



NEGS
MORE THAN
A SCHOOL

125
YEARS
1895-2020

Akaroa

Edition Two 2020

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS | 1895-2020



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2021 Calendar of Events Semester One

TERM ONE

26 January	Australia Day Public Holiday
27 January	Staff Day & Orientation Boarders return
28 January	CLASSES COMMENCE
12 February	Swimming Carnival - JS & SS
18 February	PSSA Swimming Carnival
2 March	IPSHA Swimming Carnival
4-5 March	IGSSA Swimming Carnival - TBC
10 - 12 March	Junior School camp
24 March	NEGS Cross Country - SS only
27 March	PSSA Cross Country
31 March	TERM CONCLUDES
2 April	Good Friday Public Holiday

TERM TWO

19 April	Staff Day Boarders return
20 April	CLASSES RESUME
25 April	ANZAC Day
14 May	Athletics Carnival - JS & SS
19 May	National Simultaneous Storytime
14 June	Queen's Birthday public holiday
17 June	Year 11 Parent/Teacher interviews - TBC
17 June	TERM CONCLUDES

Principal's Welcome

I am so proud of our school community this year. COVID-19 has shaken us all but we have persevered. The students had to adapt to Remote Learning in Term 2 and they did so with a positive and dedicated manner. Teachers showed amazing commitment, flexibility and professionalism during this remote learning period.

When the majority of the senior girls returned in Term 3, it was school as COVID-19 normal.

This meant all students and staff had to abide by the restrictions brought in for their safety. I am proud of the school community's acceptance of the COVID-19 restrictions and will always be grateful for the support they showed the School.

I am also very pleased that our special Year 12 cohort were able to have a Valedictory Assembly and a Formal. This group showed remarkable resilience and leadership in these trying times. I am glad that Year 10 will be able to have their Semi-formal because, like all of the girls, they have missed out on so much this year.

There is a lot to look forward to next year. Our new sporting complex will be completed and I know the students are keen to use the new hockey and netball facilities. We will also welcome our new Principal, Mrs Kathy Bishop, and I am confident that she will be instrumental in driving the School forward to bigger and brighter things.

Finally, I would like to thank the boarding, auxiliary and teaching staff for their great support and efforts this year, it was an honour to be your Acting Principal.

I wish all students, families and the extended NEGS community a happy and safe Christmas.



MARK FLYNN
NEGS ACTING PRINCIPAL

NEGS OPEN DAY and Scholarship Exam

Friday 23 April 2021

**COME AND EXPERIENCE THE NEGS DIFFERENCE
AND WHY WE ARE MORE THAN A SCHOOL.**

Enjoy seeing a snapshot of life as a NEGS family. Discover our beautiful 50 hectare campus including the new NEGS Sporting Complex and the NEGS Equestrian Centre. See our classes in action, meet with our new Principal, Mrs Kathy Bishop, and speak with our staff and students. Please join us for Morning Tea afterwards.

Please call our Enrolments team on 02 67748700 to register or book online at trybooking.com/BOZBU



**REGISTER
NOW**

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Akaroa!

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 such a success.

Thank you!
From the NEGS Marketing Team

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Indroucing the NEGS 2021 Leadership Team

Head Prefect
AMELIA CROFT

Deputy Prefect
EMMA STELE

Prefects
ISABELLE CHANDLER
AMITY COXON
MATILDA HALL
ANIKA LANGFIELD

Primary Head Prefect
CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS
Primary Deputy Head Prefect
ISABEL ONAPA

Primary Prefect
JESSICA FLYNN



NEGS JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Junior School Report

NEGS JUNIOR SCHOOL HAS SHOWN ITS STRENGTH THIS YEAR. MANY CHILDREN AROUND AUSTRALIA HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS BUT THE JUNIOR SCHOOL DURING OUR TERM 2 LOCKDOWN STREAMED AROUND 40,000 MINUTES OF LIVE ONLINE LEARNING. A STAGGERING FEAT TO SAY THE LEAST. THE ABILITY OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO UPSKILL THEIR COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE WAS AMAZING.

Our Distance Education program has also grown this year with three students from the Northern Territory, one from Western NSW and one from regional Victoria. With more families seeing and hearing the difference that the NEGS online program delivers, it's not surprising more and more people want to be a part of it. On Friday 30th Oct - the Junior School staff were awarded the HTB Harris Memorial Award for a significant program. This was for NEGS online (our Distance Education program). This was a great honour to receive this award from the Australian College of Educators. Well done to all the Junior School teachers who have been a part of this program and to get it to where it is today.

This year while NAPLAN was cancelled many students sat the UNSW ICAS exams in English, Maths, Science and Digital Technologies. These tests are focused on the top 10% of students in each year group from years 3 -6. With 6 Merits, 5 Credits and 2 Distinctions awards our small cohorts should be very proud of themselves.

ANDREW TRAVERS
HEAD OF NEGS JUNIOR SCHOOL





NEGS JUNIOR SCHOOL

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



STATE TEAM AND EMERGING TALENT PROGRAM TRIALS

Congratulations to NEGS Talented Athlete Program students, Amber Barnden-Hyde, Sophie Wilkinson, Saskia Thomas and Jemma Wilkinson, who have progressed through to Phase 2 Trials for the 2021, 19U, State Team and Emerging Talent Program.



ON 10 NOVEMBER NEGS CELEBRATED NATIONAL NAIDOC WEEK 2020

Our outdoor assembly was led by NEGS student, Alana Nenadic, who delivered an inspirational speech to the theme, 'Always Was, Always Will Be.'



'WHY NOT YOU?'

'It's about waking up everyday and being proud of who you are and what you are working towards. Don't lose sight of the goals that you have and take the set backs with the wins. You learn from all of it.' Thank you to NEGS Old Girl, Rechelle Leahy, who delivered a truly inspirational speech to our 2020, Year 12 Graduates at the Valedictory ceremony. This cohort lived by the motto 'Why Not', with Rechelle building onto this... 'Why Not You?'



REMEMBRANCE DAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2020

We will remember them. Lest We Forget.



NEGS BOARDING- YEAR 12 MENTORING PROGRAM

Our Year 12 Mentoring Program, provides a range of fun activities designed to foster strong relationships between all boarders. On 9 October, Sophie and Jemma Wilkinson held netball drills and skills!



NEGS CLASS OF 2021 - PREFECT INDUCTION CEREMONY

Congratulations to this incredible team of young women who have taken on the role of leadership through service. Together, they will guide and support their cohort whilst upholding the traditions and principles of the School. We wish them well.



CLARENCE RIVER COVID CLASSIC

Congratulations to NEGS students, Ella Crowley, Brielle Ball, Anika Langfield, Isabelle Chandler, Maddison Campbell-Pickering, for their epic efforts paddling 30km on the Clarence River, Grafton last weekend. Thank you to Mrs Lehman for all her work preparing the girls for this huge feat.



SCHOOLS' PROPERTY PLANNING FIELD DAY 23 OCTOBER

NEGS Agriculture students attended the Local Land Services NSW, Schools' Property Planning Field Day this week. Students are placed in the role of consultants, in charge of preparing a property plan that results in profitability and sustainability for the landholder's farm business.



UNDER 15s AND UNDER 18s (AAP) NSW HOCKEY SQUADS

Congratulations to NEGS students Cottee Harwood, Kate Atkin, Alyvia Wilson, on selection into the Under 15s and Under 18s (AAP) NSW Hockey Squad's. A fantastic achievement and we wish you all the very best!



BROOME CAMPDRAFT

NEGS students Emily, Chloe and Annabelle Towne, enjoying the Broome Campdraft recently. The girls came away with two first places and a 4th in their drafts.



FAREWELL NEGS YEAR 12 2020

To celebrate their last week at school, Year 12 enjoyed gifts from our Year 10 students and a relaxing barbecue lunch on the front lawn. The sun was shining and there was much laughter, tears, smiles and photographs!



ILLUMINATE NEXT GEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE

NEGS Year 10 students worked hard at the Illuminate Next Gen Business Challenge in August, creating real business solutions.

NEGS Welcomes New Principal: Kathy Bishop



ON BEHALF OF THE NEW ENGLAND GIRLS' SCHOOL LTD BOARD, I AM DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF MRS KATHY BISHOP AS THE NEW PRINCIPAL OF NEGS, BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2021.

Following an extensive national recruitment process and an outstanding field of high-quality applicants, the Board was unanimous in their decision. A highly respected educational leader, Kathy is the past Principal of Clayfield College, a Pre-Preparatory to Year 12 school with co-educational Primary, girls-only Secondary and girls' Boarding from Years 5-12. Prior to this, Kathy held senior leadership roles at Ipswich Girls' Grammar School including Ipswich Junior Grammar, and St Margaret's Anglican Girls School. Recently, her scope of understanding and involvement in education has been expanded through consulting work across Primary and Secondary educational settings. The Board was impressed with Kathy's breadth of experience, her passion for engaging and empowering young people to think critically and develop an entrepreneurial mindset, her focus on the development of character, and creating a community where students feel a sense of belonging and strive to genuinely be their best in all aspects of life, prepared to be catalysts for change, and make a real difference in the lives of others and the broader community.

Kathy, raised in regional North Queensland, completed secondary school in Brisbane and is well credentialed with a University of Queensland Bachelor of Arts, Graduate Diploma of Education,

and Bachelor of Educational Studies, and a Master of Education in Leadership and Management from the Queensland University of Technology. She also completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors' course. Her love of learning and intellectual agility, an unwavering commitment to excellence in teaching and her educational vision, initiative and integrity makes her an ideal educational leader for NEGS.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional work of the current school leadership team, and the Board is especially grateful for the leadership of the School by Acting Principal, Mark Flynn, and his commitment to the continuation of excellent education in such challenging times.

Kathy will be joined by her husband Greg, who hails from Lismore, and both are looking forward to settling in Armidale, and building strong connections with the school, as well as the local and regional community. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Kathy and Greg as they become such an important part of the NEGS Community in its 125th year.

Please join me in congratulating Kathy in her appointment as Principal of NEGS, and in welcoming her to the School. We look forward to this exciting new step in NEGS' journey as we continue to prepare our young boys/girls and young women to make a difference in the world.

JOHN CASSIDY AO
CHAIRMAN
NEGS LTD BOARD



ACEL Awards Night

On Friday October 30, a number of NEGS staff members attended the Australian College of Educators (NSW) and ACEL (Australian Council for Educational Leaders) Awards that recognise excellence in teaching. Terri Swartz and Tony Jones both received the J A Sutherland Memorial Award for a significant contribution to education, and the Junior School NEGS Online Program, led by Andrew Travers, Deanna Ford, Liane Nixon and Heidi Dent, received the H T B Harris Memorial Award for a significant program leading to the fulfilment of an educational need of an education program. It is great to see these professional and inspiring teachers being recognised, as well as our innovative Junior School NEGS Online Program.

NEGS CAPAD

Year 12 Major Works

STUDENTS HAVE CONTINUED TO SHINE IN THE CREATIVE AREAS OF VISUAL ART, DESIGN AND TEXTILES WITH SOME AMAZING MAJOR PROJECTS COMPLETED.



Katie Hancock- Visual Arts



Chelsea Thornton- Textiles and Design



Josie Orr- Textiles and Design



Brie Aitken- Textiles and Design

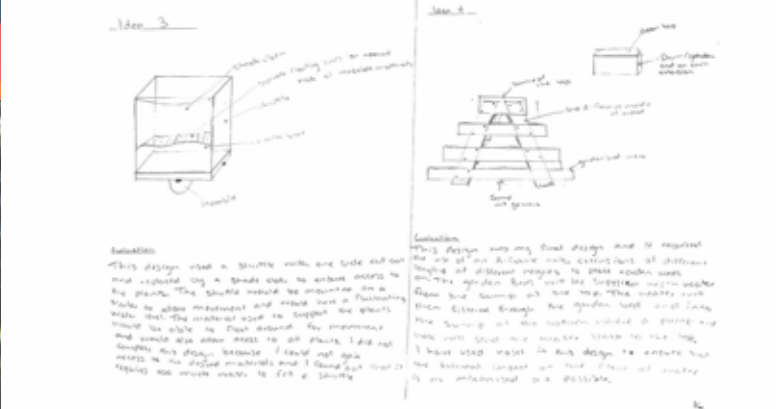


Emily Bramley- Visual Arts



Phoebe Uren- Textiles and Design

Sophie Boughton- Design and Technology



Sophie Boughton- Design and Technology



Charlotte- Visual Arts: Animation



NEGS MUSIC

News From Music

How lovely it was to welcome all the students back to their music classes in Term 3 of this year and to be back in the Music classrooms. Despite the many COVID-19 restrictions placed on Music, students were able to continue learning about Music and play a lot of percussion instruments. It was so wonderful to see how many students in our School wanted to take up playing an instrument. Mrs Lisa Nolan, our fabulous Music Administrator has been kept very busy all year fitting in all the individual music lessons for students throughout the Junior and Senior school.

In Term 3, we welcomed Mr Warwick Dunham, a fabulous accompanist to work with some of our vocal ensembles whilst Mrs Liz Smidt was on maternity leave. NEGS Songbirds were back singing briefly together until COVID-19 restrictions came in again.

Our Junior School marimba group were allowed to start again as they are a percussion group. They have been busy learning new songs and practising their favourite tunes on a Thursday morning before school. They have also welcomed many new students to the group. It is lovely to see the older students work with the new students teaching them songs.

We have been fortunate to have outstanding violinist and teacher, Miss Eliza Scott, working with Saumarez Strings. Miss Scott has recently returned home from London where she was in her final year of the Masters of Performance degree at the Royal College of Music.

Mrs Selina Ryan, our voice teacher worked with the Year 12 girls for their songs for Valedictory Day and she enjoyed working with the girls in Year 7 and 8 who are in the NEGS Junior Vocal Ensemble.

We are looking forward to when restrictions are lifted on music so we can have our choir and band groups back, as well as our wonderful concerts to entertain you again.

Yours in Music
SALLY SPILLANE



'It has been wonderful to finally be able to hear the sounds of the girls live instruments all together again. Well done girls, for your flexibility and adaptability.'



Senior School Music

This certainly has been an interesting year in Music. With huge limitations placed on musical groups due to COVID-19 affecting performances and rehearsals, it has been challenging to keep continuity and improvement throughout the year.

That, however, didn't stop the girls from doing their best the whole way through. The senior music groups, whilst limited, were ready to adjust. Some of the girls who played the 'banned' wind instrument types turned to the trusted keyboard and synthesised sounds to re-create their instrument sounds. Others tried to strum a guitar (with differing degrees of success) to be able to keep contributing to the music groups. It has been wonderful to finally be able to hear the sounds of the girls' live instruments all together again. Well done girls, for your flexibility and adaptability.

One group that was able to continue was the guitar group. This was an opportunity to play some of the latest and most fashionable songs of the latest times, with a range and different group of girls coming over to the music block over lunchtime to strum guitars or bash some drums along with their favourite artists. A great way to learn new skills and work together to make great sounds.

This year's HSC music students of Alexandra Rose, Priscilla Clonan and Charlotte have all been outstanding in facing any and all of the challenges presented, with gusto and courage. With fewer performance opportunities, or chances to practise their stagecraft and singing, the girls worked tirelessly with their accompanists to ensure their pieces and musical performances were of the highest standard possible. Such determination and dedication is truly remarkable and, as a result of their efforts, the girls produced some outstanding musical performances. A great commendation to all the girls.

MR FINCO

SPORT IN 2020

2020 HAS BEEN A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER IN SPORT AT NEGS. WE STARTED THE YEAR STRONG WITH THE SWIMMING CARNIVAL. GREEN WAS CROWNED THE HOUSE CHAMPIONS AND MURRAY WERE AWARDED THE CHEERING CUP FOR 2020. AS TERM 1 PROGRESSED, SPORTS STARTED GETTING CANCELLED. DESPITE THE CANCELLATIONS, THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAD SOME EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENTS.

Chelsea Thornton was selected in the 2020 Hockey NSW U18 Women State Field Team. Chelsea was also selected to attend the 2020 National Futures Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport in March with 60 of Australia's leading U18 hockey players.

Olivia Clarke and Lydia Farrar were selected in the NSW IGSSA 16 and Under Hockey side

Brielle Ball, Olivia Clarke, and Hayley Lennon were selected in the Northern Inland Academy of Sport Hockey squad.

Ruby Loosemore brought home two silver medals and a bronze medal from the IGSSA swimming championships. She also qualified for the CIS swimming championships.

Jorja Curry, Lauren Wilczak and Ella Russell were selected in the Northern Inland Academy of Sport Netball squad.

Local hockey, netball and rugby resumed in Term 3 in shortened formats. Unfortunately our netball and hockey teams were unable to compete in the IGSSA competition due to COVID-19 restrictions.



HOCKEY REPORT

For the second year, the NEGS Senior IGSSA team played in the Division 1 Hockey New England competition. Being the only school team in that Division, the girls faced challenging competition every week which resulted in the girls developing both individually and as a team. The Junior IGSSA side participated in the U15s competition. Although the season was shortened due to COVID-19, the girls made the most of and took every opportunity to develop their skills and further their love for hockey. Thank you to Greg Doolan, Matt Jackson, Hayley Lennon and Chelsea Thornton for coaching our NEGS' teams and being excellent mentors.

IN OTHER HOCKEY NEWS, THE NEGS REGIONAL SPORTING COMPLEX RECOMMENCED CONSTRUCTION IN 2020 AND WILL BE OPENED IN APRIL 2021. THE WATER-TURF FIELD WILL PROVIDE THE GIRLS WITH GREATER ACCESS TO A TRAINING FACILITY AND WILL HOST NUMEROUS EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

NETBALL REPORT

In 2020, NEGS had four teams participating in the Armidale District netball competition. The Senior IGSSA team finished runners up in Division 1 and won the Schoolgirls Trophy for the highest placed school team in Division 1. NEGS 2 fought hard in Division 2 finishing third. The team overcame a number of obstacles throughout the season. The Junior IGSSA team were a very young side who improved with every game and peaked at the right end of the season. The NEGS 4 team, who were made up of girls from Year 6 to Year 8, finished 5th in a tough Division. All of the girls should be proud of the spirit they showed every week living up to the NEGS' values. Thank you to Mrs Cohen, Ebony Thomas and Olivia Joyce for coaching our NEGS' teams and being excellent mentors.



Our Talented Athlete Program Athletes

HOCKEY

YEAR 8	Cottee Harwood Alyvia Wilson
YEAR 9	Lucy Saunders
YEAR 10	Lydia Farrar Brielle Ball
YEAR 11	Olivia Clarke Kate Atkin
YEAR 12	Maggie Halliday Charlotte Chapman Hayley Lennon Chelsea Thornton

NETBALL

YEAR 8	Ella Munday Jorja Curry
YEAR 9	Lauren Wilczak
YEAR 10	Charlotte Claridge Daisy Meehan Ella Russell
YEAR 11	Saskia Thomas Amity Coxon Amber Barnden-Hyde Jemma Wilkinson Sophie Wilkinson
YEAR 12	Sheriden Bennett Olivia Joyce

RUGBY

YEAR 9	Jorja Gilbert
YEAR 10	Paige Anderson Ashanti Pennell Maddison Campbell-Pickering
YEAR 11	Isabella Reardon Carla Gerigk Emma Steele
YEAR 12	Grace Brown Britnee Breneger

NEGS TALENTED ATHLETE PROGRAM

The NEGS Talented Athlete Program is supported by our State sporting organisations – Hockey NSW, NSW Rugby and Netball NSW. The Program aims to nurture the growth of elite athletes through a holistic and individualised approach while embracing the School values of excellence, responsibility and integrity.

THE NEGS TALENTED ATHLETE PROGRAM COMPRISES OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE COMPONENTS:

Specialist Coaching | Athletic Development | Holistic Growth | Individual Athlete Plans | High-performance Excursions

FIND OUT MORE negs.nsw.edu.au/sport/talented-athletes-program

RUGBY NETBALL HOCKEY



TAKE IT TO ANOTHER LEVEL

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reception@negs.nsw.edu.au | www.negs.nsw.edu.au

NEGS
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JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS

WE HAVE HAD SUCH A LOVELY SECOND SEMESTER GETTING BACK INTO ALL THINGS SPORT. THE STUDENTS HAVE CONTINUED TO DEVELOP THEIR FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILLS DURING MORNING FITNESS SESSIONS AND HAVE ENJOYED DANCING ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS.

In Term 3, Years 5 and 6 students had the opportunity to meet with an Australian cricket player via Zoom with NSW Cricket. The students were able to ask questions about what it is like to be a professional sports person, training and diet requirements and how they became successful. This was a real eye opener for our students who are potentially considering a path in sport and has given them a lot to think about.

Following this, NSW Cricket held a gala day for our school on our oval on the final day of Term 3. Students from Years 2-6 formed teams and played in round-robin games. Transition to Year 1 were also involved in a skill development session as an introduction to the sport. This day became very competitive amongst the students and it was great to see their game sense and skills develop.

We were also fortunate to participate in the community hockey and touch football competitions. These teams represented our school proudly and performed well each week.

Each Friday afternoon, the students in Years K-6 have taken part in a range of sporting opportunities. This would not be possible without the successful sporting schools' grants that we received, bringing these to our community free of charge. The students have enjoyed tennis, cricket, gymnastics, and swimming.

It has been a wonderful semester of sport and we look forward to participating in more events again next year.





COVID Canoe Classic

On Saturday the 31 October, the NEGS Kayak team again took on the challenge of the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic, however, with a bit of twist to the usual course. Due to COVID-19 impacting the ability of the official race to continue, a group of determined NEGS girls, led by Mrs Penny Lehman, devised a course down the Clarence river. The COVID-19 Classic was an estimated 40km paddle starting at the edge of Cophenhurst. While the fitness from going around Malpas dam on a Sunday morning was a sure start, most girls hadn't yet experienced the currents of a river and would soon learn the ropes to controlling a kayak in strong currents and high winds. Battling through the aftermath of high winds and rainfall from the early morning storm, the delayed paddle was underway and the makeshift classic was a large hit with the help of the local SES and PLC Armidale. The grit and strength shown by the girls and their dads' paddling, embodied the NEGS motto fittingly, 'Whatever you do, do it heartily'. Surely enough, all teams completed the course with a smile on their faces and enjoying a large feast that NEGS' parent, Liz Smith, had so graciously prepared. Money was fundraised for the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation, a charity funding medical research into the cause, prevention, treatment and cure of diseases treatable by bone marrow and the local SES to show our appreciation for the time taken out of their daily lives and their support through this enduring event. A large thank you is extended to all parents, families, staff and volunteers who helped coordinate this event for such a good cause.



Throughout the first semester the NEGS Wellbeing Program was in the process of implementing a new program Girls Supporting Girls. The program involved our Year 12 students developing lessons and teaching our Year 7 and 8 students one period a week. Not only would the girls from the younger years learn from the older girls but it would also allow them to develop a connection with the older students and give them someone to whom they could talk. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the implementation of the program has been postponed, however, we look forward to working with the program in the near future.

With the change to online learning the Wellbeing program shifted its focus to how to support students, Year Advisors and Tutors have been engaging in weekly Google Meets with their tutor groups. Some of the great ideas from our Tutors included:

- physical activity challenges
- mindfulness sessions
- goal setting
- providing an opportunity for students to discuss the challenges they may be facing while learning from home.

When classes resumed in Term 3, the face to face Wellbeing Program also recommenced with a focus assisting the students with readjusting to face to face lessons. Also, during the second semester, the Wellbeing Program was adapted to link in with the current issues faced around COVID-19.

Another program that was run for Year 10 was Love Bites. Love Bites is a Respectful Relationships Education Program for young people aged 15-17 years. It consists of two interactive programs: one on Relationship Violence, and one on Sex and Relationships, followed by creative workshops and community campaigns. Love Bites aims to provide young people with a safe environment in which to examine, discuss and explore respectful relationships.



From the Chaplain

Despite staff changes and the unanticipated COVID-19 setbacks, the Christian Studies and Chaplaincy program at NEGS has thrived throughout 2020. When restrictions kicked in, weekly Chapel services had to be delivered via more creative means, often pre-recorded or conducted in smaller groups. It was wonderful that Junior School Chapel was reinstated, face-to-face, in Semester 2 where we have enjoyed exploring the topics; 'Be Amazed: At the things Jesus said and did' and 'What in the World is Jesus doing now?' This, of course, was all done in the context of loads of fun; dancing, playing games, participating in quizzes and eating chocolate!

In the Senior School (Years 7-10) Christian Studies classes, students have grappled with a variety of topics such as 'Meeting Jesus Face to Face' in the book of Luke, the exploration of competing 'Worldviews', and Discovering Jesus in 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe', to name a few. Girls enthusiastically participate in lively debate and are often surprised by the relevancy of the Bible messages.

We have also continued with the 'Hope Hour' lunchtime groups, with the Junior School program hosting up to 30 students each week! These weekly meetings provide a safe, friendly and relaxed environment where children can investigate the claims of the Bible, in an age-appropriate way. All students and staff are always welcome at these groups.

Chaplaincy at NEGS is a vibrant, well-supported component of school life. The program seeks to offer students and staff Christian care and guidance, faithful Bible teaching and the opportunity to explore the hope offered by Jesus Christ. It is an absolute blessing to be involved in this aspect of NEGS.

REV TAMARA RAMSAY
NEGS CHAPLAIN

AGRICULTURE

NEWS

What a terrific spring! Next year's Limousin cross exhibition steers have been turned out for the summer break onto an abundance of pasture, as with our Dohne/ White Suffolk/ Poll Dorset lambs who are now powering along after weaning. Thankfully, both our Berkshire sows are pregnant and will farrow next term. They have been joined to a Landrace cross Large White boar so we should have some excellent cross bred porkers. Our Heritage White pullets are all in full lay now with the remainder to be sold before the end of term.

Finally, with some decent rain, our mixed fruit orchard is starting to really get away so hopefully there will be some terrific fresh fruit in the future.

The Stage 5 Agriculture class, as part of their plant production unit, have completed designing and sowing a pasture trial with six local popular species to be tested. This trial should grow well over the summer with dry matter results to be collected next year. A big thank you to Mr Craig Chapman (NEGS parent) from our local Grazag for organising seed for our students.

Stage 4 Technology/ Agriculture have designed and created poultry automated drinkers and feeders from recycled materials this term and completed a comprehensive portfolio to complement their design. There were some terrific ideas on display.

I'm very proud of our HSC Agriculture girls this year who really worked hard leading up to their final examination. They should be happy with their final results knowing they put in a solid effort!

Our HSC students of 2021 are now in full swing as they work through the 'Farm Product Study' where we focus on beef as our chosen product. Students will visit the Armidale cattle sale early next term.

Throughout the year, I have been able to take both Years 3/4 and Year 5 from our Junior School for an Agriculture lesson each week. Students had a lot of fun and learnt new knowledge and skills in the process!

MARK FISHER



Livestock Team

Finally, we were able to compete in a Livestock Competition this year with the Northern Schools' Prime Steer Show running in Glen Innes. A big thank you to the organisers for putting this on as students thoroughly enjoyed the competition. We took a group of very keen students and four of our cattle that were very close to being sold through our local sale yard had it not been for this competition. Sadly we sold five of our outstanding cattle earlier this year as there just wasn't a competition for them with COVID-19 restrictions.

Most of our girls made the finals in the paraders competition out of a large number of students from a range of schools. Out of four cattle we were able to achieve three prizes with a second, third and sixth place. Three of our steers were school-bred from 'Merilba' Kingstown. A big thank you to Mrs Wendy Croft for joining us as camp mum. The Crofts' continued support is always greatly appreciated.





PHOTO STORY

VALEDICTORY DAY

20 SEPTEMBER 2020



NEGS

EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

2020 HAS CERTAINLY BEEN AN UNUSUAL YEAR FOR EVERYBODY WITH MANY CHALLENGES, HOWEVER, NEGS EQUESTRIAN CENTRE AND OUR RIDERS HAVE COME OUT THE OTHER END DETERMINED, RESILIENT AND RE-ENERGISED.

Before COVID-19 restrictions took effect, NEGS held our very first Inter-school event in March which was very successful by all accounts. There was a Showjumping competition on Feb 6th and a Dressage Competition on 29 Feb. As a part of the 125 Year Celebration NEGS also ran all the horse events for the Armidale Show on March 6-7.

After a term of school closure during which we lost our Gap student-helpers and many key staff, we reopened in Term 3 with a new team on board and a goal to provide a busy program of internal clinics, including regular fortnightly coaching from Triple Gold Medalist, Matt Ryan. We attended an in-house demonstration on PEMF Pulse Therapy and talked about worming schedules with Virbac. Highlights of Term 3 were providing students with lots of high level training opportunities including Dressage with Peter Shaw, Show Riding with Les Friend and Breakaway Roping with Crooked Creek Ranch. We had a very successful student-led Jump for Chocolate competition, attended Armidale Riding Club Official Dressage Competition and ran an internal End of Term Extravaganza in all disciplines which was a huge success and lots of fun to end the term.

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our Annual One Day Event or attend any of our usual Interschool competitions such as ISHE, North West Expo and SIEC, some of which could not go ahead as usual. Some students were able to get out later in the term and during holidays to attend a few events with parents. We made the most of what was available locally by attending another Armidale Riding Club Official Dressage Day, some students attended a Hack Show run by ARC and we hosted many more clinics in Term 4 including Trick Riding, a bison clinic, Dan Steers Horsemanship, Les Friend, Peter Shaw, Andrew Cooper for Showjumping, and we were very fortunate to have continued fortnightly training with Matt Ryan for eventing. Some eventers were able to get out and about when Quirindi ODE ran with a new date in late October. As events started to open again, riders took all opportunities to get out and compete under COVID-19 restrictions. In November, students were able to attend Ashford Campdraft, NENWSHA Spring Hack Show at Gunnedah, Tamworth International Eventing weekend and a team of eight riders made it to NSW Schoolies Champs at SIEC in Sydney in late November. In addition, we learned about ulcers in a scoping demonstration with Randlab and our local equine Vet, and finished the year with another fun and challenging End of Term Extravaganza.

It was great to see the Equestrian Centre a hive of activity again with many smiling faces and much camaraderie. NEGS EC is feeling rejuvenated with an enthusiastic new team, a passionate new parent group with amazing ideas and skills to volunteer, a new 2021 Senior Leadership team and all students preparing themselves by stepping out of their comfort zones and ready themselves for the prospect of getting out to more competitions again soon. We look forward to an even better year in 2021!

**AMY LAYTON
EC CO-ORDINATOR**

Katherine Blackburn and Delilah Layton at
the ARC Official Dressage Day



India Stebbins at the
NENWSHA Hack Show



Allie Palmer at the NENWSHA Hack Show



Delilah Layton at the
NENWSHA Hack Show



End of term Extravaganza Social Polocrosse Game



Ashford Campdraft



Matt Ryan 20 year Olympic
Anniversary





THE JEAN NEWALL ARCHIVE CENTRE AT NEGS

NEGS IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE AN EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF MEMORABILIA, COLLECTED OVER THE YEARS AND LATER CURATED BY MRS JEAN NEWALL, FORMER TEACHER AND LIBRARIAN AT NEGS AND ARCHIVIST 1978-2015. IN EARLY DAYS, MEMORABILIA WAS SIMPLY CARED FOR IN MANY PLACES BY INTERESTED STAFF AND OLD GIRLS/OLD STAFF, AND THEN IT FOUND A HOME IN ONE OF THE OLDEST PARTS OF THE SCHOOL: TWO FORMER DORMITORIES WHICH WERE BUILT IN 1918 CALLED BLAXLAND AND WENTWORTH. THESE ARE NOW DEMOLISHED.

The Archives are now housed very comfortably in the former Music Block, built in 1923. On 17 September 1994, this sturdy building was recommissioned as an Archive Centre and later named the Jean Newall Archive Centre, honouring all Jean Newall's many years in NEGS service. It contains 14 rooms which were music teaching and practice rooms until 1993. Most of these rooms house specialised displays of memorabilia of the history of the school such as the yearbooks ('The Chronicle') from 1909, uniform pieces from 1911, past science and technology equipment, formal Chapel vestments and vessels, a music room with an original piano, record player and other accoutrements, crested china and embroidered linen and educational teaching and learning books and equipment as well as many photographic albums and clippings collections.

We encourage all students, Old Girls, parents and community members to come in and browse and enjoy the collection.



OLD GIRLS' NEWS

Celebrating some of our Old Girl Achievements in 2020



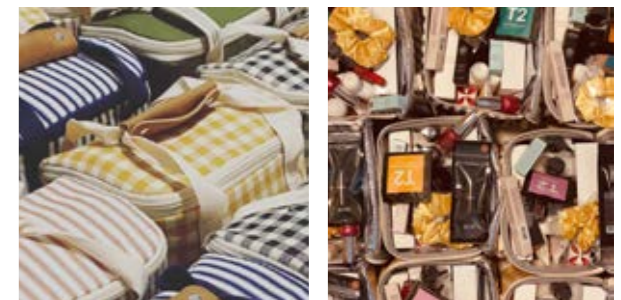
NEGS Old Girl, Alice Bell, known for her work on ABC's *The Slap* and Channel 10's hit adaptation of *Puberty Blues*, is currently working on Amazon's 10-part series *Expatriates* as writer/creator and co-showrunner for Nicole Kidman's Blossom Films.



Australian rally star and NEGS Old Girl, Molly Taylor, made it to the finals in *SAS Australia*.



NEGS Old Girl, Susannah Curtis, was a finalist in the Archibald Prize for her portrait of Tara Badcock, a Tasmanian-based conceptual artist. Her painting can be seen here on the Art Gallery of NSW website: <https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/prizes/archibald/2020/30212/>



NEGS Old Girl, Victoria Baron, is a top makeup artist and Australia's first Chanel ambassador. This year, in response to the devastating bushfires, Victoria started *Beauty Bags for Bushfire Heroes*, which collects local beauty and wellness products from the Australian industry to create self-care kits for those affected by the bushfires. www.instagram.com/beautybagsforbushfireheroes



NEGS Old Girl Emily Brett's company, *The Brett Cattle Company*, was the lead applicant in a successful landmark class action against the Federal Government's June 2011 decision to temporarily suspend cattle exports to Indonesia.

CALLING ALL NEGS ALUMNI

We love hearing from you!

Please send us news to include in our next Akaroa. A wedding photo, baby photo, a bungee jumping adventure, or any achievements great or small!

We want to hear your news.

Email us at alumni@negs.nsw.edu.au



Georgie Rogers

Old Girl Georgie Rogers, class of '93, has opened a store front in a new chapter of her Gathered Goods Australia hamper business.

GATHERED GOODS - OPEN NOW AT 82 RUSDEN ST, ARMIDALE.
CREATE YOUR OWN HAMPER FROM THE EYE CATCHING SELECTION OF 100% REGIONALLY MADE GOODS.

'Small batch made jam, chocolate etc. have a superior taste and quality, I avoid industrially made brands and prefer to gather goods not readily available in the mainstream market place. My aim is to express the sentiments of gratitude and appreciation in the creation of a gift that evokes the generous and abundant spirit of the country Australians.'

GEORGIE ROGERS
gatheredgoods@icloud.com

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TBC

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Kirsten Mallam
Margaret Orchard
Susan Shaw

NEGS Archives

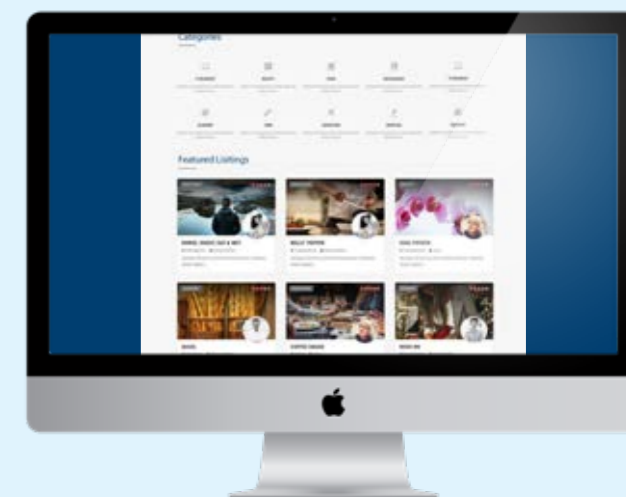
Attention ex-staff. NEGS would like to collect and update all ex-staff contact details for our database to include you in future events and milestones at the school as a special part of our past community. Please contact **Heather Fisher**, NEGS Archivist by email at marketing@negs.nsw.edu.au.

NEGS Memorabilia or uniforms. NEGS has a wonderful archive building containing 'all things NEGS' that has been collated and documented by the late Mrs Joan Newall AM for many years and now Mrs Heather Fisher. Any contributions will be treasured and appreciated by all the NEGS community.

NEGS Business Directory

To support our community, NEGS and the NEGS Old Girls' Union are establishing a NEGS Business Directory. This professional network connects our current families, Old Girls and the wider NEGS community to their businesses and services. The Directory will be updated regularly and shared on our social media platforms and our website. To advertise in this Directory will be free of charge to our NEGS Community and if you are interested please email selina.croft@negs.nsw.edu.au.

The NEGS Old Girls' Union would like to grow this Business Directory to foster and cultivate relationships between the remarkable women within our Old Girl community. Morning coffee or drinks after work may be organised in Armidale, Sydney and Brisbane to develop relationships one-on-one and enable past and future women of NEGS to support each other. A further benefit to support current students could be to set up mentoring opportunities for them as they embark on decisions for their future careers. For further information please email the alumni@negs.nsw.edu.au.



OGU Events

BRANCH EVENTS:

All Events and 'TBC' are dependent upon the Government restrictions being lifted. The Events are listed below to give you a guide of what committees are planning.

SYDNEY EVENTS:

Annual Bridge Day	Thursday 3 June 2021, Kirribilli
	For details please email caroline.grundy@me.com
AGM and Lunch at The Queens Club, 137 Elizabeth St, Sydney CBD	Tuesday 3 August, 2021

BRISBANE EVENTS:

AGM	Friday 20 August 2021
Social Event	May 2021 (details TBA)

ACT EVENTS:

Annual Luncheon	TBC
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ARMIDALE EVENTS:

NEGS Alumni Weekend	10 - 12 September 2021
125 Year Anniversary Cocktail Party	Friday 10 September 2021 at NEGS, 5pm

OLD GIRL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded, at the discretion of the Committee to the daughter, granddaughter or a relative of an Old Girl or a student, who is otherwise unable to attend NEGS due to financial circumstances.

The successful applicant will be someone who is committed to continuing a proud NEGS tradition and embodies the 'spirit of a NEGS girl'.

To support a student to enjoy a NEGS education, please contact the Director of Enrolments, Muffie Sproat, muffie.sproat@negs.nsw.edu.au.

NEW ENGLAND TRAVEL are pleased to donate 2.5%* from all bookings made through New England Travel to the NEGS Education Trust, supporting scholarships for NEGS Students.

Just mention NEGS when you make your booking.

*Excluding airfares

NEW ENGLAND TRAVEL
It's the experience that counts



OG Events and Reunions

NEGS COHORT REUNIONS 2020

60 Year Reunion (1960)
Virginia Lydiard
E: virginia.lydiard@bigpond.com
M: 0418683468

or

Libby Anderson
E: libbya@bigpond.net.au
M: 0421 580 416

50 Year Reunion (1970)
Prue Hart
E: prue.hart@telethonkids.org.au
M: 0419 700 265

40 Year Reunion (1980)
Joanne Campbell (Studdy)
E: archiec@bigpond.net.au
M: 0497 583 877

30 Year Reunion (1990)
Sophie Carter (Powell)
E: carter.rangari@gmail.com
M: 0427 433 531

20 Year Reunion (2000)
Emma Davidson (McAlister)
E: emma.davidson@ed.act.gov.au
M: 0409 077 125

10 Year Reunion (2010)
Clare Stibbard
E: clare.stibbard@gmail.com

5 Year Reunion (2015)
Nicola Orr
E: nicholaorr7@gmail.com

or

Caitlyn Everingham
M: 0488 576 012

NEGS COHORT REUNIONS 2021

65 Year Reunion (1956)
Vaun Gegier (Blomfield)
E: gegier@bigpond.com
P: (02) 6778 0295

60 Year Reunion (1961)
Dorothy (Dotti) Kemp (Cochrane)
E: dottikemp@bigpond.com
P: 07 3870 7035

50 Year Reunion (1971)
TBC

40 Year Reunion (1981)
Edwina Corlette
E: edwina@edwinacorlette.com
M: 0412 301 355

30 Year Reunion (1991)
Holly-Amber Manning (Whitaker)
holly@mannangpr.com.au
M: 0418 654 226
or Lucy Bingle

20 Year Reunion (2001)
Alex Murray
E: alexandra@designtribedubbo.com.au
M: 0408 745 633

10 Year Reunion (2011)
Kirsty Assef
E: kirsty_assef@gmail.com
P: 0438 299 323

5 Year Reunion (2016)
April Larsen
E: aprilarsen6@gmail.com
M: 0412 576 595

and

Sarah Hamparsum
E: sarah.hamparsum@gmail.com
M: 0447 125 794

WEDDINGS



Abbie Robertson (2014 cohort) married Mark Carolan (TAS 2013) on 21 March 2020 in a beautiful rural setting at her family property, Fishington. We wish them well and they will be living on Mark’s property nearby.

Extract from our 2020 Year 12 Valedictory Key Note Speech: Rechelle Leahy

Hello. I am truly honoured to stand here and speak to you all today. A million years ago, I was just like you sitting in an auditorium listening to some old dude waxing lyrical about their life and providing a prescription to success...

Well, lucky you, I’m no dude (although old is arguable) and I am absolutely not going to provide you with a prescription for success, because, to be honest, success is in the eye of the beholder, bear with me...I will come back to that.

I guess I should give you the CliffsNotes version of me...so according to my LinkedIn profile:

I’ve done a lot of ‘stuff’ – I have worked in Canberra for over 20 years and am the Vice President of the National Rural Women’s Coalition. I sit on numerous Boards including the NRWC, the Classification Review Board and the Northern Tablelands Local Land Service to name a few.

I have had a hugely varied career including running my own hotel (let me tell you that teaches you skills, dealing with difficult people and learning to have your voice heard – I recommend you try it at least once!) to negotiating the Australia – US Free Trade Agreement, and writing the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines and Rules.

I have also had the opportunity to represent Australia in New York at the United Nations as part of the Commission for the Status of Women twice, and here is where I truly grew my voice in advocacy.

My real passion is rural, regional and remote women and girls and advocating for our needs, for services and for more amplification of our voices to government overall. I am passionate about advocacy and ensuring we are all working towards equality.

Out of this work, I have been nominated for an Impact25 Award with Pro Bono Australia in 2018 and 2019 and I am an Australian Financial Review - 100 Women of Influence 2019.

My passion is working with government and non-government agencies on legislative reform, advocacy and research to contribute towards a better future for RRR Australia.

When I read this profile, I often think – who is that, and when did I find the time to do all of that, but what I stress to you is this is a LIFETIME (to date) of work. It has taken over 20 years, so I implore you to not look at these profiles and think you will never get there, you absolutely will, you will take your own path, it WILL be bumpy, but you will do it in your own way.

I was told that, at the beginning of the year, you took on a motto to lead by, and for you, the 2020 cohort, you chose ‘Why not!’ – meaning give everything a go, just do it, take advantage of every opportunity.... So, I nerdishly fist pumped and thought now THAT I can get on board – THAT I am here for!

I figured why not (see what I did there) - if I can’t be an inspiration I can at least be a warning right!

And so here we are, me having accepted the unenviable task of launching you into the wide blue yonder with some inspiring thoughts after these ‘unprecedented’ times! (p.s if I NEVER hear that word again it won’t be too soon!!).

What a year 2020 has been – the fact that you are all here right now, having completed 13 years of schooling, and you all seem relatively intact... bravo to you! You should be really proud of yourselves, always remember to celebrate the wins – even the smallest, these are so important.

There is soooo much chatter these days about the importance of authenticity: ‘Be yourself, everyone else is already taken’ right?

I have long been a lone voice in many environments in which I have worked, especially male dominated Board positions and other non-traditional roles. It is absolutely an act of courage to be unashamedly you, to use your voice and be heard.

It also doesn’t hurt to be a little cheeky – a great story I can tell you is when I was appointed to a particularly male dominated Board. I was taken around the hallowed halls by a fellow (male) Board member and he was showing me all of these amazing old photos of the history of the previous Boards...as you can imagine what I saw were A LOT of men...so in my own inimitable way, I said wow these are a fantastic reflection of the history of the Board and those women all had really short hair... don’t be afraid to speak your truth, being a little tongue in cheek sometimes!

The one thing I want you to take away from this conversation is that pushing past self-doubt, the fear, expectations (your own or others) and the willingness to work towards establishing a new way is not only an act of compassion, it is from where true advocacy comes.

Authenticity is where the magic happens.

As I said earlier – success is in the eye of the beholder. Sure, this can be awards and recognition BUT, more importantly, it is about waking up every day and being proud of who you are and towards what you are working. Don’t lose sight of your goals and take the set-backs with the wins; you learn from all of it.

If there is one thing I want you to take away from this speech today is WHY NOT YOU? Why not be the first female on an all-male Board, why not become the lead engineer on major infrastructure projects, or be a lawyer, a teacher or an artist. Opportunity comes from effort – be willing to give it a go!

If I hadn’t said ‘why not’ to the National Rural Women’s Coalition, I would not have represented Australia at the United Nations Commission for the Status of Women, I would not have advocated with world leaders about rural, regional and remote Australian women and our needs. The sooner I stopped worrying about what other people thought of me and my choices, the higher I flew.

SO I ask you:

Why not you?

Thank you for allowing me to speak today after what has been a completely crazy year and congratulations for making it! Bring on 2021!

FOLLOW US

Facebook – NEGS Old Girls’ Union

Facebook – NEGS Armidale

Instagram negs_armidale

Our Website

www.negs.nsw.edu.au



NEGS
MORE THAN
A SCHOOL

NEGS

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