Y6. 5 Harmony Day 6 Eggstravaganza 7 Y3-6 Adventure Camp



Students continually surprise and delight me as they provide deep insights and pose thoughtful questions about life, God and the Bible.

Hope Hour

The Chaplaincy role at NEGS has expanded to four days a week this year. As a result, students from Pre-K to Year 10 now attend weekly Christian Studies lessons. Although Junior and Senior Chapel services remain an important component of the NEGS program, there is no substitute for the more personal interactions offered in the classroom.

Students continually surprise and delight me as they provide deep insights and pose thoughtful questions about life, God and the Bible. The weekly 'Hope Hour' lunchtime groups have continued, with the Junior and Senior programs hosting up to 20 students each week. These gatherings provide a safe, relaxed place, where students can investigate the claims of the Bible, the life of Jesus and the implications for life. But, of course, we also often play games and eat treats together!

Whether delivered in person or online, Chaplaincy continues to offer students and staff care and guidance, faithful Bible teaching and the opportunity to accept the hope offered by Jesus Christ. It remains my privilege to be involved in this work.

REV. TAMARA RAMSAY
NEGS CHAPLAIN

SEMESTER ONE

Highlights

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Year 12 Leaders have a comprehensive range of responsibilities. This year our House Leaders are playing an active role in our Wellbeing program. Every Wednesday during our House Wellbeing time, the students gather to hold House meetings in groups that include students from Years 5 to 12. During this time, Year 12 students have developed their leadership skills by running engaging activities.

During Term 1, the House groups took part in a Lipsync Battle, culminating in a concert at the end of the term.

These activities are important in building and strengthening relationships across year groups and developing team-building skills. It has been great to see our students working constructively, collaborating, and having a great deal of fun.

In Term 2, Year 12 initiated a mock Olympics. Again, the House Leaders facilitated within their House activities for the whole school. The House Leaders are to be congratulated on the leadership skills they demonstrated and how they engaged all year groups.

YARNING CIRCLE

In May, the official opening of the NEGS Yarning Circle took place. This initiative is part of the Waratah Project funded by the Association of Independent Schools of NSW.

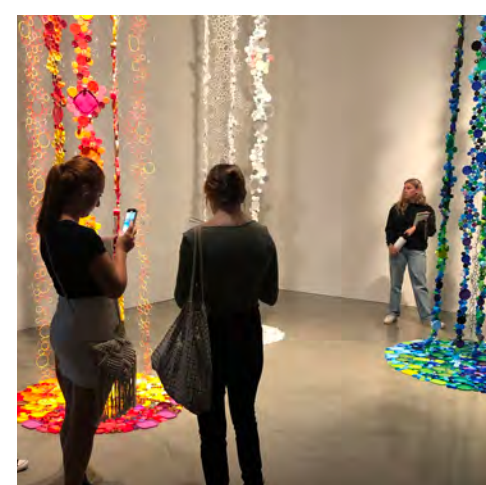
The Yarning Circle is a gathering point for all students and will also be a path to forging closer ties with the local Indigenous community. Thank you to our special guests, Lisa Waters, Armidale Land Council CEO and Roz Thomas from the Association of Independent Schools of NSW.





YEAR 11 AND 12 ART/DESIGN/TEXTILES

Excursion to Sydney



It was exciting to attend the 2021 Art/ Design/Textiles Excursion to Sydney this year. Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts, Design and Technology, and Textiles and Design students all caught the train to Sydney in April, for a long weekend of galleries, exhibitions, and design workshops.

The Visual Arts students had the opportunity to see works at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Museum of Contemporary Art, Carriageworks, the S.H. Ervin and the White Rabbit galleries. The events of 2020 have impacted the art and design industry in Sydney, as well as worldwide. Many of the artworks in 'The National Exhibition: New Australian Art' referenced the impact of COVID-19 Lockdowns, the influence of the Black Lives Matters movement, the devastation of the bushfires last summer and 'connection' as a concept across cultures and circumstances. A highlight was visiting 'Lumen' at the White Rabbit in Chippendale. This exhibition allowed the students to interact and play with light in a series of works that all respond to the theme of light.

The design students saw works in the 2021 Shape exhibition at the

Powerhouse Museum, displaying some of the exemplary HSC Major projects from the 2020 Design and Technology, Textile and Design and Industrial Technology students. Visiting and talking with Sydney designers, Eloise Panetta (dyes fabric with botanical materials) and Caroline Reddie (furniture designer), was an invaluable experience as it allowed the students to see and understand design practice and processes. A trend with these two designers, and many others now, is a focus on sustainability and individual design (as opposed to mass-manufactured/mass-produced design), allowing users to choose and adapt designs to their own needs according to an interchangeable design palette.

The hands-on experience of silkscreen printing some designs onto paper at Signature Prints was a favourite for many students. Equally exciting was visiting some of the textile shops in Surry Hills for inspiration and fabric for future projects. The students gained so much knowledge and experience in a short time. A big thank you to Ms Hodges and Ms Ronald for accompanying the students on the excursion.



MOTHER'S DAY Afternoon Tea





ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day is a special day for all Australians. This year there was no march, however our students were able to attend the ceremony held in the beautiful Armidale Central Park. Our students were immaculately dressed and respectful. They were a credit to our school, families and communities.

Twilight Concerts



Our Primary and Secondary students have many occasions to perform in public. This year, with COVID, the opportunities to do so were limited. Parents/Carers and family members appreciated the instances when they could be in the audience watching and listening to their sons and daughters. The Twilight Concert Series is perfect for our parents/carers to see the growth of our musicians over the year. Of course, for some of our young ones, whilst they regularly perform for their class, their music teacher and, at home in the lounge room, for their parents, the March Twilight event is the first time they have performed for others. The seasoned performers, however, use the first Twilight as their 'stepping stone' to improvement. Practice from Term 4 in the previous year and over the Christmas vacation enables them to perform at a high standard so early in the term and, from this goal, the student's diligence is focused on continuous improvement over the year.

Congratulations to all of our musicians and a hearty thank you to our NEGS music staff and visiting peripatetic teachers.



AGRICULTURE

On the Farm

For the Livestock Team, Term 1 2021 was spent busily preparing our students and cattle for the Armidale and Walcha Shows. These were our first opportunities to show off our fabulous steers Lava, Bevis, Bundy and Max, and the first show for a number of our students.

We had a very successful Armidale Show, with results in the Paraders' Class as follows:

- Maya Cassidy 1st place in her heat and Reserve Champion for her age group
- Ella Currie Highly Commended for her age group
- Meg Trindall 1st place in her heat
- Jessica Taylor 4th place in her heat
- Eliza Watts 1st place in her heat and Reserve Champion for her age group

The mighty Lava received Champion Steer and was led by Eliza Watts. At the Walcha Show, our students had the opportunity to judge merino and meat sheep, and cattle.

Results from Walcha Show include:

- Esabela Woods Finals of merino judging
- Jessie Simpson 4th in her Paraders' Class for her age group
- Eliza Watts 4th in her Paraders' Class for her age group
- Chloe Towne 2nd in her Paraders' Class for her age group

Our little steer, Bundy, came 5th in his steer class and was led by Chloe Towne, whilst Lava, led by Eliza Watts, placed 2nd in his steer class.

As the year has progressed, the girls have been focusing on the NEGS farm enterprises.

The students have been fantastic olive harvesters in horticulture, using racks and traps to bring in the crop. With an emphasis on 'paddock to plate', the students processed and preserved the olives they harvested.

In the fat lamb enterprise, boarders ensure our fat lambs are fed, producing a great pen of lamb destined for the market in early Term 4. We plan to investigate new fencing, pasture measurement and increasing the number of 1st cross ewes for an ANZAC Day mating in 2022.

In the beef enterprise, livestock health has been a priority, with students involved in activities such as applying pour-on lice control.

We have several activities underway for the remainder of the year, including:

- One of our rare Italian ducks is currently sitting on a clutch of eggs. This will be our second hatching for the year.
- Our young sows have an off-site visit. Hopefully, they will return pregnant, with piglets to be born over the Christmas break.
- The orchard has been pruned, and we look forward to monitoring the spring growth and crop.
- Our Year 8 students will each be given a plot of land in 2022 to grow some vegetables of their choosing.



TALENTED ATHLETES

Congratulations

SENIOR SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

IGSA Swimming

The following students represented NEGS at the IGSA Swimming Carnival at Homebush.

Bridie Palmer, Amy Beard, Grace Rogers, Rosie Ross, Cottee Harwood, Emily Wamsley, Gracie Boughton, Paige Anderson, Abby Finlayson, Amity Coxon, and Ruby Loosemore.

All students performed extremely well. A special mention to Ruby Loosemore for qualifying for the CIS Carnival.

IGSA Hockey

Alyvia Wilson and Danika Watson, were selected in the combined 16 and Under IGSA Hockey team, with congratulations also extended to Olivia Clarke and Lydia Farrar, who were selected in the combined Open IGSA Hockey team.

Rugby

Regan Simpson, Zahlie Cabot, Indira Barratt, and Paige Anderson were selected in Central North Representative teams. Congratulations also to Jorja Gilbert who was selected in the Mid North Coast Representative team.

Netball

Amanda Knight, Lillie Kentwell, Lauren Wilczak, Jorja Curry, Ella Munday, Indira Barratt, and Ella Russell were selected in ADNA representative teams/squads. Congratulations to Regan Simpson who was selected in the Inverell Representative team.

JUNIOR SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

It has been a fantastic start to the year in the Junior School, with many sporting events occurring. So many students have represented NEGS at local PSSA Swimming and Cross Country events, IPSHA Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals held in Sydney, and have played in the local touch football, hockey, and soccer competitions. As always, these students represented NEGS in the only way they know how; with pride and determination. It is always a joy to see our students shine in various arenas with students from other schools and locations.

Students of the Junior School have also been fortunate to participate in golf and gymnastics sessions as part of Friday afternoon sports sessions. Funded by Government Sporting

Schools Grants, these sessions allow our students to try new sports and develop skills linked to the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Curriculum.

We also had the opportunity to participate in the Northern NSW Football Gala Day in March. This day was open to all primary school aged students, and provided a fun introduction to football. The students enjoyed four games of soccer in small teams against other schools from the area. They all had a wonderful time developing their soccer skills and worked hard in their teams.



Overall House Cup winner

- 1st Green 983
- 2nd Murray 822
- 3rd Dumolo 808
- 4th Lyon 631

AGE CHAMPIONS

Junior Boys

Age Champion Xavi Dent
Runner-Up Jonathan Ruhnke

Junior Girls

Age Champion Abbie Kelly
Runner-Up Prudence Chapman

Senior Boys

Age Champion Thomas Brazier
Runner-Up Philippe Ruhnke

Senior Girls

Age Champion Tilly Patterson
Runner-Up Charlotte Williams

12 Yrs

Age Champion Takoda Brown
Runner-Up Malukah Rudge

13 Yrs

Age Champion Bridie Palmer
Runner-Up Lillie Kentwell

14 Yrs

Age Champion Alyvia Wilson
Runner-Up Regan Simpson

15 Yrs

Age Champion Savanah Brown
Runner-Up Annabelle Towne

16 Yrs

Age Champion Indira Barratt
Runner-Up Vanessa Baker

17 Yrs

Age Champion Chloe Towne
Runner-Up Maddison Campbell-Pickering

18 Yrs

Age Champion Amity Coxon
Runner-Up Isabella Reardon

Thompson Trophy

Highest Point Score of the Carnival (Field and Track) Alyvia Wilson

Barwick Trophy

Highest Field Point Score of the Carnival Amity Coxon

Marching Cup 1st place - Green

RECORD BREAKERS	EVENT	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	EVENT	CURRENT	PREVIOUS
	18 yrs 100m Sprint	Amity Coxon - 13.64	13.93	11yrs Boys Long Jump	Tom Lorimer - 3.87m	3.04m
17yrs 100m Sprint	Paige Anderson - 12.95	13.34	11yrs Girls Discus	Eilish Morgan - 13.72m	13.62m	
11yrs Boys 100m Sprint	Tom Lorimer - 14.92	16.12	11yrs Boys Discus	Tom Lorimer - 21.47m	11.42m	
12yrs Boys 100m Sprint	Thomas Brazier - 14.86	15.22	Senior Boys Discus	Hugo Brazier - 19.20m	18.99m	
Senior Boys Shot Put	Hugo Brazier - 7.07m	6.20m				

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Overall House Cup winner

- 1st Green 392
- 2nd Murray 373
- 3rd Lyon 258
- 4th Dumolo 188

AGE CHAMPIONS

8/9 Yrs Boys

Age Champion Xavi Dent
Runner-Up Jonathan Ruhnke

8/9 Yrs Girls

Age Champion Georgia Flynn
Runner-Up Sophia Craig

10 Yrs Girls

Age Champion Abbie Kelly
Runner-Up Prudence Chapman

11 Yrs Boys

Age Champion Philippe Ruhnke
Runner-Up Tom Lorimer

11 Yrs Girls

Age Champion Tilly Patterson
Runner-Up Harriett Lisle

12 Yrs Boys

Age Champion Thomas Brazier
Runner-Up Jack Campbell

12 Yrs Girls

Age Champion Charlotte Williams
Runner-Up Finlay Pulkkinen

12 Yrs

Age Champion Takoda Brown
Runner-Up Amanda Knight

13 Yrs

Age Champion Emily Towne
Runner-Up Bridie Palmer

14 Yrs

Age Champion Alyvia Wilson
Runner-Up Felicity Chapman

15 Yrs

Age Champion Emily Wamsley
Runner-Up Annabelle Towne

16 Yrs

Age Champion Vanessa Baker
Runner-Up Ella Russell

17 Yrs

Age Champion Brielle Ball
Runner-Up Ella Crowley

18 Yrs

Age Champion Carla Gerigk
Runner-Up Grace Muirhead



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Overall House Cup winner

- 1st Green
- 2nd Dumolo
- 3rd Murray
- 4th Lyon

AGE CHAMPIONS

Junior Boys

Age Champion Xavi Dent
Runner-Up Austin Kelly

Junior Girls

Age Champion Katherine Flynn
Runner-Up Abbie Kelly

Senior Boys

Age Champion Tom Lorimer
Runner-Up Jack Campbell

Senior Girls

Age Champion Tilly Patterson
Runner-Up Hunter McDonald

12 Yrs

Age Champion Takoda Brown
Runner-Up Kaliha Smith

13 Yrs

Age Champion Bridie Palmer
Runner-Up Dominique Baker

14 Yrs

Age Champion Regan Simpson
Runner-Up Grace Rogers

15 Yrs

Age Champion Rosie Ross
Runner-Up Cottee Harwood

16 Yrs

Age Champion Gracie Boughton
Runner-Up Olivia Rogers

17 Yrs

Age Champion Paige Anderson
Runner-Up Brielle Ball

18 Yrs

Age Champion Ruby Loosemore
Runner-Up Amity Coxon

Trivett Cup

Most Outstanding Swimmer of the Carnival

Paige Anderson



NEGS is committed to providing access to high-performance coaching, and the sports clinics provided just that. The Netball Clinic with former Diamonds Player Caitlyn Nevins and Ipswich Jets player Charlie Bell on 19 April was attended by over 100 local netball players.

There were three sessions - a junior skills clinic, a senior skills clinic and a specialty midcourt and shooting clinic. The girls took part in different netball drills run by some incredible coaches. They all got to talk to the coaches afterwards and asked lots of great questions. Finally, the day ended with a 2-hour specialty shooting clinic and midcourt clinic. These were small groups and allowed the more experienced players to hone their skills in their chosen area.

Our coaches

Caitlyn Nevins is a former Diamonds, Vixens, and later Firebirds player, regarded as one of the hardest-working players on the mid-court.

Charlie Bell is a member of the Queensland Fusion and Australian under 19 Squad. She is currently contracted to the Ipswich Jets in the Sapphire Series as a GS/GA.

Dr Kristen Cohen is a former Australian Indoor Netball representative and World Cup gold medallist. Kristen currently coaches the NEGS IGSA team and the NIAS netball squad.

Olivia Joyce is a former NEGS netball TAP athlete and current NSW Netball Development Officer.

Some of the NEGS TAP girls also helped out with the Junior Clinic. As a result, they were provided with an excellent opportunity to learn some great coaching techniques, which they have used in their netball training this year.

The NEGS TAP and IGSA netball players received a private coaching session with Caitlyn Nevins and Charlie Bell the following day. The girls were appreciative of the opportunity to work with exceptional coaches.



NEGS

Netball Clinics



Hockey Clinic with former Australian Hockeyroo Mark Knowles

On Thursday 22 April, NEGS enabled Mark Knowles, former Australian Captain of the Kookaburras, 2014 World Player of the Year, Olympic gold medallist, four-time Commonwealth Games gold medallist and Australian Player of the Year, to conduct a private training session for the NEGS TAP and IGSA players.

This session was an incredible opportunity to learn from Mark, appointed Australia's National Athlete Pathway Program Technical Lead. Richard Willis (Hockey NSW's Pathway Manager) and Greg Doolan (Hockey NSW's Regional Participation Coordinator) assisted with the clinic.

NEGS then hosted a clinic open to all of Armidale's hockey players. The clinic was capped at 50 people and sold out very quickly.

NEGS

Hockey Clinics





SEMESTER ONE



NORTH WEST



EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

Outstanding Achievements

Our NEGS Equestrian Centre team have had a great start to 2021, even with COVID making it challenging to get out to many competitions. Instead, the girls focused on their training and making the most of clinics held at the Equestrian Centre. Our squad training remained in full swing, and when we did get out to some competitions, the girls shone.

The start of 2021 also became a time to enjoy friendships and have much fun on the horses. Our EC students' bond is strong, and it is lovely to see the teamwork behind the scenes at every competition.

SHOW RIDING

The showing season has been very intermittent with COVID disruptions. There has been plenty of dedicated training with a limited number of opportunities for competitions. Those that ran saw some outstanding results from our riders. Holly Jacobson rode a beautiful workout at the Show Horse Council Grand Nationals after qualifying last year at Dubbo Country Hack Championships. Grand Champion Rider at Glen Innes Show was a highlight of her local success. Allie Palmer also had a huge season, winning the Pony Club rider at Sydney Royal and the Pony Club Zone 5 Team of Four. In addition, she was sashed Supreme Rider at Barraba Show. Bridie Palmer's Zone 5 Team of Four placed 2nd in the Pony Club Team of Fours at Sydney Royal.

EVENTING

The eventing season had a big hit with COVID. Still, with a handful of local events running, Patricia Kapsalis (2*), Charlotte Jacobson (EVA 95), and Malukah Rudge (EVA 60), all placed in the top 6 in the overall 2020/21 Interschool Eventing Leaderboard.

At Sydney 3DE, Vanessa Baker was awarded the Rod Winchester Best and Fairest Award.

SHOW JUMPING

Alice Murray (Y11) and Grace Muirhead (Y12), have consistently jumped clean rounds and placed in the top 5 all season over 1.10m + tracks. Alex Machlin, Charlotte Overton and Malukah Rudge had a fantastic Show at the Peel River Jumping Championship in February, all placing in the top 3 in nearly every class they entered. These girls have rarely been out of the prize money all season. It has been an absolute pleasure watching all of these riders grow into the successful competitors they are today.

CAMPDRAFT

Most Campdrafts in Terms 1 and 2 were cancelled due to either

COVID or rain. Still, the Ray White Epic Horse Sale in Armidale was an excellent opportunity for the NEGS Campdraft Team to experience the sale's behind-the-scenes look as turnback riders. This provided a great learning experience for all of the girls involved, and we thank our sponsor, The Australian Campdraft Magazine, for helping make it happen. We did get out to a couple of local shows and drafts with Chloe and Annabelle Towne, and Shae and Tess Ford, who all placed in their divisions of the Working Horse Challenge at the Barraba Show.

POLOCROSSE

Our Polocrosse girls had a cracker start to the season before COVID cancelled the second half. However, a few girls had an opportunity to shine in that time, with Emily Wamsley and Bridget McKemey making the Australian Representative Team and NEGS coach, Ella Elks, chosen as the Australian Coach. Bridget and Emily made the NSW State Team earlier in the year, winning Best number 1 and number 3, with Emily taking home the Best Horse and Rider Combination at Barastoc.

Equestrian Expo 2021

Our students had a very successful North West Equestrian Expo at Coonabarabran (Coona), with each student achieving personal goals, and individual accolades. As a school, we were awarded many of the Highest School Point Score Trophies, including:

- The Clarke and Cunningham Cup** - Overall Team Dressage Winners – Holly Jacobson, Caitlin Croft and Abbey Tierney
- Overall Team Barrel Race Winners** – Molly Michell-Smith, Estella Martin and Allie Palmer. This is the first time NEGS has won this event.
- Overall Champion Team of 4 Riders** – Emily Wamsley, Molly Michell-Smith, Paige Fielder and Rosie Ross.

Chamber of Commerce Best Presented Large School
Alice Murray and **Molly Michell-Smith** also led NEGS to win the B grade Polocrosse along with Scots All Saints' player, **Pip Webb**.

- Some outstanding achievements at Coona:**
- Vanessa Baker** led from start to finish to win the 1* Eventing.
 - Molly Michell-Smith** won or placed in just about everything she entered, winning the Champion 17 Years.
 - Alice Murray** won all of her Show Jumping events to take out the Astronomical Show Jumping Champion and overall Champion 16 Years girl.
 - Allie Palmer** was awarded Champion Girl 14 Years, with **Emily Wamsley** as Reserve Champion. Emily had several cracking sporting runs coming home with 14 Years Sporting Champion.

- Reserve Champion 80cm Show Jumping**- Charlotte Overton
- Champion 14 Years Rider** – Sienna Robinson
- Reserve Champion 14 Years Rider** – Allie Palmer
- Champion Prelim Dressage Division 7** – Ella Crowley
- Reserve Champion Prelim Dressage Division 5** – Eden Lochhead
- Reserve Champion Novice Dressage Division 4** – Caitlin Croft
- Reserve Champion Prelim Dressage Division 3** – Jessica Taylor
- Champion Novice Dressage Division 2** – Holly Jacobson
- Reserve Champion Elementary Dressage** – Abbey Tierney





BOARDING LIFE CONTINUES TO

Though the Boarders' weekend routine is not as structured as weekdays, they are still on the go both Saturday and Sunday. The days in Boarding Schools where all Boarders were committed to just Boarding life have changed. It is far more appropriate for our adolescents to explore areas of their interest, talent or expertise. With this in mind, our Boarders move in numerous directions of their choosing during weekends. Facilities and activities on and off-campus are available, enabling Boarders to connect in a flexible mode of engagement to suit their busy schedules. The school vehicles certainly cover many kilometres during the weekends, transporting our Boarders to their places of activity.

For some, their very commitment to equestrian life reduces their involvement in other areas, including general Boarding activities. However, a constant is the weekly two-hour downtown shopping on Saturday mornings, a time for a typically enjoyable female retail therapy session.

Some of the activities during weekends have included:

- baking afternoon tea on Friday;
- cooking breakfast in House;
- joining in free movement on tennis courts, gym in the Multi-Purpose Centre (MPC), or hockey field with a group of friends;
- embracing an origami or card making session;
- sharing beauty tips in practical sessions;
- mashing music for a music marathon;
- viewing a movie in a cinema;
- attending the circus;
- learning card games;
- playing 'glow in the dark' tag outdoors under the stars;
- engaging in activities in the MPC including sport, dancing and karaoke;
- car washing;
- bicycle riding;
- skateboard riding;
- walking the dogs;
- movie watching;
- enjoying the natural environment at the Arboretum near the campus;
- experiencing rural culture at the Walcha Show;
- and, of course, the weekly 'housework' as in washing, cleaning the room, polishing shoes, clearing common room areas of personal items;
- and finding time to chill before another week begins.

To restore and further build relationship opportunities, NEGS Boarders are encouraged to attend sporting and cultural events in which they are not actively involved. Being a spectator is a means of recognising others' talents, along with showing support for fellow Boarders. Also, experiencing activities in which different year levels are involved, is a golden opportunity for each Boarder to plan new co-curricular activities.

A significant aspect of participation in Boarding life, in general, is being of service to others. Opportunities are numerous and continue to build for NEGS Boarders. Multi-year level contact enables the development of informal mentorship across the boarding sector. School vehicles are constantly utilised for boarder transport, so one very rewarding service as a form of gratitude was for the Boarders to have some fun washing the vehicles.



EPITOMISE A MERRY-GO-ROUND!

For two mornings a week, and for the weekends, each House is supplied with a variety of ingredients for meal preparation, for breakfast and lunches. As Boarders are on the move at different times during the weekend, they are able to prepare their own food when the time is appropriate. The kitchenettes in each House are well supplied for such preparation. For Boarders, this opportunity has become a learning moment filled with laughter as well as a time for networking with their peers.

Chocolate brownies and caramel slices seem to be favourites for afternoon teas.

CAPTIONS

- 1 Embracing circus culture off-campus
- 2 Going for a win in the Multi-Purpose Centre on campus
- 3 Cheering on the Hockey Players on a cold winter's night
- 4 How clean is really clean!
- 5 Just what will result from using these ingredients?
- 6 Prep time catering for different learning styles
- 7 SBAs assisting a Year 7 Boarder during Prep time
- 8 Creativity is the key when visitors arrive!

For Prep, the Years 5 to 10 Boarders are supervised and assisted in various ways, in two rooms in the library. Should some concerns arise and not be covered in Prep, contact is made with the relevant day school Stage Adviser/class teacher. Class teachers can also contact the relevant House Mother to alert her to issues that could be dealt with in Prep. Prep is set so that, for the first half-hour, work is done individually. Following this is the opportunity for peer tutoring to be covered. This has proven very successful as students, in many cases, understand their work more if they are talking to a peer about it. For Years 5 to 8, enrichment activities are provided for those who complete their Prep work early. Opportunities have also existed for the older Boarders to help younger ones outside Prep time. It is important, from a Boarding viewpoint, for all year levels to be covering Prep at the same time, to avoid distractions from other disciplines. The Year 11s are now in one room for their Prep time with their House Mother supervising and assisting them where possible, including with time management. Peer tutoring for this group has proved most successful.

Our inaugural two SBAs (Student Boarding Assistants) have successfully completed their term in White House, assisting the House Mothers. SBAs duties have included: overseeing hand-in times for IT equipment, helping with homework, assisting with lights out check on weekends, spending time with Boarders facing challenges, organising and leading games on weekends. Next term's SBAs are enthusiastically waiting in the wings for their rewarding opportunity to begin.

Picnic time on the tennis court is undoubtedly a creative choice when one's big sister arrives to catch up on Boarding news and share her tips on life. With around 50 hectares of space on campus, our Boarders and their visitors are free to roam. Families and friends are most welcome to visit the campus after making prior arrangements with Boarding staff.





Father Daughter Dinner

A special event each year is the Father Daughter Dinner and this year was no exception. It was a great evening with the highlight being the intense and well-choreographed dancing. NEGS Dads can dance! Thank you to everyone who was involved in the organisation of this evening in ensuring it was such a success.



Alumni President's Report

After a relatively busy and typical First Semester, 2021 has become a challenging year in New South Wales. In Armidale, we have seen our most extended period of COVID restrictions and lockdown since the pandemic started.

At the beginning of 2021, we welcomed Kathy Bishop as the new Principal of NEGS 2021. Kathy brings a wealth of experience in similar schools. Kathy has held numerous events across the region, including Armidale, Guyra, Walcha, Carroll, Gunnedah, Narrabri, and Moree. In addition, she has had the opportunity to meet both Old Girls, Past Parents, Current Parents, and Prospective Families. The response from our Alumni who have had the chance to catch up at these events has been fantastic, and we look forward to more of these opportunities to connect once COVID restrictions lift.

Unfortunately, our Year 12 girls have yet to have their Valedictory Service, but we are hopeful that this will be held in November 2021. The Armidale Alumni hope to provide an afternoon tea for these girls subject to the restrictions at the time. We wish all of our Year 12 girls the best in their exams and look forward to seeing them at Alumni events in the future.

In April 2021, NEGS reached a significant milestone by opening the NEGS Regional Sporting Complex, which marks an exciting further chapter for the School. The Complex is impressive. The Alumni and other benefactors assisted the School with this project, with the Armidale alumni donating the hockey and netball goal posts. Even in these challenging times, our fundraising is

significant as we fund scholarships and assist with projects. I ask anyone who would like to donate or make a bequest in their will to please do so. All donations to the building or scholarship fund are tax-deductible. For further information or if you wish to discuss making a gift, don't hesitate to get in touch with NEGS Director of Enrolments and Marketing, Lyn O'Neill.

Once again, the continuing COVID restrictions meant that the Old Girls' Weekend and the much-awaited Spring Fair has been rescheduled to March 2022. Instead, the cohorts who should have celebrated their reunions in 2020 and 2021 will celebrate together with our cocktail party and Autumn Fair. Then, in September, the traditional Old Girls' Weekend will be held for the 2022 reunions.

Despite the challenging year that 2021 has been, it has been wonderful to see NEGS continue to thrive. The growth of the new facilities and enrolments is welcoming, as has been the School, Staff and Students' responses to the extended period of lockdown learning.

Once again, I feel that we are lucky to be part of such an exciting and vibrant school community and, once again, NEGS has shown itself to be ever-evolving and ready to take on challenges as they arise. With increased vaccination rates, I am hopeful that Term 4 will see a return to a more normal environment and am confident we will be able to hold more events for our Alumni.

NATALIE SCANLON ('97)
NEGS ALUMNI (OGU) PRESIDENT



ALUMNI

Office Bearers

The Old Girls have branches in Armidale, Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne where volunteer committee members help develop connections and organise events.

Committee members

ARMIDALE

President – Ms Natalie Scanlon ('97)

E | nscanlon@countrywidelegal.com.au

Vice President – Shara Menzies (Ibbott '86)

P | 02 6778 1115

E | shara4@bigpond.com

Secretary – Please contact Natalie if you are interested in this position.

Treasurer and Public Officer – Jo Campbell (Studdy '80)

P | 02 6772 2048

E | archie@bigpond.net.au

BRISBANE

E | negsoguqld@gmail.com

President – Kerrie Smith (Benham '87)

M | 0488 658 889

E | dkmasmith@hotmail.com

Secretary – Caroline Tomkins (Blackwell '83)

M | 0428 511 001

E | ctomkins@bigpond.net.au

Treasurer – Miranda Dunning (Ferguson '87)

M | 0419 708 250

E | miranda@dunning6.com

Today, the NOGU has over 5,500 members and financially supports Scholarships and Bursaries to future students.

SYDNEY

Vice President – Sally Grimble ('76 McLaughlin)

M | 0413 662 371

E | sallygrimble@gmail.com

Secretary – Lynn Hutton (Wharton '64)

M | 0411 600 711

E | lynne.hutton7@gmail.com

Treasurer – Mary O'Toole (Thompson '64)

M | 0427 013 738

E | m_otoole@speednet.com.au

Committee – Margaret Orchard, Caroline Grundy,

Kirsten Mallam and Suzie Shaw

MELBOURNE

Elizabeth Brown (Pixley '58)

P | 03 9509 1009

E | rfm.brown@outlook.com

CANBERRA

Lindy Armstrong (Masters '77)

P | 02 6241 4602

E | lindy.armstrong01@gmail.com

Old girls of all ages with fresh ideas are warmly welcomed as new committee members. Contact your nearest branch above to join or enjoy attending functions.

DONATE TO OUR SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded to prospective students who embody the spirit of a NEGS girl and are a relative of an Old Girl or, at the discretion of the NEGS Old Girls' Union, to a family who is undergoing financial difficulty. The NOGU are proud to be able to help future generations have the wonderful all-round education they were fortunate to receive. Every student who passes through the gates of NEGS today benefits from the exceptional generosity of past generations of benefactors and your tax-deductible gift ensures NEGS girls continue to flourish for future generations. Contact NEGS Old Girls' Coordinator oldgirls@negs.nsw.edu.au 02 6774 8700.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Margie Orchard , Lynne Hutton, Sally Grimble (standing) , Suzie Shaw, Kirsten Mallam and Caroline Grundy with her Granddaughter, Grace Sydney Alumni Committee

QUEENSLAND REPORT

Welcome everyone to the 2021 Annual General Meeting for the NEGS OGU Queensland branch. This time last year, when we held a scaled back AGM due to COVID-19 restrictions, we never imagined we would still be living with the daily challenges associated with this pandemic a year later. Our thoughts are with those family and friends in NSW and Victoria who have experienced more significant challenges than those of us in Queensland. Thank you to everyone who could join us today and those who could not travel to be with us. We hope to be able to see you again soon.

We are pleased to share that our Queensland OGU Scholarship was awarded to Ruby Agnew from Maroochy River in Queensland, who started in

Year 10 this year. I have been told she has become a valued member of the Equestrian Centre and is a keen eventing competitor.

Earlier this year, all the OGU branches received an appeal from the School to fund an electronic scoreboard for the new world-class hockey centre, which opened in April. Our Queensland branch donated \$13,600 as the scoreboard's total cost, which the School has very gratefully accepted. It is an excellent addition to the sporting facility, and we were pleased to have the funds available to make this contribution.

We had planned to host a social fund-raising event in October but, unfortunately, this had to be postponed due to the uncertainty of COVID

related restrictions.

On behalf of Caroline, Miranda and myself, we are pleased to have represented the NEGS old girls of Queensland as your branch committee over the past year and thank you all very much for your support and encouragement.

KERRIE BENHAM '87
NEGS OGU QUEENSLAND

SYDNEY REPORT

2021 has been quieter than usual for the Sydney Alumni Committee but still productive.

COVID restrictions have kept us at home and functions tricky to plan. However, we seized a few opportunities and thoroughly enjoyed meeting the Principal, Mrs Kathy Bishop, over dinner at Sydney's Queens Club. We were thrilled to have Mrs Bishop speak to our guests and draw the raffle.

We juggled dates and held our annual Bridge Day in June at Caroline Grundy's home. It was a delightful function with a light champagne lunch served.

Our AGM and lunch has sadly been postponed. We will hold a virtual AGM at 11am on October 19 2021 and will follow up early 2022 with our planned lunch at the Queen's Club. A link to the AGM will be included on the School website and emailed out a week prior. However, we continue to fundraise for our Polly Wearn Scholarship and hope you participate in our online raffle. The prize is a beautiful sapphire and diamond necklace and matching earrings donated by our benefactor, Polly Wearn's daughter, Margaret Ann Lloyd, from Inverell.

We wish the School community well and congratulate the School for the positive and supportive 'learning from home' they have given the students.

SALLY GRIMBLE (MCLAUGHLIN '76)
SYDNEY ALUMNI COMMITTEE



Bridge Day at Caroline Grundy's home



**PURCHASE
YOUR
TICKETS
TODAY**

Link: <https://events.humanitix.com/sapphire-and-diamond-jewellery-to-fund-sydney-negs-ogu-scholarship>

POLLY WEARNE SCHOLARSHIP

In support of the Polly Wearn Scholarship, this beautiful matching set comprising a sapphire and diamond necklace and earrings, valued at \$2,550 has been donated by Polly Wearn's daughter, Margaret Ann Lloyd (1945-1950). Margaret Ann fossicked, cut and designed these beautiful Inverell sapphires herself and had Sheppards Jewellers of Inverell set the pieces. Margaret Ann's generous donation aims to continue the legacy initiated by her mother and

fellow Sydney Old Girls who became aware of girls who might otherwise miss out on the very special educational opportunity that NEGS provides.

NEGS Sydney OGU is running a raffle as their major fundraising event for the year. With only 250 tickets available at \$50 per ticket, your chances are extremely high to be the lucky winner of this stunning sapphire and diamond necklace and earrings.



What is your current role with the Equine Industry? What do you love about your current position?

My current role is Marketing and Nominations at Kitchwin Hills. We're probably publicly best known for breeding recent Melbourne Cup winner Vow and Declare, and The Everest winner Yes Yes Yes. Although my job is predominantly in the office dealing with bookings for our two stallions and marketing, I love that I'm still able to be involved with the horses. I get to incorporate all aspects from foaling mares on the farm, and covering with the stallions and yearling preparation.

Have you had mentors along the way? How did you find these mentors?

Plenty! My current bosses would have to be two of my biggest mentors, Pauline Alix and Mick Malone. They've taught me so much in my time at Kitchwin Hills. They have allowed me to reach my full potential by giving me many opportunities and confidence. My other two biggest mentors would be Paul Thompson and Claire Bird of Gerry Harvey's Baramul Stud. Claire taught me a lot on the administration side of things and to continually chase after my dreams, no matter how big they might be! Paul has taught me so much of

my horsemanship skills and many people skills, like management of staff. There are so many other people within the industry who have taught me so much as well. It's one of the few industries where a lot of the knowledge is subjective, meaning you can take a little piece of everyone's expertise and create your perspective.

What was something you learnt during your time at NEGS that is helping you in your role today?

One thing I learnt at NEGS was to always go after what made you happy. When I was younger, I was often told that there's

no money in horses or it's just a phase, but following my passion has led me to where I am today. NEGS gifted me with people skills and treating everyone you meet with respect and (usually) you'll be respected back.

What is your favourite memory of NEGS?

There's way too many to name! But, my favourite memories are definitely in the Boarding House. The bond you create with each other is like family and it is just like living with your best mates.

What is your funniest memory of NEGS?

There's honestly too many to name.

What would you say to a current NEGS student about life after NEGS? Did you know what you wanted to do when you finished school?

I would say to take your time and don't rush to have everything figured out or think there's a timeline to achieve everything! Instead, go at your own pace, figure out who you are first, and follow your instincts about what you should be doing in life. For example, I knew I wanted to be involved in some management role or marketing role but never thought I'd be able to combine the two as well as adding horses into the equation.

What would you say to current NEGS students about navigating the balance between horses and studies? What helped you to manage this?

I'd encourage you to keep focused on your studies, as well as following your passion for riding. Although your Year 12 marks are not everything, they will gift you a certain level of freedom and opportunity. If you don't have a clear view of what you'd like to do when you finish school, at least getting the best marks you possibly can gives you every opportunity. Don't sell yourself short!

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

The Thomas Family

Reflections from Jennifer Thomas NEGS Old Girl 1983-1986 and current NEGS parent.

All three of our girls attended NEGS: Ebony (2015-2018), Sophia (2016-2019) and Saskia, who is just about to sit the HSC (2017-2021). The girls' Aunts, Nicola Coupland (Thomas) and Helen O'Neil (Thomas), also attended NEGS. Nicola was Head Girl in 1983.

Having lived in one of the most beautiful parts of the world, Noosa, we as a family returned to Armidale in 2011. Though the girls missed the beach, we had plenty of friends who welcomed us into the community - I had grown up in Armidale and Simon had gone to UNE.

Most of us have the opportunity to go to the beach, but not everyone can visit friends on large, working properties and muster sheep or help with the harvest, go skiing on private dams and attend parties in woolsheds! These experiences are gifts!

I had often thought about the possibility of sending the girls to NEGS, having had such a memorable experience there myself. For me, my years at NEGS gave me friendships and experiences that I would never have had otherwise. The opportunity to attend a school with girls from all over Australia and the world opened up my world to endless possibilities and dreams. Girls from big cities, girls from huge properties, girls from other parts of the world and girls, like me, from 'across the road'.

NEGS has opened many doors and opportunities for Ebony, Sophia and Saskia, academically and *woolsheds*. In addition, it has helped them prepare for life outside of school. They have always loved their sport, and NEGS, through the Talented Athlete Program (TAP), gave them the chance to take their Netball skills to the next level. The program helped the girls with dedication, commitment, and hard work, not only on the netball court but also in the classroom and, more importantly, in life.

The school should be very proud of this program and the tremendous support and dedication that Mr and Mrs Cohen give the girls. The girls work hard and see the results. It sets them up for good practices for the rest of their lives. They had fantastic opportunities to travel to Sydney and compete on a higher level through TAP. The teams competed against top-level Sydney IGSA teams and came away with more determination, knowledge and experience each trip. There was even one year when NEGS came out on top in the IGSA Netball competition. A great triumph for the girls and their coaches.

All the girls were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to travel through the Round Square Program. Each of them chose to go to South Africa for around six weeks. Ebony went to Cape Town and was a weekly boarder at St Cyprian's. Sophia went to Port Elizabeth with Daisy Meehan. Saskia had quite a different experience going to Johannesburg and living with a family. I



would say her experience would have been the most authentic, living in one of the most potentially dangerous cities in the world with its high security and restrictions in a predominantly black community. While their experiences were all very different, they were life-changing experiences.

Ebony and Sophia now attend St Albert's College in Armidale and continue their Agricultural Business and Teaching studies. They have loved meeting new people at the College and continue to face life's challenges and triumphs. Something NEGS has given them is the confidence and courage to do this.

Saskia has finished Year 12 and is waiting on the HSC to start. It certainly hasn't been easy for these kids the last couple of years but, hopefully, they will all take something positive away from life with COVID-19 and the restrictions we have all experienced. Saskia has applied for a Gap year in the Navy and is waiting to confirm this. Let's hope we can all return to some normality soon so our kids can start living out their dreams and plans they so rightly deserve.

Stay Connected

A great strength of our School Community is our Old Girls' community, past and present with their wide networks and deep bonds. Our Alumni reside around Australia and around the world and their success, resilience and enthusiastic participation in life is evident wherever you go. The Alumni connections remain strong through the ongoing efforts of the NOGU.

Please keep in touch, we love hearing your news and would be delighted to invite you back to visit or share in some of the events at the School.

We look forward to including in the next edition congratulatory Wedding and Baby news (and of course, photographs!).

Become a Life Member

If you are not a member and would like to join the NOGU please contact the NEGS Alumni/Old Girls' Coordinator. Life Membership is a one off \$200 payment.

NEGS Alumni/Old Girls' Coordinator:
oldgirls@negs.nsw.edu.au

In Memoriam

We offer our sincere sympathy
to the families and friends of the following:

Old Girls

Olivia Rogers,
Year 10 Student, 16 Years old, sadly passed away 10 June 2021

Cynthia Dagleish (Class of Year 1992)
died 11 July 2021 aged 46

Dr Barbara Burkitt (1942-1950)
died 2 February 2021 aged 87

Phyllis Churton Taylor (younger sister of Anne) born in 1929,
passed away at the end of July.
Phyllis and her sister Anne attended NEGS during WW2.

NEGS BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To support our community, NEGS and the NEGS Alumni have established a NEGS Business Directory. This professional network connects our current families, Old Girls and the wider NEGS community to businesses and services. The Directory will be updated regularly and shared on our social media platforms and website. To advertise in this Directory (free of charge to our NEGS Community), please email oldgirls@negs.nsw.edu.au.

At NEGS, we believe our community is one of our defining strengths and, since our inception in 1895, our Alumni have been critical in the continuing success and longevity of NEGS. We are grateful for their ongoing support.



1995



1960



1980

Reunion Coordinators
For further information,
please contact Old
Girls' Coordinator at
oldgirls@negs.nsw.edu.au

CONTACT LIST

REUNIONS

The opportunity to hold reunion gatherings has been limited over the past 12 months. In 2020, the reunion weekend was cancelled and, unfortunately, plans for this year have again been impacted by COVID-19.

We look forward to welcoming in 2022 the Reunion Cohorts of 2020, 2021 and 2022. A double celebration will be held over the weekend of the 18-20 March for the cohorts of 2020 and 2021. The weekend will begin with a Cocktail Party on the Friday evening. This weekend will also coincide with the NEGS Autumn Fair.

We look forward to welcoming the Reunion Cohorts of 2022 to celebrate their reunion weekend in September.

2000 cohort

60 YEAR REUNION (1960)

Virginia Lydiard
M | 0418 683 468
E | virginia.lydiard@bigpond.com

50 YEAR REUNION (1970)

Prue Hart
M | 0419 700 265
E | prue.hart@telethonkids.org.au

40 YEAR REUNION (1980)

Jo Campbell (Studdy)
M | 0497 583 877
E | archiec@bigpond.net.au

30 YEAR REUNION (1990)

Sophie Carter (Powell)
M | 0427 433 531
E | carter.rangari@gmail.com

25 YEAR REUNION (1995)

Elizabeth Rogers (Betts)
M | 0427 792 224
E | liz@rogerslivestock.com.au

20 YEAR REUNION (2000)

Emma Davidson (McMalister)
M | 0409 077 125
E | emma.davidson@ed.act.edu.au

10 YEAR REUNION (2010)

Clare Stibbard
M | +44 758 603 1001 (UK) or WhatsApp
E | clare.stibbard@gmail.com

5 YEAR REUNION (2015)

Nichola Orr
E | nichola.orr97@hotmail.com
or Caitlyn Everingham
M | 0488 576 012

2021 cohort

65 YEAR REUNION (1956)

Vaun Gegier (Blomfield)
P | 02 6778 0295
E | gegier@bigpond.com

60 YEAR REUNION (1961)

Dorothy Kemp (Cochrane)
P | 07 3870 7035
E | dottikemp@bigpond.com

50 YEAR REUNION (1971)

Libby Jack (Waters)
M | 0408 815 224
E | libby.jack@education.tas.gov.au

40 YEAR REUNION (1981)

Susie Rowley (Hays)
M | 0428 861 101
E | thewishgallery@bigpond.com

35 YEAR REUNION (1986)

Shara Douglas-Menzies (Ibbot)
M | 0428 105 900
E | shara4@bigpond.com

30 YEAR REUNION (1991)

Susanna Greig
M | 0457 562 680
E | susanna.greig@une.edu.au

25 YEAR REUNION (1996)

Emma Carson (Bayley)
M | 0458 201 473
E | ecabayley@yahoo.com.au

20 YEAR REUNION (2001)

Alex Murray
M | 0408 745 633
E | alexandra@designtribedubbo.com.au

10 YEAR REUNION (2011)

Kirsty Assef
M | 0438 299 323
E | kirsty.assef@gmail.com

5 YEAR REUNION (2016)

April Larsen
M | 0412 576 595
E | aprilarsen6@gmail.com
or
Sarah Hamparsum
M | 0447 125 794
E | sarah.hamparsum@gmail.com



1991



2000



2011



On behalf of the NEGS Alumni Inc (Old Girls' Union), we invite all Alumni and the NEGS Community and Friends to celebrate

NEGS 125 YEAR ANNIVERSARY COCKTAIL PARTY CELEBRATION

Friday 18 March 2022 from 5:30pm
NEGS Assembly Hall

Tickets \$50
Price includes drinks and canapés. All proceeds go towards NEGS scholarships.

Please RSVP by Monday, 14 March 2022 via
NEGS Old Girls' Union payment portal
<https://negsogu.tidyhq.com/>

Please direct all enquiries to Jo Campbell on 0497 583 877.
If you are unable to attend, donations are greatly appreciated.



SAVE THE DATE
NEGS AUTUMN FAIR
10:30am – 3:30pm, **March 19 2022**

The NEGS Autumn Fair is on and you are all invited!
Featuring all your favourites, with lots of new food and gift stalls, live sport and entertainment, activities and more.




NEGS ALUMNI (OLD GIRLS') WEEKEND

18-20 March 2022



PROGRAM

Friday 18 March	
5:30pm - 7:30pm	NEGS Alumni Cocktail Party Celebrate NEGS 125 th Anniversary with the NEGS Community & Friends Assembly Hall, NEGS Canapés & Drinks provided Cost \$50.00 per head <i>Early RSVPs would be greatly appreciated as our wonderful Committee caters for the event. All funds raised go towards scholarships – if unable to attend, donations are also greatly appreciated via https://negsogu.tidyhq.com/.</i>
Saturday 19 March	
10:30am	NEGS Gourmet Autumn Fair A mixture of gourmet food stalls/lunch and wine bar available for purchase. There will be traditional fair activities and a number of beautiful stalls at the NEGS Emporium. If any NEGS old girl would like to have a stall on the day, please contact Edwina Douglas-Menzies at edwina.douglas-menzies@negs.nsw.edu.au or call 02 6774 8700.
11:00am	Hockey Match (NEGS Old Girls vs NEGS Current Girls) on our new international standard hockey field. Please advise Edwina if there are Old Girls interested in playing.
11:00am - 1:30pm	School Tours conducted by students departing from the Archives building (the old music room). Please advise which session your year group would like to attend – 11:00am / 11:15am / 11:30am / 1:00pm / 1:15pm / 1:30pm.
11:45am	Netball Match (NEGS Old Girls vs NEGS Current Girls) on our new netball courts. Please advise Edwina if there are Old Girls interested in playing.
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Fashion Parade NEGS uniforms through the ages.
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Showjumping Competition (Old Girls vs Current Girls) Equestrian Centre.
3:30pm	NEGS Gourmet Spring Fair concludes.
Evening	Year Group Dinners (organised by each year group)
Sunday 20 March	
9:00am	NEGS Alumni Chapel Service
9:30am	Morning Tea and Scones with Year 12 girls hosted by NEGS