

FAHAN
SCHOOL



2011, TERM 2, ISSUE 2

FAHAN IN FOCUS

FAHAN COMMUNITY NEWS



DID YOU KNOW

Fahan's three school houses were formed in 1940.

They were called Franklin, Freycinet and Fenton after three important figures in Tasmania's history.

The houses took their colours from the school badge.

Originally Franklin was yellow and brown, Freycinet yellow and green and Fenton green and brown.

Since 2002 the colours have been Franklin white, Freycinet orange and Fenton blue.

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Printing

Print Applied Technology

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



At the Travers Morphett Lecture. L-R: Andrew Blaxland, Posie Graeme-Evans, Elli Hopkins, Matilda Heerey and Tony Freeman.

A winter term in Tasmania is full of surprises and challenges: the unseasonably warm weather late in the term, during which the girls were asking to change to summer uniform; prolonged downpours that dampen enthusiasm and the increase in occurrences of colds and other ailments. When added to the full calendar of a school, these things make the term an exciting roller coaster of a ride.

Once again, the students have thrown themselves into a variety of activities which you can read about in this edition of *Fahan in Focus*. Highlights for me have included the TM Lecture, delivered by Posie Graeme-Evans, the Octagon musical, *Bugz*, the Senior and Junior Cross Country events, the Senior Athletics Carnival, Book, Debating and Arts Weeks, visits from the Tokyo Jogakkan and Yokohama Eiwa schools and our Year 9 visit to Melbourne as guests of Fintona.

In other news, Year 10 student, Helen Browne, has returned to Fahan after spending a term

at St Mary's in Johannesburg. She enjoyed her experience and gained valuable insight of another culture. In Term Three we will welcome a student from St Mary's to Fahan. We hope to continue this exchange for years to come.



Helen Browne

One of the questions I am most often asked is, What are the points of difference that Fahan offers over other options for educating girls in Tasmania? My answer, in addition to our

excellent academic record, includes our size and, as a consequence, the smaller classes which engender such good relationships between the girls and between the staff and students. The environment is also a very special asset. All of these factors contribute to the indefinable, but ever-present, *Spirit of Fahan*.

When I talk about this Spirit, I am reminded of an analogy that a friend used, of an axe that had been part of the family since time immemorial. While the head had cracked and had to be replaced three times, and the handle split five times, and was similarly replaced, the axe remained a popular and valued asset for the family. The spirit of cooperation and the willingness to 'have a go' is akin to this axe at Fahan. It has stood the test of time: different heads and handles, in the form of staff and students, have kept it swinging throughout the years and it still is held in high esteem.

Planning is well under way for the Reunion Weekend commencing Friday 7 October. The first events, the Alumni versus current students hockey and netball games at lunchtime on that Friday, are sure to be keenly contested. Please take note of the date, as the Weekend will offer a variety of opportunities for you to reacquire yourself with friends and meet many more people who share your interest in Fahan.

I wish the Fahan School community a successful term and look forward to the exciting final stage of the 2011 school year.

Mr Tony Freeman, Principal



Mr Freeman presents the 2011 Senior House Athletics Carnival trophy to Fenton House Chair, Courtney Meiklejohn.



BOARD REPORT



Liz Jack

If you have not yet taken the time to read through the Fahan School Strategic Plan 2010 - 2012, I urge you to do so. The Plan, which provides clear aims, goals and specific initiatives designed to shape the future of our School and its role in the development of our girls, will not come to life without the shared commitment of the Fahan School community.

That shared commitment is noted as an important part of the strategic plan, being a key result area under 'Our School Community'. Linked to this, the Fahan School Board acknowledges the importance of building an involved, connected and engaged School community, without which the achievement

of our broad vision and objectives will be decidedly more challenging.

As part of its strategic focus, the Board has this year placed increased importance on the need to communicate and work closely with the broader School community and our stakeholder groups. Indeed, the strategic plan highlights a need to improve communication with parents and the School community at large, and to collaborate with the Parents and Friends Association and Alumni to support their involvement in our significant projects.

Over the past few months the Board has met with senior staff and members of both the P&F and Alumni to review the strategic plan,

to share our collective views on the School's future and to consider opportunities to better promote its many assets. This has also enabled us to recommit to a strategic vision that will see Fahan School being in demand as the outstanding School for girls in Tasmania.

By focusing on an approach that is collaborative and connected, it is my hope we can, together, ensure Fahan is well-prepared to confront and harness the dynamic forces shaping our School, its culture and its future. I look forward to continuing that work in partnership with the School community.

Liz Jack, Chair Person

P&F REPORT

The end of Term Two and winter sees us shed some of our winter jackets (perhaps) and the Parents and Friends Association springing to life like startled gazelles organising activities to bring us together as a school community.

The first of our spring events was the Car Boot Sale, although technically still in winter, and it

was a resounding success with many attending and enjoying the opportunity to browse each other's treasures. I must recognise the efforts of Gillian Vosper and her trusty team who did an amazing job pulling the day together. Through these types of activities, the Parents and Friends Association continues to raise funds that contribute to many areas of school life in the form of new equipment or capital building works. Consequently, I encourage you to support these activities in any way you can, as the girls are the ones who benefit from the funds we raise.

Going forward, we will be aiming to host as many events as possible on campus, as this often results in very positive comments from visitors. It is always pleasing to be able to showcase not only our facilities, but the exceptional standard of personal development our girls are afforded at Fahan.

Recently we have begun the process of

reviewing our Constitution and developing a Members' Handbook, which will be available in the near future for anyone interested in learning more about what the Parents and Friends Association does. Alternatively, you will be able to read or download it from the 'Parents' section of the School website. In particular, our aim is to make information about the Parents and Friends Association as accessible as possible and highlight that your time commitment to the Association can be as much or as little as you can afford, taking into account your other family demands.

When we all return from our September break there will be other opportunities for parents to get together. I encourage you all to make the effort to attend some of the organised school events, your class groups or even consider a more active role assisting in activities organised by the Parents and Friends.

Simon Barker, President P&F



HEAD GIRL'S REPORT



Buddy Bear meets some fellow Fahan students at the Term Two Big Sister, Little Sister BBQ.

Term Two, as ever, has been busy for the whole school. For the littlies, who have just finished performances of their Musical, *Bugz*, through to the Year 11 and 12s, who are steadily working towards end of year exams, it has been an action packed term. I thank each of you who has participated in sports, debating, performances and all other activities that define our school.

House Debating took place this term and saw Fenton add yet another victory to their overall winning streak. The Staff/Student Debate was on the topic of whether teachers are necessary in schools, with the teachers arguing against their own employment and students arguing for it. Unfortunately, as with the soccer in Term One, the win went to the staff. Courtney, Connor and Grace should be commended on their efforts as, even though they did not win it for Year 12, they put up a good fight.

Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals occurred this term and luckily the sun stayed out just long enough for both of these events to actually take place on their scheduled dates! Both events had huge amounts of participation, which made for pleasant days for students and staff alike. Cross Country went to Freycinet House and Athletics to Fenton.

The Big Sister, Little Sister sausage sizzle for this term had a special surprise in store for the young Fahanies. Buddy Bear made an inaugural appearance and, whilst it was a treat for most of the younger girls, there were some who held reservations about this giant teddy dressed in their PE uniform.

Buddy Bear also made another special

appearance at K&D, Cambridge with the Year 12 girls who were selling raffle tickets for the 'Peninsula Extravaganza Weekend' to raise money for The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. I extend a big thank you to all the girls who gave up their weekend to do this.

As I write this, everyone is getting ready for Arts Week and House Plays, which are set to take place in the final week of term. Franklin House is performing *The Castle*, Freycinet is performing *Which Seuss Stole Christmas* and Fenton House is putting on, *Bevs at Kev's*.

The Year 12 fundraising has gone very well this year and is almost complete. Fundraising efforts have included a fashion show, chocolate sales and a major raffle with all prizes donated. As previously mentioned in issue one of *Fahan in Focus*, we decided to support The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. The Port Arthur Massacre occurred when we were very small but there are very few Tasmanian lives not touched by that dreadful day. The modern foundation operates Australia-wide so that "every child can have a safe and happy childhood, free of any form of violence". It is very hard to argue with that

sentiment and yet there continues to be a great need for care of abused children in our community - the reason Year 12 felt so strongly about this particular charity. I can't tell you how much has been raised this year because we are not yet finished but the support and energy across the whole school community has been much appreciated and I thank you again.

The end of Term Two marks an important time in the Fahan year. For Year 12 the pace is picking up towards the end of year exams and then, what is likely to be an odd experience; not being at school any more! I do not have any doubt in my mind that most, if not all, of us will look back with great fondness and warmth on our time at Fahan. Our school is special; it is a place of learning, community and friendship. As we prepare to set off to new places and challenges we are all well prepared. To each of my friends in Year 12 I say work hard and play hard because you, like Fahan, are special and I wish each of you an enjoyable final term at Fahan School.

Gabreal Wake, Head Girl



Year 12s man the BBQ to raise money for the Alannah and Madeline Foundation.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Jogakkan Welcome Assembly

Jogakkan Visit

In July this year our Year Six Fahan students hosted students from Tokyo Jogakkan. Every year our girls look forward to billeting and working with students from Tokyo Jogakkan Primary School.

The Jogakkan exchange program is an important part of our Language curriculum at Fahan. All Junior School students enjoyed hosting Principal, Mr Toru Mihara and staff members from Jogakkan, along with 21 students from Years 5 and 6, ranging in ages from 10-12 years old.

The sharing of both Australian and Japanese cultural activities was enjoyed by our Fahan families, students and staff during the four day visit. We will look forward to the program continuing into its 7th year in 2012 when Jogakkan students will again be visiting us in the Junior School.

Prep - Reggio Emilia Journey

This year the Prep class has had an ongoing interest in tortoises and turtles.

In Term Two, the children enjoyed reading the book, *Yakkinn, the Swamp Tortoise* by Gerald and Guundie Kuchling, which is written as a story based on factual information. The children decided to make their Book Week display about Yakkinn, her friends and their natural habitat.

We used the book and the internet to find out more about the habitat of these endangered tortoises in Western Australia.

When the children had completed the backdrop for their display, Mollie said, 'It is so beautiful, I think we have brought nature inside.'

Our Reggio Emilia approach to Early Childhood learning allows us to develop magnificent projects, such as this one, based on the children's enquiries.



A tortoise habitat made by Prep



Scarlett Spider, Caterpillar and Bookworm on stage during Bugz.

Bugz The Musical

Bugz, the 2011 Octagon musical starring Kinder to Year 2 students and featuring performances from other Junior School classes, delighted audiences with its tale about the importance of not judging others by appearance and remembering to make everyone feel included. The infant school musical is an event that showcases the talent of the youngest members of the Fahan community.

In the show, all of the bugs had been invited to attend a picnic in the park, except for Scarlett the Spider and Caterpillar. The other bugs were scared by Scarlett's appearance and think that Caterpillar is unattractive so they choose not to invite them to the festivities. However, as events unfolded all the bugs learnt a valuable lesson about accepting others for who they are, not what they look like.

Book Week - One World, Many Stories

Fahan Junior School celebrated 2011 CBCA Book Week with great excitement.

Leading up to Book Week, students spent time reading and exploring books short-listed for this year's Children's Book Council Award. Books were read and reviewed and amazing displays were assembled. Students also participated in the Junior Judges' Competition. They loved *It's Bedtime, William!* by Deborah Niland and

enjoyed *The Tall Man and the Twelve Babies* by Tom Niland Champion and Kilmeny Niland.

Canteen Manager, Mrs Felicity Roger created a spectacular Book Week cake that was displayed during the week. Also, as part of this year's celebrations, picture books were collected to donate to various charities. The Book Week Parade was the highlight of the week, however. Students from Pre-Kinder to Year 6 dressed up as characters from their favourite book.



The marvellous cake made by Felicity Roger of B&fee.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



Sasha isn't afraid to don the gloves and clean up Tassie's coastal areas.

Mini Course Program

Wednesday afternoons were a special time in the Middle School during the last weeks of Term Two, and the girls have looked forward to them with enthusiasm.

The purpose of the Mini Course program is three-fold: firstly, to encourage students to take part in an activity in which they would not normally participate during their school day; secondly, to provide a chance for students and teachers to mix across Years 6, 7 and 8 and, thirdly, to provide the experience of making a choice in terms of subjects – a skill which is important as students move into the Senior School.

This year, the courses on offer included: Bushwalking, Cooking, Zumba, Knitting, Pilates and an Introduction to Anatomy and Caring for our Coastline.

Bushwalking involved the students taking walks up the slopes of Mt Nelson and Mt Wellington. The weather was, at times, beautiful and ideal for walking. At other times the girls walked in light rain. The walks were challenging and the students who chose this course worked hard to complete them, whilst learning about the importance of proper choices of clothing, equipment and footwear. This course served as preparation for Outdoor Education courses in the senior years.

Cooking was a very popular choice and was held in the Year 6 classrooms. During this time students learnt about basic food preparation and hygiene, as well as how to work effectively

as a team member.

Zumba involved the students attending classes at the University. These classes were high energy and enabled students to build on their fitness developed in PE classes.

Knitting outside the Square proved to be highly popular. Students learnt to knit a basic square in stocking stitch. They were then able to use this square as a basis for a toy, a scarf, or a rug. It was delightful to see a group of students sitting in the library, quietly knitting. The girls commented on how they enjoyed learning a craft, and many were able to form a connection with their grandmothers, as they were able to show their creations after the course.

A qualified instructor from outside the school took Pilates and an Introduction to Anatomy. This course provided a chance for the girls to learn the basics of Pilates as well as undertaking some study into the way the human body moves. This course served as an ideal preparation for students who wish to study Sport Science in the Senior School.

Caring for Our Coastline was a highly popular course, with students taking responsibility for weeding and replanting an area of Bellerive Bluff over the six weeks. The girls enjoyed pulling on gardening gloves and getting their hands into the soil, knowing that what they were doing was of benefit to the environment and the local community.

Mrs Sharon Johns, Middle School Coordinator



Caring for our Coastline students hard at work.



Can-Can is armed with the tools of the trade for mini courses.



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Year 9 soak in the atmosphere at Fed Square in Melbourne

Fintona Trip

In June the Year 9 students went on the annual Fintona exchange trip to Melbourne. The girls were billeted with Fintona families for four days, before staying in an inner-city hostel on the Friday night.

As well as making many new friends, highlights of the trip included the Tutankhamun Exhibition, ACMI Screen Worlds, the "Art" Day and attending an evening performance of *Love Never Dies*, the sequel to the world-renowned musical, *Phantom of the Opera*.

During their stay the girls were treated to some wonderful hospitality by their host families and they are looking forward to reciprocating when the Fintona girls visit us early next year.



World Challenge

This year was Fahan's first participating in the World Challenge. World Challenge is a company that takes school groups on educational expeditions to countries in Africa, Asia, Central and South America, and the Pacific. The students lead the expedition and plan it all themselves. In addition to cultural exchange and trekking, a main focus of World Challenge is for school groups to participate in community

project work within the country they are visiting.

The Fahan students enthusiastically undertook their community project in the beachside town of Hoi An where they assisted at the Quang Nam Centre for Homeless and Disabled.

The girls spent five days painting and helping out around the Centre and said that it was incredible to see the difference they had made, in a short space of time, to the lives of the people living there.

ISS Experience

In July, Clare Browne attended the International Science School at the University of Sydney. She was fortunate to hear from speakers including Sir John Pendry from the Imperial College of London, Professor Allan Clarke from the University of Geneva and her personal favourite, Dr Deanna D'Alessandro. Dr D'Alessandro spoke about capturing and storing carbon dioxide in order to help with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and assist in the fight against climate change.

It wasn't all work, however. Clare also made friends with peers from all around the world and attended a lot of social activities including the Harbour Cruise, the Bush Dance, Talent Night, a visit to the Zoo, a Relay Trivia Quiz and a Gala Reception.

A highlight for Clare was the Science and Engineering Challenge. In teams, the ISS students were asked to construct a buggy that would move over a rough surface in the fastest time possible. Clare's team won this challenge.

Clare said that "In some ways it helped me to think about my future career. It gave me a

greater understanding of different areas that people can study, particularly physics, and all of the different possibilities within these fields."

"It was a fantastic experience. I had a lot of fun and had the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities."



STAFF NEWS

From 2012 Kathy Foster will take over as Fahan's Deputy Principal and she says she is "very excited and looking forward to the challenges next year."



Mrs Kathy Foster

Kathy has been teaching for almost 30 years. She has taught Maths and Science in Tasmanian High Schools for about half of this time. She has also taught in Adelaide, northern NSW and Queensland. Kathy first moved to Fahan in 2000 and spent 10 years here until leaving at



Mrs Emily Hogan and Holly Smith at the Athletics Carnival

the end of 2009 to move to Brisbane. However, her love for the School saw her return at the beginning of 2011.

In addition to teaching Maths and Science this year, Kathy took on the position as Sports Coordinator. She has a strong sporting background, having represented Australia for eight years in basketball, including the 1984 Olympics. She was named MVP of the WNBL on three occasions and is a member of the Tasmanian Sporting Hall of Fame.

Kathy can attest to the wonderful opportunities afforded to girls who come to Fahan because both her daughters are past students. Rachael (2005) and Rebecca (2008), who were both Head Girls, gained so much from their time at Fahan and the skills they learnt here have been invaluable.

"I hope to continue Rosemary's [Sargison] good work and, by respecting our traditions, work with all sectors of the Fahan community to ensure our School achieves its vision and values."

Retirement

Fahan's Arts Coordinator, Mrs Sue Ekins, has recently announced her forthcoming retirement.

Sue has been teaching Art at Fahan for 22 years and says that her time spent at Fahan has been the most rewarding and enjoyable of her career. Sue has taught hundreds of girls during this time, introducing them to the imaginative and creative world of art.

We are sure that everyone in the Fahan



Mrs Sue Ekins

community will join the School in wishing Sue all the best in her retirement. We sincerely hope she will stay connected with Fahan.

Welcome

During Term Two the School has welcomed Mrs Emma Crawford to the position of Senior Librarian.

Emma has been a part of the Fahan School community in various capacities since 2002. She has worked as a teaching assistant, Special Needs Support Worker, Outside School Hours Care coordinator and teacher. Emma went on Maternity Leave in mid 2008 and has now returned to work in the Senior Library.

"In this role I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to facilitate the development of information literacy in our students, which, I believe, is essential for independent, empowered, lifelong learners."





Ms Sophie Edwards



Mrs Emma Crawford



Sarah with Jonty and Sophie ready to go home.

STAFF NEWS CONTINUED

Mrs Rosemary Sargison's retirement is now going to be quite busy with the arrival of her two latest grandchildren! Her daughter, Sarah, and son-in-law, Alex Mirowski, welcomed the arrival of their twins, Jonty James and Sophie Grace on 13 June - 9 weeks ahead of schedule! Jonty weighed just 1150gm (2lb 9) and Sophie, his "big" sister, 1200gm (2lb 11). However, they have both flourished in care at the hospital and went home in August. We wish Rosemary and Sarah all the best for the new additions to the "Sargison legacy."

Ms Sophie Edwards has also had a busy Term Two. She graduated with a Master of Business Administration from UTas, is engaged to Cameron Baxter and is expecting her first baby. What an exciting year for Sophie!

Farewell

As the Communications and Events Coordinator at Fahan it has been my pleasure to produce *Fahan in Focus* each term. However, I will be leaving the Fahan community to take up a position in Online Marketing for the Museum of Old and New Art. I feel privileged to have met

so many of you during my time at Fahan and wish you all the best for the future.

Eleanor Robb



Eleanor Robb



SCHOOL NEWS

Athletics

The Senior School Athletics Carnival was held on Tuesday 16 August, a surprisingly and unseasonably sunny day.

Students in Years 7 to 12 arrived at the Domain bright and early in the morning to make sure that there was time to get through all of the events scheduled for the day.

As usual, the famous Fahan "get in and have a go" attitude prevailed. There were so many participants in all of the events and those who



Loud cheering in the Senior House Athletics Carnival, August.

were not able to participate cheered loudly from the sidelines.

Everyone performed to the best of their ability, eager to earn points for their house, but two standout performances resulted in two records being broken. Emma Keleher broke the U/13 Shot Putt record and Abbie Rothery set a new standard of 10.0m in the U/16 Triple Jump.

Congratulations to Fenton House and Courtney Meiklejohn (House Chair) who were victors on the day, ahead of Freycinet and Franklin.

2011 Champions:

- Jessica Robinson: U/13 Track and Field and Overall Champion
- Molly Gardner: U/14 Track Champion
- Ella Ross: U/14 and Intermediate Field Champion
- Sophie Bale: U/15 Track and Field and Intermediate Track Champion
- Ellie Law: U/16 Track champion
- Abbie Rothery: U/16 Field Champion
- Jessica Bale: Open Track Champion
- Clare Browne: Open Field Champion



SCHOOL NEWS



Year 7J make planes during a visit to the UTas Engineering School.

National Science Week

Science Week 2011 celebrated the International Year of Chemistry. A visit to the Science labs introduced people to the Chemistry Hall of Fame and 3D atom models made by Year 8 classes. To start the week, all students enjoyed two edible periodic tables; decorated cupcakes made by the Year 8 students.

Other activities during Science Week included

Year 7 C's excursion to the Lenah Valley Animal Hospital, learning about animal care and vet science study. We are grateful to Dr. Con Brosnan (father of Alex, Year 7) for sharing his knowledge and experience with the class.

Year 7J began their Forces unit with a visit to the Engineering School at UTAS, creating and testing planes, and learning about flight.

Both Year 8 classes attended Dr. Fiona Wood's

Guest Lecture at UTAS. She was an inspiring speaker and a fine role model for our students.

There are many wonderful things happening in the Science labs each day, from Year 5 Kitchen Chemistry to Year 12 Chemistry experiments. Such experiences are possible due to the fact that Fahan School is blessed with passionate and experienced Science teachers.

Prep Readers

Two months ago our computing class started a publishing project using InDesign. We spoke to Mrs Stephen [Prep Teacher] about writing and designing children's reading books. Our books were designed to be at the second level of reading for the Preps.

All our stories were written about the current Prep class. After writing our stories we spent a few lessons taking photos with the Preps to add to our books. Once we had completed a rough copy of our books, we put them together

ready to be printed. We had a "book launch" to present the books we had made to the Preps and their families. We organised forms so that people were able to order the books to take home. As well as learning how to use InDesign, we had a lot of fun making these books with the Preps.

Katy, Stella, Holly and Emma

What the Preps thought:

I loved it when they took the photos. It was such fun.

I liked it because when we were playing a game for a photo as it felt like it was real.

I loved it because everything was fun.

It was fun because I did one of my books with my big sister's soccer coaches.

I loved doing a drawing for a photo.

Did you know - they put one of my drawings on a page in one book. They made it really small and then it was on the page.

Prep class



Year 9 and 10 students with the Prep class and their brand new reading books featuring them.



Grace shows her special reader.



FSAA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Your Fahan School Alumni Association continues to focus on projects and activities that ensure that our Fahan Alumni can connect with each other and with our School.

Our energetic and committed team are currently focusing on several areas.

Our annual Decadial weekend, 7-8 October, for 1941 – '45, '51 – '55, '61, '71, '81, '91, '01, '06 and '11 leavers, will include sporting events, a special assembly, cocktail party, school tours and a high tea, along with a range of special events organised by our year group co-ordinators, who are doing a fabulous job at hunting down their peers in all corners of the world. Our events team, led by Lisa Brown (Morgan), is a hive of activity and planning to

ensure this weekend is as memorable as ever!

We also have a working party, including Kirsteen Devine from the current staff, looking at ways that we can provide career advice and mentoring to current Senior School students.

We are exploring options such as attending the October Careers Expo, providing career advice and sharing career stories with current Year 10s and establishing a virtual career mentoring network via the FSA webpage.

Our third priority is a review of the current Fahan School Alumni Bursary. We have a team, led by Rachel Moore, and including John Williamson, a current staff member, exploring ways that we can make this a contemporary award that spreads the funds more widely to

the benefit of more students. Our hope is to launch the bursary at Speech Night. This will provide a way to support current students to follow their talents and passions with financial support from the Alumni funds.

We are always looking for Alumni who are keen to connect with each other and the School to work with us on these projects. Please let me know if you are keen.

I hope to see many of you during our October Reunion weekend – it is always a highlight for everyone involved!

Kathryn Thomas (Ikin), FSAA President
thomask@fahan.tas.edu.au
0417375848

NATEBY CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again the dining room at Nateby looked a picture for the thirty members who attended our winter lunch. Prepared by Margo Eckerman and Rhonda Wood, it was delicious, as always.

The Principal outlined many proposed improvements to school buildings, especially the interior of the main school block. Mr Freeman

also referred to the outstanding results current students have been achieving during the year.

The guest speaker was Mrs Brigitta Browning who told us about the gardens around the School. She spends many hours assisting in the garden and would appreciate plants from Old Scholars. The walnut trees planted in memory of Hester Clark are now flourishing, thanks to her care.

Because of space restrictions at Nateby, Events Coordinator Eleanor Robb has arranged to have our annual Christmas Lunch on 11 November at the Royal Yacht Club. Their dining room is beautiful and car parking and access to the building is very easy. This is the first time we have held a lunch away from the School, apart from our expeditions by bus. However, it will be a very festive occasion, including a three-course meal, and will allow for every interested Nateby Club member to attend. The AGM will be held

at the end of lunch.

Anyone interested in seeing the amazing building blocks we bought for the Early Learning Centre is invited to the Octagon for morning tea on Monday 26 September at 10 am. Please phone the Fahan Office on 6225 1064 if you would like to attend.

Sue Allison, President, Nateby Club



Nateby Club members enjoying Term Two Lunch.

ALUMNI NEWS



Margo dishes up a delicious soup.

Travers Morphett Lecture

Writer, producer, director and Fahan Alumna, Posie Graeme-Evans, returned to Fahan School to present the 2011 Travers Morphett Lecture, which showcases Fahan women who are experts in their field, on Monday 4 July.

Posie is best known as the creator of Australian television programs such as *Hi-5* and the multi-award winning *McLeod's Daughters* – a show set in rural South Australia about the fictional farm, Drover's Run, which is staffed by an all-female workforce.

Her message to the enthralled audience, in particular to the students, was that no matter what your dream is, determination and tenacity are the keys to helping achieve it.

"If my work has meaning, I hope it will inspire creativity - in the spirit of, I've done it, so can

you," Posie said.

"Take those chances as they come your way and never, ever give up on your dreams.

"The nature of the industries in which I work is such that you are often faced with rejection and people who want to take pot-shots at you and it is important to back yourself and just keep going.

"Passion and resilience, they're the keys. That and the ability to stay on your feet longer than anyone else."

The Travers Morphett Lecture series was created in 2010 to commemorate the School's 75th anniversary.

The lectures are designed to be delivered by a past student of the School who has gone on to become an expert in her field and who can inspire the new generation of students to

achieve their own levels of excellence in post-school life.

You can listen to Posie's talk on the Fahan website: www.fahan.tas.edu.au/articles/2011-07-05-inspirational-travers-morphett-lecture



Posie delivering the 2011 Travers Morphett Lecture.

Alumni Update

Diana Collier ('41) wrote to the Communications team at the beginning of Term Two to share what she has been up to recently:

"I continue to be very much involved in Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Reconciliation, ANTaR and Oxfam.

I also, recently, attended an excellent forum on Close The Gap in Shepparton. About 80 people attended and discussion in groups was stimulating. I also continue leading a group in Castlemaine U3A on the History of English; signposts in the language for change and growth. Also there are many activities with the

Bendigo Field Naturalists.

Just now there are meetings around Australia for A Conversation about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Constitutional Recognition. The aim is to get feedback (and submissions, if possible) from us ordinary folk on ways to alter, or not to alter, the Constitution at a Referendum, and to assess whether it is the right time to prepare for a Referendum. I have attended two of these meetings, one in Shepparton and the one held in the Hobart Town Hall. I used to think 'the Constitution, how booooring!' - not any more."

If you have news you would like to share please email communications@fahan.tas.edu.au

Connect

Don't forget to find the School online on Facebook and Twitter so that you can stay connected with each other and learn about all the latest news and events that are taking place at the School.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fahanschool

Twitter: www.twitter.com/FahanSchoolTas



FEATURED ALUMNI



Rachel and Grug at Fullers Bookshop.

Rachel Edwards ('91) — who sometimes goes by the name Paige Turner.

Fahan School has recently connected with Rachel, or should we say Paige, via our Twitter account. Paige/Rachel is an avid Twitterer — just another way in which she wields her most powerful tool, the written word.

We asked Rachel a few questions about her career and post-Fahan life:

Describe a typical day at work.

"I do many things for a living — but all of them are focussed around the written word — and people.

My primary job is Events Manager at Fullers Bookshop, working with authors, publishers, poets and my colleagues to bring interesting, exciting book related events to a wide audience.

I also edit *Islet*, which is an online journal for emerging writers published by *Island*.

I 'work closely' with Paige Turner who hosts the weekly Book Show on Edge Radio (Tuesdays 6pm) — and I write!

A typical day can involve one million little chats about books, meeting with authors and publishers to plan events, a dash to the Edge studio to do a pre-recorded interview with an author and in the evening, hosting an event and then home to either read for review or write. There might be a moment to blog — and I always try to end the day with some reading for pleasure."

Why did you decide to pursue a career in this field?

"This was not a conscious choice I made — though in hindsight I realise that I have always been heading in this direction. It just took a more deep and conscious appraisal of where my passions lie to establish that I am finally working in an industry that is truly fascinating to me.

I finished a meditation retreat and the first newspaper I read afterwards had the Fullers job advertised in it. I was already hosting the radio show and I had worked in bookshops in both Adelaide and Melbourne before — but I was managing a contact centre (for goodness' sake!). There is an uncomfortably clichéd saying that if you love your job you get a seven day weekend — but that applies to me."

How did your Fahan experience help you succeed in your career?

"I am so grateful for the formal education that Fahan gave me — the grounding in the basics as well as room to question, think and create. The education we received taught us not only 'facts' but it taught us how to think, how to question and how to give."

What are your favourite memories of your time at Fahan?

"My favourite memories are of intellectual and creative stimulation. Such a pleasure! I have some very funny memories of drama performances. If I am honest, some of my favourite memories are of being naughty."

What did you study at Fahan, and how did it shape your future path?

"I studied a broad selection of subjects, with a definite leaning towards the humanities. Despite

the fact I have had no use for calculus and still can't understand the magic of numbers I know this broad education has put me in good stead for a life in my eclectic industry."

What advice do you give to Fahan students about following their dreams?

"There are many things that you are told you 'should do,' many things that are perceived as important. I say- listen to your heart, establish early what makes your heart and head sing. What resonates and makes you happy? Bear in mind this may change — and that is not a problem."

You can stay in contact with Rachel by following her Twitter account -

[@paigelovesbooks](#) - there are a lot of witty, insightful and downright funny tweets that spring from the mind of Paige.

Recent Tweets:



Heading to Brigita Ozolins fabulous Reading Room @tasmuseum to discuss *Catch 22*. Woot!



My old school has asked to profile me in alumni mag. I'm no Nobel laureate or Olympian, I just love books. And people.



A day of varied headspace: reading for interviews, writing review, board meeting. I sense a good stretching across some cerebral sections.



ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS



L-R: Nicolette Williams ('98 Mulcahy), Meg Adem (Mulcahy '98) and Neil Mulcahy ('87 Hutchins).

BIRTHS

Lisa Maclean ('91) and Tijan Samba - daughter, Amie Anne Ruby

ENGAGEMENTS

Rachel Foster ('05) and Ahmad Mohamad

MARRIAGES

Meg Mulcahy ('98) and Leighton Adem
Rosalind Davidson ('05) and Anis Ta'eed

DEATHS

Judy Reeman (Wilson-Haffenden '50)



Meg and Leighton Adem

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 19 September

Term 3 begins

Friday 7 - Sunday 9 October

Fahan reunions for leavers of: 2010, 2006, 2001, 1991, 1981, 1971, 1961, 1951-55, 1941-45

Friday 7 October

Alumni V Students hockey and netball matches (Reunion)

Friday 7 October

Cocktail Drinks in the South Room (Reunion)

Saturday 8 October

High Tea (Reunion)

Friday 11 November

Nateby Club Lunch - RYC

Tuesday 13 December

Term 3 ends

Monday 12 December

Speech Night

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