



PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL



# Altior et Sapientior

September 2017



## From the Principal

Earlier this term the school celebrated twin AGSV premierships. It was only the fourth time in the school's history that dual premierships have been won in the same season. At a special assembly several days later I noted why the school marks these events, explaining that we celebrate these victories because we know they are important to students.

While the school has its traditions, we do not perpetuate them for archaic reasons. Many of your teachers are actively involved in further study and educational research. They know there is a large volume of research that supports the notion that students do well in their studies when they are active, engaged members of their community. By engagement in music, drama and sport at the school, students give themselves the platform to improve their academic performance.

This explanation encourages one to reflect on the school's numerous traditions. While the school's history in sport and music is extensive and extends beyond the forty-year history of our amalgamated school, newer traditions are at various points of evolution.

Drama and dance have been co-curricular programmes for thirty years. This year, we have already enjoyed *Great Heights* and *A Comedy of Errors*. In the final weeks of this term and after this newsletter goes to publication, we will see, as part of PEGSfest17, our biennial *Sketch Show* and *Snapshots* as well as the Dance Club's performance item, called *Exposure*. These traditions continue.

It has taken less than a decade for the school musical to become a firmly established tradition at the school. Introduced in 2008 with our first production *Little Shop of Horrors*, and with the addition of a Junior musical in 2015, the school musical is now an essential part of the school's annual landscape and a potent example of traditions growing out of strong student achievement and engagement.

While in only its second year, the school is hoping that *One School Day* will soon become another tradition - another anticipated event - for students and the school community. The latest expression of former Speech Nights, *One School Day* notes not just the achievements of our students but asks the whole school to thank, encourage and celebrate with our Year Twelve students as they face their final weeks of schooling. Only time will tell, but *One School Day* is beginning to look like another fine school tradition.

At PEGS, traditions exist to serve our students and they survive because they are valuable to our students.

**Tony Larkin**

# One School Day 2017

We're all in this together was the theme of this year's *One School Day*. It celebrated forty years since the establishment of Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School when Penleigh Presbyterian Ladies College and Essendon Grammar School were amalgamated.

Joined by members of the Board of Management, teachers and parents, students from Years Three to Twelve gathered at Plenary in the Melbourne Convention and Entertainment Centre while students from Kindergarten to Year Two watched live via a video-feed.

With exceptional performances by the Senior Choir, Senior Concert Band and the Chinese Orchestra, the cast of *Beauty and the Beast*, the Junior Orchestra, Junior Concert Band and Junior Choir, and the Stage Band, the assembly was a festive affair.

The Chairman of the Board of Management, Mr Bruce Henderson, the Principal, Mr Tony Larkin and Year Twelve student Vani Datt each addressed the audience, reflecting on the achievements of the school and its students. Another highlight of the event was the awarding of School Prizes to students in recognition of their outstanding efforts and achievements.

**Nina Bliewicz**  
Vice Principal





# The University of Melbourne Network of Schools

*The University of Melbourne has created a collaborative partnership for Victorian schools to learn from each other and to work together with world-class researchers on strategies to improve student learning. The purpose of the Network is to impact on improving the learning outcomes and experiences of students, through a structured program that focuses on teaching and learning, and to inform, build and use the evidence base of The University of Melbourne.*

In 2016 the school joined the network of schools, called UMN05, beginning its three-year formal association with the university on this project.

It was important for the school to select a project that is meaningful to the way students think and learn and relevant to all students and their learning outcomes, no matter if they are in Prep or Year Twelve. As a consequence, we selected a project that focuses on reasoning with evidence in non-fiction writing.

As we are now one and a half years into the project we are beginning to move from the preparation to the integration phase as teachers are beginning to trial strategies specific to the needs and abilities of their student cohort.

**Nina Bilewicz**  
Vice Principal



# Year Five girls visit Kindergarten

The visits to the Cottages by our Year Five girls are a highlight for our Kindergarten students. Building connections between the Kindergartens and the Junior School (girls) support a positive transition to school for the youngest members of the PEGS community.

Each Year Five class comes to play for an hour or so to form friendships and build relationships. In small groups, they spend time together reading picture books, in role-play and working on puzzles to develop problem-solving skills and perseverance.

It is also a special time for the Year Five girls who are returning to the Cottages they attended as four year olds. They excitedly recall their favourite kindergarten experiences.

At the conclusion of the visit, the kindergarten students proudly present a small gift they have created to each of the girls while eagerly looking forward to the next visit in Term Four.

**Pam Hocking**  
Director of Kindergartens



# Ethics and Religion in the Junior Schools

In 2016, the school reviewed its Religious Education programme in the Junior Schools and decided to expand the programme to include Prep to Year Two classes and to include a focus on ethics as well as religion.

The new course, called Ethics and Religion, is based on four pillars: Self, Others, World and Spirituality. Key pedagogical approaches include investigation, exploration, application and reflection. The classes are closely linked to core curriculum topics, particularly the English novels and General Studies units as well as relevant scripture. Thinking routines are used to focus on ethical behaviours and classes hone skills in writing, speaking, grammar and punctuation.

Students take issues and look at the notion of self. They investigate a self-centred model of thinking and how it affects relationships and self-worth. This view is compared to a selfless model of thinking where individuals are assisted to empower themselves and those around them. They strive for achievement through a strong sense of self-motivation driven by a spiritual connection to their communities.

Students are finding the new approach extremely engaging and empowering. They are learning better to understand themselves, others and the world around them.

**Craig McFarlane**

Head of Junior School (boys)



# Thinking and learning through languages



One of the often-touted reasons for studying a foreign language is the benefit these subjects confer in the calculation of the ATAR in Year Twelve. While Chinese, French, German, Indonesian and Latin do attract a 10-percent bonus in the calculation of the rank used for tertiary admission, this is not the best nor most long-lasting reason for language study.

As an exercise in scholarship, languages provide an intellectual challenge that simultaneously makes growth in learning visible and increases thinking and learning abilities. Students are able to identify clearly the new Indonesian phrases that they can now say or the German sentences they can now read. Further, developing new skills like how to write Chinese characters, how to discuss your family in French or how to translate Latin from classical texts stimulates new pathways and connections in the brain, leading to increasing intelligence.

Language skills also lie at the heart of the emotional intelligence (EQ) that is essential to becoming a thriving member of any diverse society. In our global community this takes on a further dimension with languages helping students to speak, but more importantly to hear, across cultures. Even now, students live globally, are aware of, connected to and affected by what happens beyond our shores, and languages help them to understand the different perspectives of the people they encounter.

Whether continuing to Year Twelve or not, the benefits of language study extend to all students, and far beyond their school years.

**Anthony Simmons**  
Head of McNab House



# Building social behaviours at school

There are many factors that impact on the development of social skills as children move from childhood to early adolescence in the Junior Schools. Life experiences, physical and social environments and biological or genetic factors can play a part as children learn to deal with social challenges.

Developing effective social and emotional skills and a positive sense of self are important elements of development. At school, students are encouraged to recognise a range of feelings, in themselves and others, manage their own emotions and behaviours in socially acceptable ways, respond appropriately to others, form social connections with other people, including their peers, cultivate a sense of autonomy and develop positive social attitudes and skills such as empathy, sharing and helping others.

Teachers recognise that there are differences that define children's attempts at connection and communication; they model the behaviour and communication styles they want children to use. They regularly help students to solve problems and negotiate with peers when disputes arise. As children develop autonomy in negotiating with others, take responsibility for their behaviour, communicate assertively and ask for and give support to others, the benefits to wellbeing are evident because they are able to maintain positive relationships, deal with stress and setbacks and work toward their goals.

**Christine Hallman**  
Head of Junior School (girls)



# A twenty-five year dynasty

Twenty-five years ago, the Head of Chinese, Mr James Wu, approached the Principal, Mrs Rae Pierce, with a proposal to purchase some authentic Chinese instruments. His more than discerning idea was to create a cultural experience that would serve as support to language learning. Under the direction of its conductor, Mr Fanyeng Shen and his assistant, Mr Zheng Ting Wang, both of whom were part of the group's inception, the Chinese Orchestra has managed to maintain its unique nexus between culture and music and has become an integral part of the school's music programme. Multiple tours to Taiwan and China, not to mention numerous performances at significant cultural events across Australia, are ample testimony to the orchestra's twenty-five year dynasty.

**Peter Chaplin**  
Director of Music



# Beyond the classroom

## Project Rockit



This semester, *Project Rockit* - Australia's youth-driven movement against bullying – spoke to Year Seven boys about positive relationships.

*Project Rockit* empowers students to stand up against bullying instead of standing by and watching. The presentations included many games that ultimately led to some valuable lessons. We were shown different situations and were asked to explain them from our own perspective. One of the games was "Chinese whisperers". This game showed how stories can be distorted as one person tells a story to another. They also shared true stories of people who experienced bullying. The workshops gave us insight to what bullying is, how it starts, how it can be tackled and, most importantly, some proactive strategies to create an environment where positive relationships are valued.

We learnt something new during each of the three visits by *Project Rockit*. The sessions were very interactive with many questions like: What is the difference between "being part of the problem" and "being part of the solution"? We were expected to think more deeply about our behaviours. We were empowered with new ideas and thoughts and, without doubt, accumulated a wealth of knowledge about diversity, belonging, respectful relationships, values, ethics, leadership and empathy.

**Liam Perumal**  
Year Seven



## Year Ten excursions

Learning does not happen in isolation. While we recognise the importance of the classroom in exposing students to content and concepts that are exciting, engaging and challenging, and in helping them to develop the critical thinking skills to navigate the world around them, we also know that learning does not stop once the bell goes.

With this in mind, two Year Ten excursions particularly emphasise learning beyond the classroom - QANTAS and the Holocaust Museum.

At QANTAS, students studying the elective "Is the Sky the Limit?" visit the airline's training centre. They meet pilots, learn safety procedures, examine airplane parts and have the enviable experience of flying a Boeing 737-400 simulator over Melbourne. The simulation of real-world aeronautics is an important adjunct between theory and practice.

The Holocaust Museum visit is an incredibly valuable and, at times, confronting one. It offers students the chance to view artifacts from this horrific period in human history, to speak to experts and – even more importantly – survivors. The students were buoyant upon arrival; however, the atmosphere became instantly respectful upon entering the building, as the gravity of what and whom it commemorates are felt. This extraordinary excursion is one our students know they are fortunate to attend and many returned with their minds broadened and their understanding deepened.

These are just two examples of the fascinating experiences available to our students. The staff members who organise these excursions are to be commended for their commitment to developing learning beyond the classroom.

**Simon McInerney**  
Year Ten Student Coordinator  
Gottliebson House

## Victoria Police visit

On Wednesday 9 August, the Victoria Police visited Gottliebson House to talk with us about appropriate behaviour. The session focused on our responsibilities as citizens, the meaning of an assault and the effect of criminal actions on victims.

The police gave many examples of the behavioural expectations of all citizens. For example, littering, graffiti and destroying public property were all deemed illegal acts. We were also told about our obligations as community members. They explained that the police see a fight at school no differently from a brawl at a shopping centre. This made many people think differently about how they act.

The police also clarified the definition of assault. It is more than simply hitting someone; the intent to harm can be considered as assault. The threat is considered as assault as there is an "intention to cause harm". This notion was new to many of us. The presentation included a video about a young man who was attacked by a drunk on New Year's Eve. He was knocked unconscious and fell to the ground, hitting his head and fracturing his skull. He died in hospital later that day. We saw the incredible sense of loss experienced by his family and friends. It was very affecting and provided a clear anti-violence message.

The visit was very informative and gave insightful information regarding appropriate behaviour. Everyone walked away having learnt something new. It will help us make more informed decisions about our behaviour.

**Jack Radovanovic**  
Year Nine





# Success at the Olympiad



For student mathematicians, there is no greater achievement than to represent your country at the International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO). Matthew Cheah (Year Twelve) realised this dream by representing Australia in this year's IMO in Rio De Janeiro. Matthew's performance was the best of the six members of the Australian team, making him the best school-age mathematician in Australia. Matthew is the third PEGS student to represent Australia at the IMO. Brett Parker went to Mumbai in 1996 and Sally Zhao went to Washington DC in 2001 and Glasgow in 2002.

We wish Matthew the very best with whatever path that he chooses in the future. I strongly suspect that Mathematics will be an ongoing part of his life.

**Theo Viantis**  
Maths Enrichment Coordinator  
Infinity Centre



## Professor Harry Messel International Science School

The University of Sydney's School of Physics biennially hosts the Professor Harry Messel International Science School (ISS). I had the honour of attending this year. I joined around 140 students from across the world during the mid-year holidays to explore the theme of "Future Power".

Educational lectures were held on the university campus and in the Australian Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology. We heard from eminent Australian and international scientists working in fields as diverse as medical physics and astronomy. There was a focus on future power sources, including solar panel efficiency, battery technology and the ITER nuclear fusion experiment. The talks were thought-provoking and quite often we found ourselves shaking our heads in fascination, whistling under our breath as we wondered, how is that even possible? Our experience at ISS was not limited to the theoretical; we had the chance to get hands-on with experiments and tours of scientific labs. We were given the opportunity to see cutting edge science including experiments with superconductors and observing a model of damaged heart tissue in the electron microscope facility. A fun-filled social calendar, interacting with other passionate young scientists and establishing a global network of lifelong friends, was another feature.

ISS was as challenging as it was rewarding. It exposed me to the extraordinary promise and potential of science. We were reminded, no matter what field of science we choose, to strive to uphold the philosophy and legacy of Professor Harry Messel, "A life lived in pursuit of excellence is a life well lived."

**Stella Le**  
Year Eleven

# Student visitors



The school has hosted four Chinese students and two Indonesian students from our sister-schools, Datong High School in Shanghai and SMAT Krida Nusantara in Bandung. School families have provided homestay arrangements for our visitors.

The visits have a certain routine. Excited but tired students are welcomed at Melbourne Airport by their host families. The students spend four weeks at the school. They attend a range of classes and make Australian friends, go to the school camp at Lake Elldon for a week and, more generally, embrace an Australian lifestyle. After four weeks, the students are genuinely sad when they leave their new families and friends.

*I've tried almost all the classes. Many of them are really fun. Since I'm interested in photography, I enjoyed the Media class a lot. I'm staying with Alex. He introduced me to many of his friends. They make me feel at home. – Mark (from Datong)*

*My experience in Melbourne has been amazing. To experience a different setting with its multicultural environment is a great honour. It makes you think about the influences that inspire the cultural aspects of lives and it's just simply unforgettable. – Nabila (from Krida)*

*I'm so lucky. On the second day here, Thomas's family took me to my first AFL match. At camp I made plenty of friends; we tried archery, high ropes and rafting and laughed together. – Mac (from Datong)*

The visits are also a great experience for our students.

*It turned out to be an interesting experience. We learned a lot about each other's cultures; I taught him Australian slang and he told me about his school. It didn't take long for me to realise how much more homework he did. – Thomas (from PEGS)*

We expect to meet the Datong High students again during the PEGS China tour in 2018.

**Xinye Li**  
Teacher of Chinese  
Infinity Centre



Our four student visitors from Datong High School visited the University of Sydney.

# Dr Jane Goodall visits

The Conservation Club was incredibly proud to host the visit of the esteemed scientist and environmental activist Dr Jane Goodall to our school (late last term). Her youth-oriented organisation *Roots and Shoots* is a global network of young people engaging in conservation work at a local level and the Conservation Club is proudly a member of this group of like-minded, proactive young people.

Dr Goodall spoke to a packed auditorium about the need to think and act locally in order to make a difference and the ability of every person to be a force for change. She also generously gave her time to speak to members of the Conservation Club about being leaders within the community. Her story is an inspiring one of determination and discovery and our community has been enriched by her visit.

**Alex Scott**  
Conservation Club coordinator



# Learning to love a Beast!

"That was awesome!"

These were the first words I heard as the audience left the theatre on the opening night of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* J.R. Judging by the reaction of the audience at each of three sold-out performances at the Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, it would seem that this statement is an accurate summation of the school's second Junior musical.

For three nights audiences were enthralled by the talents of the cast of forty-five students from Years Six to Eight, many with no previous experience of musical theatre, as they swept us into the world of Belle and the Beast. The outstanding singing, acting and dancing was capped off by an array of stunning costumes and visual effects creating a production marked by considerable professionalism.

A production of this standard does not come together overnight. The cast is to be congratulated on their hard work during many months of rehearsal. The educational, social and personal benefits gained from involvement in a production are not to be underestimated. Each student rose to the challenges that were set to create a lasting memory and an experience of sheer joy for everyone involved.

Staging a musical is truly a communal effort and sincere thanks go to everyone who generously donated their time and skills towards fanning this beast!

**Peter Bohmer**

Director of Performing Arts



# A Big Plus

During the excitement surrounding the Music Department's much advertised *+Music* concerts late in Term Two, it was very easy to overlook some of the special moments that contributed to the success of the series. Take for instance, the entire third concert. The simple title *+Music 3* belied the significance of this event, for *+Music 3* was exclusively a Junior School's production from beginning to end. While participants may have been relatively inexperienced, the consistency of performance, from charming chamber items through to more complex orchestral and choral works, was quite extraordinary. The vibrant reception from a capacity audience that greeted each and every item, was in no small part the result of some outstanding repertoire and playing. Of course, another big plus was the successful debut of our guest conductor! It would appear, in principle at least, to have been well accepted by both audience and ensemble members.

**Peter Chaplin**  
Director of Music



# Bill Turner Cup

This year the school entered an Under 15 soccer team in the Bill Turner Cup for the first time. This is a nationwide knockout competition that has run for thirty-seven years. We were largely unaware of the scale and history of the tournament. The competition began with 416 teams from cities as far away as Cairns. As an unknown quantity, our team was seen as an "underdog" compared to long-time entrants and specialist soccer schools.

Wins against Rowville Sports Academy (4-2) and John Fawkner Secondary College – A Melbourne City Soccer Academy School (2-1) set up a Victorian final against Maribyrnong Sports Academy. A strong crowd was present at Kellor Park to see our boys put in their best display of the tournament to win 2-0.

The team had earned a spot in the "Round of 32/16" play-off in Albury. A solid 4-1 win over Lyneham High School (ACT) was followed by a comprehensive 7-0 win against Orange High School (NSW) on the next day.

Back in Albury again and in the last-eight nationally, the team won its quarter-final (4-0) against another football academy school, Bosseley Park High School from western Sydney. The school now advances to the semi-finals to be played in Newcastle in September.

Regardless of the results in the final games, the team has much to be proud of for not only the success they have had on the scoreboard but for the spirit and camaraderie they have displayed throughout the experience. My thanks go to our coach Mr Colin Cooper and the band of loyal parents who have supported the journey.

**Chris Clark**  
Coordinator of Sport (boys)



## Triathlon - the new team

I welcome Danielle Stefano to the school as our new triathlon coach. While she has big shoes to fill, she is ideally qualified for the position. Her numerous roles include being the triathlon coach for the Australian Olympic team at the 2012 London Olympics and, most recently, she works as the Head Coach at the Victorian Institute of Sport. She will bring great energy to the role and we look forward to her being part of the PEGS community.

Mr David Halantzas will be our Triathlon Coordinator. An ongoing member of the school's "triathlon family", he will bring his passion for school sport to this role. It is the beginning of an exciting new era for triathlon at PEGS.

**Catherine Lane**  
Director of Sport

# Fabulous Friday

## – PEGS claims two premierships in two hours!

At the Premierships Assembly on Tuesday 8 August, Mr Larkin recounted three of the finest moments in PEGS sport history:

- 1998 - when football and soccer premierships were achieved in consecutive weekends.
- 2010 "Super Saturday" - when our netball, soccer and football won premierships in consecutive games on the same day.
- 2013 - a soccer Grand Final win on Friday afternoon was followed by football success the next day in Ken Fletcher's last game as coach.

We can now add Friday 4 August 2017 to this proud list. It was "Fabulous Friday" as our soccer and hockey teams secured AGSV premierships in a Grand Final double-header at Kellor Park, roared on by great support from students, friends and families. Our successes in the winter season, together with the tennis premiership secured in the summer season, completed a triple triumph in the AGSV competition for PEGS in 2017.

**Chris Clark**  
Coordinator of Sport (boys)



AGSV premiership captains: Lachlan Sappalio (Hockey), Jack McKernan (Soccer), James Woernle (Tennis)

# PEGS makes it number ten with back-to-back glory



Enthusiasm is contagious and ambition is the path to success. Our Firsts soccer coach, Mr. Colin Cooper, went into the 2017 season hopeful but not confident of immediate success with a young squad. While the boys turned leads into draws against other title contenders Ivanhoe Grammar and Trinity Grammar early in the season, it would be a momentous away-win at Marcellin College where ambition gave way to belief. PEGS finished the home-and-away season undefeated.

A 4-0 win against Trinity Grammar in the semi-final, set up a rematch of the 2016 Grand Final against Ivanhoe Grammar. With spectators still settling in pitch-side, our boys secured their first goal inside two minutes. If the immediacy of the goal caught some by surprise, the fact that it was a header from Liam Ward, one of the smaller players in the squad, placed the goal in PEGS soccer folklore.

Our opponents were always going to have periods of dominance and unfortunately for the nerves of all home supporters, this came in the dying moments of the game. An Ivanhoe equaliser with eight minutes remaining on the clock set up a frantic finish. Holding onto a 1-1 draw was enough for PEGS, with its top-of-ladder finish, to secure the premiership. Congratulations are extended to our captain Jack McKernan and his entire team.

**Chris Clark**  
Coordinator of Sport (boys)



# The drought is broken - hockey caps a remarkable day

*The Firsts Hockey team win their first outright AGSV premiership and enjoy premiership success for the first time since 1990.*

When opportunity knocks, answer the door. At 5.30pm on Friday afternoon on the semi-final weekend, the knock at the door was news of the defeat of premiership-favourites Camberwell Grammar in the alternative semi-final against Ivanhoe.

While PEGS had comfortably accounting for its semi-final opponents Trinity Grammar only a few weeks earlier, Mother Nature did her best to even the contest. With winds gusts of 100 km/hr overturning the goals at Kellor Park, the Saturday morning semi-final was re-located to the slightly calmer conditions at Kellor East. With ten minutes remaining in the match, our team was still facing a 2-0 deficit. Two late, superb strikes from Harris Pilbeam (Year Ten) and Tom Saxon (Year Eleven) salvaged a draw, rescued the season and secured a spot for PEGS in the grand final.

Next week's Grand Final was a pulsating game. PEGS initially led 1-0 after a goal from Lucca Carroll (Year Seven)! While our lead was quickly cancelled just after half-time, PEGS regained the lead with a deflected strike from Tim Wells (Year Eleven). Ivanhoe Grammar would not only equalise again but also force a match-saving reflex denial by goalkeeper David Tzimos (Year Ten). The quality of his save was equal to the work by Caroline Lee (Year Twelve) in the first half.

The final whistle brought relief to coach Mr. Mark Whimney who was happy to relinquish the weight of twenty-seven years of waiting from his shoulders. His team, captained by Lachlan Saperito, had capped off what was truly a "Fabulous Friday".

**Chris Clark**  
Coordinator of Sport (boys)



# From the Archives

Brigid Cooper Archivist

## PEGS is Forty - Music in 1977

Music is an integral part of life at PEGS and it was no different forty years ago in 1977.

At the Essendon campus, Suzuki violin tuition commenced for twenty children at kindergarten and in Prep. Their teacher, Ms Marie Scott, had just returned from studying and teaching the Suzuki violin method in the US. A new Junior School Orchestra and String Quartet were formed for boys, adding to the existing Concert Band, Symphonic Brass, Jazz Group and Choir at the secondary levels.

At the Moonee Ponds campus:

*This year has been a milestone in the development of Penleigh for we now have a fine new music building. As well as two classrooms - one each for Primary and Secondary classes - there are teaching rooms for instrumental study and staff facilities, and a dance room for ballet. Many more girls are now actively taking part in choirs and instrumental groups. - Speech Night Programme 1977*

Senior musicians played for the opening of the senior Science Laboratories at McNab House:

*The Concert Band, led by Mr Geoff Hardman, played in the McNab House study area from the morning until the end of the day's proceedings. Several students also performed music outside for the official opening ceremony. While audiences were rather small to begin with, many people soon came to listen once the music got underway. Generally, the music seemed to provide quite a welcome break from the official business of the day as well as from the other activities. - The Tribune 1977*

The school's extraordinary traditions in music remain greatly respected and are ongoing.



*. Junior School boys - Music with Mr Geoff Hardman. (PEGS Archives [PH05669])*



*Moving into the New Music Centre at Park Street. (PEGS Archives [PH00979])*



*Music at PEGS 1977. (PEGS Archives [PH05550])*



*Music at PEGS 1977. (PEGS Archives [PH05549])*

# PEGS Business Network

The PEGS Business Network is dedicated to providing business, networking, industry insights and opportunities for the broader PEGS Community. This includes former students, parents and current students.

The network is available to the PEGS community to assist with business introductions along with employment and career opportunities.

The remaining event in 2017 is:

- End of Year Celebration Lunch – Thursday 23 November 2017, 12noon to 2pm, RACV Club

If you would like further information or to book via phone/email please contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator, Lisa Leask on 03 9016 2181 or [lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au)

We look forward to you joining the PEGS Business Network.

## Finance + Economic Outlook Event

It was the End of Financial Year and over 100 people attended the Finance and Economic Outlook event which provided some important insights into Australian and world economies. Brett McLeod led the event with guest speakers Anthony Kapetanovic, Bruce Henderson and Greville Pabst.

Robert Gottliebbsen provided a snapshot of the political landscape.

Plenty of networking time, exchange of business cards and introductions continued throughout the morning. A number of the school's sporting clubs were present including the PEGS Cricket Club, PEGS Football Club and PEGS Soccer Club.



# PEGS BUSINESS NETWORK

# Former Students' Association News

## Alumni Spotlight Samantha Lehmann (Payne), Class of 1992

Samantha established the Warwick Cancer

Foundation in honour of her late brother Warwick Payne (Class of 1987). A non-profit organisation, the Foundation campaigned for the rights and needs of young adult cancer sufferers for nine years. Samantha is still involved in running support groups through social media.

*What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 1992?*

I followed my love for fashion and studied Merchandising and Marketing at RMIT. I worked for some big brand retailers then set up my first store in North Melbourne called *Meek and Folly* and then *Mini Meek* for kids next door. The Warwick Cancer Foundation came next, providing support for young adults living with cancer. We created some amazing, supportive programs that touched the lives of thousands of Australians. I then returned to fashion and customer service and opened another boutique in Essendon. I have two daughters, aged 14 and 9, and, in order to be around more for them whilst still helping others, I have recently created The Empathy Gift Co, an on-line business.

*During your time as a student at PEGS, what did you like most? Was there anyone who inspired you?*

My friendships were special and still are today. The community aspect of the school continues to inspire me.

*Tell us about your journey with the Warwick Foundation.*

My vision was to make sure that young adults diagnosed, having treatment or in recovery from cancer had access to helpful support programs so that they did not feel alone. We offered peer support, wellness escapes, face to face catch ups, resources and good wishes.

*Tell us about The Empathy Gift Co.*

[www.theempathygiftco.com.au](http://www.theempathygiftco.com.au)

The Empathy Gift Co developed from my own painful experiences of loss and challenges with anxiety and depression. We offer customised gift boxes or alternatively clients can purchase pre-made gift boxes and empathy cards for people going through challenging times. We also offer gifts for new parents and celebrations such as birthdays, Mother's Day and Father's Day. We are the go-to on-line store, to communicate your care and support perfectly and we offer free same day delivery in the Moonee Valley area.



*What's your favourite memory of PEGS?*

I have lots of great memories from times at Park Street but the fun and social aspects of Years 11 and 12 at McNab House were my favourite. Representing the school in Athletics from Year Seven to Year Twelve was also important to me.

*What advice would you give to young PEGS alumni?*

Be yourself and don't give up on your dreams; with determination, persistence and hard work you can do and be whatever you want in life. Don't ever let self-doubt hold you back and it's ok to change career paths too.

*What do you do in your spare time?*

I like to exercise, read, walk my Cavoodle Ginger, and spend time with my family and friends.



# 10 Year Reunion Class of 2007

## Saturday 29 July 2017

Continuing to break records, 123 of the Class of 2007 came out to celebrate ten years since school days at the Leveson in North Melbourne. We were joined by several of our favourite teachers, including Mr Shipp and Mr Jarrett, (yes I'm still a teachers pet!).



There was resounding disbelief that it had been ten years since many of us had seen each other. Everyone looked as fresh-faced as on orientation day (well almost) and as gorgeous as at the 2007 Formal. Conversations flowed freely as if no time had passed at all.

Hearing the successes of those with whom we had never meant to lose touch was uplifting and inspiring. From PhDs to families, everyone had achievements to share, often while unaware of their own triumphs.

A big thank you to the organising committee of Victoria Chan, Andrew Chan, Julia Wilkinson and Lisa Leask, representing the Former Students' Association.

Now the pressure is on for more interesting, motivating life-events to share at the 20-year reunion!

**Cassie Atkinson-Quinton**  
Class of 2007



## FSA Functions 2017

30 Year Reunion – Saturday 21 October  
Golf Day – Monday 11 December

For more information on these events, or to assist with your upcoming reunion, please email [fsa@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:fsa@pegs.vic.edu.au)

### Private Functions

**Golden Girls' Luncheons**  
Wednesday 8 November  
Botanical Hotel, 169 Domain Road, South Yarra at 11:30 am. Contact Judith Ross on 0417 538 335 for more information.

### PEGS Business Network Functions

**End of Year Celebration Lunch** – Thursday 23rd November 2017, 12noon to 2pm, RACV Club

For further information please contact the PEGS Business Network Coordinator, Lisa Leask on 03 9016 2181 / [lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:lisa.leask@pegs.vic.edu.au).

### LinkedIn:

PEGS Business Network's specific purpose is to connect former PEGS Students and Alumni in business, creating business opportunities for all members while also keeping in touch with and contributing to the greater PEGS Community.

To request membership, please login to LinkedIn and search for 'PEGS Business Network'

### Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, please search for **PEGS Former Students' Association** and **PEGS Business Network** and 'like' our pages.

## Announcements

### Deaths

**Raymond James (Jim) Bell** (EGS [Class of 1965]), brother of Dennis (EGS [Class of 1966]), Vietnam 1970/71 Medical Corp 37/91134 8 FD AMB), on 9 June 2017, aged 70.

**Vicki Ruth Glachin (nee Brunhby)** (Penleigh Class of 1972), daughter of Warren (EGS Class of 1951) and Lenore (nee Wurro) (Penleigh 1944 - 1949), sister of Lisa Russell (Penleigh Class of 1976), on 14 June 2017, aged 62.

**Wenush Dimantha Jayakody** (Class of 2014), Leader of Stage Band, inaugural recipient of the Colin Harris Prize for Music, Premier's Award for Chemistry, on 24 June 2017, aged 20.

**Elizabeth (Betty) Florence Luke (nee Sewell)** (Penleigh 1942 - 1946), sister of Greg (EGS 1944-1949, Essendon Football player), and Helen (Penleigh 1944 - 1949), on 5 July 2017, aged 86.

**Susan Ann Rhead Stevens (Penleigh 1963 - 1968** [Class of 1972]), daughter of Rev H R (Bert) and Sadie Stevens, sister of Wendy (Penleigh [Class of 1974]), on 8 July 2017, aged 61.

**Mervyn Gordon Rose** (Penleigh Tennis Coach 1970 - 1983), Australian Tennis Champion, on 23 July 2017, aged 87.

If you have any information you'd like to share, please send an email to [Lisa Leask at Lisa.Leask@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:Lisa.Leask@pegs.vic.edu.au)

# Friends of PEGS News

## Gala Dinner

On Saturday 12 August, Friends of PEGS held their Inaugural Gala Dinner at the Melbourne Pavilion in Kensington.

This year's theme celebrated forty years since the amalgamation of Essendon Grammar School and Penleigh P.C. It was an amazing evening filled with great music from the live band, and featuring a photo booth, champagne lounge, fabulous auctions and lucky door prizes.

All funds raised at this event will go towards the purchase of equipment to be used by students across all campuses.

## Annual Craft Market Saturday 14 October

Save the date for the next Friends of PEGS event, the annual Craft Market to be held at the Essendon Campus. This year the Craft Market has been refreshed with new and exciting food, animal, craft and entertainment stalls. See you there!

**John Antonopoulos**  
President, Friends of PEGS



# 2017 Dates for the Diary

## September

15 September – Term Three ends

## October

9 October – Term Four begins

10, 11 October – VCE Art/VCD/Media Show

12 October – Piano Concert Two

14 October – Craft Market

16 October – String Concert Two

19 October – VCE Music Concert (Year 11)

24 October – Valedictory Dinner

## November

2 November – Suzuki Concert Five

27 November – Junior Christmas Concert

29 November – Suzuki Concert Six and Break-up

## December

11 December – Carol Service

11 December – FSA Golf Day

13 December – Term Four ends

20 December – School Receptions close

Contact details: [newsletter@pegs.vic.edu.au](mailto:newsletter@pegs.vic.edu.au)

