



SCEGGS Moss Vale Old Girls' Union – formed in 1914

Newsletter September 2014 - Celebrating 100 years!

Greetings,

We are looking forward to seeing you on **13 December 2014** for a combined celebration of our School, which closed 40 years ago in 1974, and our Old Girls' Union, which was formed in 1914 as the OGU for Bowral Branch. We invite you and your peers to join us for lunch, we have so many memories to share.

Megumi at LB's Restaurant in the Harbourview Hotel, North Sydney has confirmed that they will give us a generous discount and only charge \$32 for the buffet lunch, that's a discount of \$10 per person! They must have liked our singing at the March lunch! Please let us know by 1st December if you are going to join us for this reunion. If you book with Anne now (this will give us a rough idea of numbers), we will send you a reminder in November. We plan to meet in the foyer/bar at 12 noon for lunch at 12.30pm. Payment will be made individually to the restaurant on the day. Parking can be a problem at North Sydney so we suggest you come by public transport if you can, buses stop almost at the door and the hotel is situated above North Sydney station.

We also plan to meet for lunch on **Saturday 18 July 1915** in Sydney. Look for information in our June newsletter.

We had fun at our **last** Old Girls' Weekend at Moss Vale on 18-19 July, there was some sadness about it being our last reunion in Moss Vale and suggestions were made that we meet again in 5 years, so maybe you could pencil a Moss Vale reunion in your diary for 20-21 July 2019, in place of our July lunch in Sydney that year.

As you can see from the photo below, taken after the Service at Bong Bong on Sunday morning, a good roll up. If you have any other photos you would like to share, we would be happy to have them placed on our website www.sceggsmvogu.org.au.

Please keep in touch and send us photos of your reunions and get together for our annual newsletter, which will be sent out in June.

Luceat Lux Vestra,

Anne Worboys, Hon President

Martha Birch, Hon. Secretary/Treasurer

Correspondence

News from Tasmania: Mrs Prescott turns 100!

Millicent Prescott reached a milestone July 25th and what a party!

The Premier of Tasmania was there, the Anglican Archbishop, TV cameras and reporters and the entire Prescott Clan. I hardly recognised Ruth as she is so tall, as is the whole clan, brother David looks just like Mr Prescott as does her youngest brother. I kept seeing Mr P. lookalikes everywhere!

The celebration was held in the St Clements Anglican Church Hall Kingston with over 100 people attending, including teachers from the Sydney Bayview school where Mrs P had also taught. I was the only Moss Vale Old Girl attending.

Speeches galore and the Sing Australia Choir sang all her favourite songs...she also sang with them. The Queen's message was read out also one from the Governor General.

Ruth and her husband had worked hard to make the day the wonderful success it was...they also made and decorated the fantastic fruit cakes for the occasion.

Millicent, who suffered a stroke several years ago, gave a delightful speech saying she credited her wellbeing and good health to the fact she had joined the Sing Australia Kingston Choir which had helped her regain her speech following her illness. She is still driving her own car and enjoying life to the full. Quite an amazing woman!

At the end of the party Millicent was in much better shape than most of us...my feet were killing me and I had to grab a chair! **Helen Walne (Adams - Class of "56)** (*Thank you Helen*)



Moss Vale Reunion 2014

(Left to right commencing with back row) Deborah Bembrick (Auchinachie) 1964-65, Jayne Beverley 1960-65, Jo Surgeoner (Sutton) 1952-56, the Rector Dean Reilly, Jane Borton 1954-57, Robyn Weller (Witney) 1948-53, Anne Tyas (McGrath) 1957-58, Katharine Moss 1961-66, Marion Huho (Gibson) 1964-70, Joyce Thorpe (Milligan) 1961-63, Sue Cooper (Wilson) 1950-1958, Barbara O'Brien (Gibson) 1959-64, Helen Meads (Gibson) 1958-60, Margaret Sharpe (Noble) 1949-52, Bronwyn Murdoch (Flook) 1957-61, Penny Galbraith (Young) 1957-61, Jan Kirkwood Gluth 1952-55, Anne Worboys (Bennett) 1953-58, Rhondda McCallum (Hellyer) 1953-57. Judy Friend (Cameron) 1951-55 and Trixie Hawke (Hermann) 1956-60 were busy taking photos. Rae St Clair-Groth (Abernethy) 1951-52 and Fran Stapelfeldt (Furner) 1951-52 joined us for dinner at Dormie House.

Thank you Rae for sending us the article from Southern Highland News September 10 2014.

We will post a copy of this photo on our website.

Above: The SCEGGS Old Girls reunite for the 40th anniversary.
Right: The SCEGGS girls at Christ Church Bong Bong more than 40 years ago.
 Photos supplied

SCEGGS 40th reunion

SCEGGS Old Girls have gathered for the last time at Christ Church Bong Bong. This year marked 40 years since SCEGGS (Sydney Church of England Grammar School) closed in Moss Vale in 1974.

On Sunday, July 20, the former SCEGGS students visited Christ Church Bong Bong, Moss Vale, for the 3am service, as they have done for many years when the "Old Girls" reunion held their annual weekend in July.

The boarding school operated in the beautiful grounds (hidden from view these days by encroaching industry) since 1930.

This was the last annual visit for the Old Girls, but perhaps not their last visit.

The students from SCEGGS had a very close relationship with Christ Church, walking to the church via the bottom gate and forming a major part of the congregation. They also assumed responsibility for the cleaning, flowers and Communion linen.

In winter, the girls wore black capes and black hoods resembling a nun's habit, and were jokingly referred to as "the black nuns".

A happy occasion was at the end of third term, singing carols around the streets of Moss Vale and being thanked with hot scones and strawberry jam.

Cricket games with the Tudor House boys were another highlight.

The entry in the Parish Vestry Minutes in 1974 read: "SCEGGS School closed this year. At an anniversary service the hymn 'All creatures of our God and King' was sung by the SCEGGS choir; this was their last service in the church."