

PENLEIGH AND ESSENDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL



# Altior et Sapientior

The Principal's Newsletter September 2016





# From the Principal

Monday 11 July was a student-free day and a day of two-halves for our teachers. The morning was devoted to an internal seminar programme with a focus of IT in learning. Every teacher attended three separate seminars presented by other PEGS teachers or, in some cases, external consultants. After lunch, teachers attended sectional meetings where the school's new Child Safe Standards were explained – the new school policies are already on PEGSpace – and the school's key understandings in regard to the Culture of Thinking and Care and Wellbeing were launched.

This busy day was followed by the busiest of weeks as the senior Netball team remained in serious contention of a premiership while all three senior AGSV teams – football, hockey and soccer – competed in Grand Finals. At the same time, *Urinetown: The Musical* was performed over four nights. While the show had many highlights, the extent of participation by all cast members was impressive. The supporting cast was active throughout the performance and no one has cause to feel that their's was a minor role. The talent displayed by many of the younger performers was a positive sign for the future of musicals at the school.

In the end, the netball team lost a late home-and-away game, the soccer team won the closest of finals and the football and hockey teams were defeated by narrow margins in tense and compelling games. AGSV Grand Finals feature the presentation of the Premiership cup where the captains of the opposing teams speak. Our soccer captain, Deniz Yildez, while overjoyed, was gracious in his praise of both teams. The captains of hockey and football, Marcus Wilson and Nick Giarrizzo, had the more difficult role. In a moment of personal desolation, they needed to be generous in their praise of their opposition, express thanks for their supporters and speak earnestly on behalf of their teams. It was very satisfying to hear all of our captains speak with distinction; displaying the off-field leadership that has complemented their on-field work during the season.

While these three young men have a certain confidence and strive to do their best, they have an attribute that distinguishes truly successive people; they know also how to treat others. Sport is only one area where this distinction is important. Our senior drama leaders were equally inclusive of their young cast. This humility is sometimes called a "quiet virtue". People who possess humility usually know their strengths and weakness, are open to new ideas and can appreciate the talents and needs of others around them. They are rarely exploited because they are usually liked. The author CS Lewis wrote, "Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less".

As our new understandings about the Culture of Thinking and Care and Wellbeing take root within the school, I must include the consideration of humility. For example, one understanding is that "wellbeing is nurtured by mutual respect and a strong sense of connectedness". The notion of humility is much more than an addendum to our practice. Many, many of our students are better people because they are humble enough to respect, listen to and work with others. This is to their great benefit.

**Tony Larkin**

# Two Pillars of Understanding



In response to society's continual evolution, PEGS develops new rich programmes and strategies for our students' learning and wellbeing. While we are keen to meet current challenges and opportunities, we are mindful that all innovative practices must align with the philosophy and objectives of the school so that we can continue to represent our values in our day-to-day offerings.

For this reason, we published a five-year Strategic Framework in 2015. To provide a more comprehensive understanding, this year we are introducing two lists of statements, one focusing on the school's Culture of Thinking and the other on Care and Wellbeing.

These statements are now hanging in every classroom of the school. We invite you to become familiar with these statements which we have coined the Two Pillars of Understanding. We hope they provide guidance and inspiration for all members of the school community.

**Nina Bilewicz**  
Vice Principal

## Care and Wellbeing

Caring and developing wellbeing is fundamental to everything we do.

Everyone can take steps to improve his or her wellbeing.

Wellbeing supports and enables good thinking and learning.

Wellbeing is nurtured by mutual respect and a strong sense of connectedness.

Feeling valued and having a voice are vital for a person to flourish.

An effective partnership between school and home fosters care and wellbeing.

Physical, social, emotional, psychological and spiritual care enhances wellbeing.

We help each other to be purposeful, hopeful, active, resourceful, compassionate, confident, independent and resilient.

We help each other to adapt to challenges, make good choices, solve problems and accept responsibility.

A thriving person will reflect on and manage his or her wellbeing.



## Culture of Thinking

Developing good thinkers is an explicit and core goal.

Good thinking supports wellbeing, improves intelligence and leads to good learning.

A good thinker is courageous, creative, curious, ethical, persistent, reflective and strategic.

A good thinker can apply, transfer, adapt and create.

A good thinker strives for understanding, fairness and truth.

Good thinking is fostered by the culture of our school.

A good thinker develops his or her thinking through collaboration.

A good thinker will reflect on and manage his or her thinking.





# One School Day

Monday 29 August heralded the commencement of a new tradition at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School. Replacing Presentation Night, One School Day involved all students from Year Five to Year Twelve coming together to celebrate our students' achievements. The Plenary at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre came to life with over 400 student performers and with our student leaders at Year Six and Year Twelve hosting the event. The Senior Orchestra, Synthesizer Ensemble, Senior Choir, Junior Choir, Junior Orchestra, Junior Concert Band, *Urinetown: The Musical* cast and band and the Stage Band provided the musical component of the performance and the Year Twelve parade was an additional highlight. The performance which was streamed live to our primary students proved to be an exciting celebration of the PEGS community in which all could share.













# New classrooms at the Moonee Ponds campus

The completion of Stage Two of the Moonee Ponds campus reconfiguration was awaited with great anticipation as new classrooms and spaces for three year levels would be finally available for our girls. The school community had accommodated themselves to the minor inconveniences of diverted pathways and changed collection areas but, nevertheless, breathed a sigh of relief when the hoardings came down.

Nine new classrooms and additional spaces to accommodate the growth to three streams at each year level were created from erstwhile Middle School classrooms. Aware of the quality of light and generous space in the recently completed Preparatory Level and Year One classrooms, there were high expectations that similar design elements would be applied. There was no disappointment when students, staff and parents were able to access the areas and move into their new classrooms in the first few weeks of Term Three.

With connecting doors, breakout spaces and generous floor plans, the flexibility and size of the rooms caters for a variety of groupings and seating arrangements were the first aspects that prompted comment. Marianna (Year Five) reported, "I like the new classroom as it is more spacious!" Sophie and Jordan (Year Six) were impressed with their breakout spaces, particularly the fact that they were the first ones to use them.

The garden vistas from the Year Two rooms through walls of windows ensure our girls work in ambient light. For the Year Two girls, it was, however, the peripheral element that invited comment. Leni loved the large screen televisions and Nadia loved the sliding drawer in her new desk.

The internal locker/change areas within all classrooms provide convenience and comfort as the older girls change for their PE and sports activities. The colour scheme through each room and connecting areas also brought surprise and delight as the richness of the hues eschewed the stereotypical pink and pastel!

Our older students, the girls in Years Five and Six, now have an area that they can call their own - an outdoor space protected from the elements, for wet-day recess and lunch times. The views across the playground and beyond from the first-floor rooms are an exciting novelty. There is also a generously sized common room for year level assemblies, house meetings and gatherings where two or more classes can be pulled together for discussion or other activities.

A quiet hum of purposeful activity can be heard when you walk past the rooms that reflect the practical and aesthetic and serve the needs of the students and staff who inhabit the spaces.

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







# Dinosaurs and Fossils come to Kindergarten

The Melbourne Museum Outreach mobile program Dinosaurs and Fossils recently made a visit to the kindergartens. Items ranging from fossils, dinosaur bones, replicas and photographs gave the children time to reflect on the existence of these ancient animals. Piecing together the foot, shin and thighbones of a tsintosauruss gave the children a genuine appreciation of just how large dinosaurs were. The children described them as “ginormous”.

To extend the children’s knowledge, the play dough table soon replicated a dinosaur’s habitat with caves, volcanoes, swamps and dinosaur eggs. Some of our dinosaur enthusiasts requested we add some plants for the herbivores - something that the teachers had missed! At the clay table, the children looked very closely at model dinosaurs – their body shape, thickness and length of legs, tails and neck and the shape of spikes or plates before modelling clay into their own representations.

Curiosity, imagination and creativity were enhanced and the skills of problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, mathematics and literacy were practised.

**Pam Hocking**  
Director of Kindergartens



# Second Thinking Seminar with Archie Roach

On Tuesday 14 June, the PEGS community was very fortunate to have renowned singer-songwriter Archie Roach present the second Thinking Seminar for 2016.

Archie began his presentation by reflecting on the land around our Keilor East campus. He suggested that somewhere nearby there would be a “birth tree”, a place where a baby is born in the shelter of a tree. It was a sober reminder to us that we live and work in a place where children have been born and raised for generations before white settlement.

Archie went on to tell moving stories of how he was forcibly removed from his family, how he grew up in various foster homes, how he tragically learned of his mother’s death via a letter and how he became an award-winning singer-songwriter after his “lost” years living on the streets of Sydney. Archie interspersed each story with a song.

Archie’s ultimate message was not of recrimination; it was of redemption and reconciliation. He left us all with the sense that, with enough support from the community, there is hope for the disaffected indigenous youth of today, especially through music.

Year Twelve student Laura D’Aprano thanked Archie at the end of his presentation and spoke for the entire audience when she said she had been inspired by the simplicity, grace and power of his message.

**Dietmar Schaffner**  
Thinking Seminars Convener





# Year Ten Maths Games Day Success

On Thursday 4 August, PEGS teams travelled to Mount Scopus Memorial College to compete against sixty or more teams at the Victorian Year Ten Maths Games Day.

The first activity was a problem solving challenge. Our whole team collaborated well and tackled every question. Next up were thinking based games where we played individually against students from other schools. By lunchtime, we were placed third overall and a second PEGS team was in fourth place. Encouraged by the success of the morning, we put in a strong effort in the second round with strategy games and a relay challenge.

We were reasonably happy with our performance in the afternoon and were overjoyed to learn that we had come out on top at the end of the day's competition. Beyond this success, we enjoyed the mathematical and teamwork aspects of the day. This has been the second consecutive year that a PEGS team has won the Year Ten Maths Games Day.

**Anthony Baird, Martin Burke, Jack Gibney and Sam Zhao**  
Year Ten





# Junior Schools Mathematics Games Days

Each year schools from around Melbourne descend on Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School to attend the Year Five Statewide Mathematics Games Day, held under the auspices of The Mathematical Association of Victoria.

Thirty-two teams of like-minded and eager mathematicians solve problems cooperatively within their own teams and are tested on their mental computation and recall skills during multiple rounds of automatic response games. The final section of the day involve students from opposing schools playing strategy board games against one another. It is a fitting finale to an enjoyable and challenging day.

This year's final results were:

First	St Michael's Grammar School	43.5 points
Second	PEGS (Moonee Ponds campus)	43.25 points

Our team of Chloe Brockfield, Megan Gan, Chantelle Nguyen and Caroline Xie performed with great distinction throughout the day.

Another PEGS team competed with distinction at the Year Four Mathematics Games Day which was sponsored by Lowther Hall. Teams from our Moonee Ponds and Essendon campuses finished second and sixth respectively. The team members were Mia Landgren, Stephanie Nguyen, Lillian Sun and Louisa Zhu (Moonee Ponds campus) and Emilio Santin, Deon Tzaros, Christopher Walker and Hunter West (Essendon campus).

**Craig Rayner**  
Mathematics Coordinator, Junior School (girls)

# Transition during the Middle School years

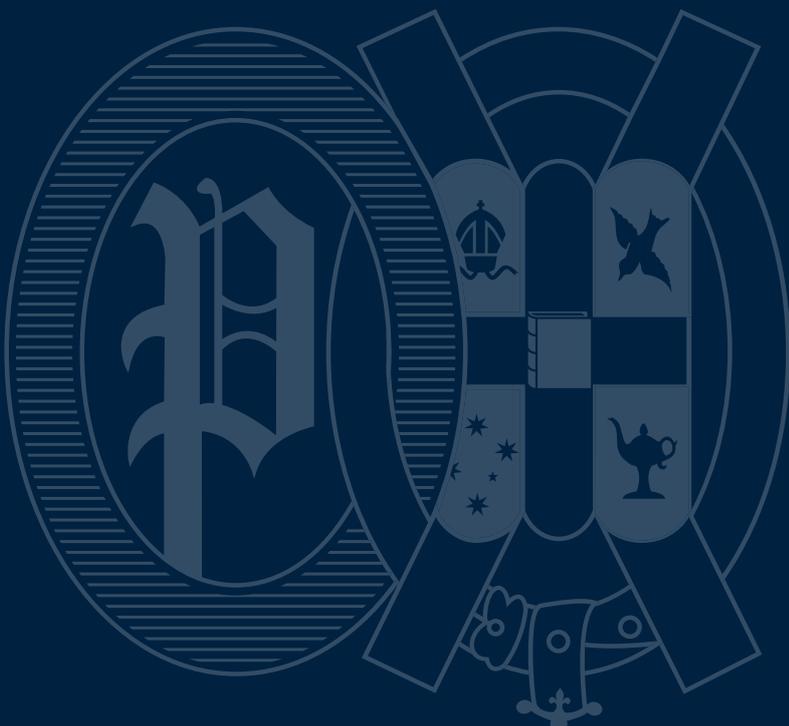
Think of the word 'Transition' and events such as the first day of Prep, the start of Year Seven and the commencement of the VCE usually spring to mind. While each is a prominent and celebrated milestone on the educational journey, to take the view that transition within Middle School happens only at the milestone junctions of starting Year Seven or finishing Year Ten ignores the subtle, important and continual transitions that pepper students' experiences academically, socially and personally during these four years.

We support transition during the Middle School years in numerous ways. We provide information, reassurance and strategies to promote effective Thinking and Learning and we ensure wellbeing as students and their families negotiate unfamiliar territory. In 2016, programmes have included information evenings, assemblies, meetings, seminars and workshops facilitated by school psychologists, coordinators and external presenters.

Whether the topic was cybersafety, positive social interaction, mutual respect or prospective subject selections, each has supported transition. We know that transition can involve a rocky or uncomfortable progression from one group of friends to another or may require new ideas to be adopted as students mature and develop new skills and interests.

Transition is complex, significant and continuous. It is unique to each individual and it warrants our attention and insight as well as care and sensitivity to the needs of all students and their families at every point during the Middle School years.

**Caroline Horton Andrews**  
Head of Gottliebsen House







# DAV

## Public Speaking

On Friday 5 August Charlotte MacArthur and I represented PEGS in the DAV Public Speaking Grand Final at St Leonard's College. The first round required competitors to present a prepared speech on a topic ranging from gender and racial stereotyping to the media's influence to the benefits of learning outside the classroom.

The second section was the challenging impromptu round in which each student was required to prepare a two to three minute speech on a topic introduced only five minutes earlier. It was evident that all competitors were passionate about their persuasive topics and a variety of effective techniques were employed to deliver these messages to the audience.

The competition also allowed me to reflect upon the relevance of public speaking. Although some might view it as a skill required by lecturers, lawyers or other similar professions, I realised that public speaking is beneficial for a range of aspects in life. I am eagerly awaiting the opportunity to participate in further school public speaking programmes.

**Innayt Brar**  
Year Seven

# Effective student action

The school's Social Justice teams work throughout the school year to promote equity and justice and to show that they value diversity within our local community and beyond. Whether they are knitting blankets, raising money, tutoring refugees, collecting food and second hand-clothing or gaining expert knowledge, over the years they have made a significant impact on the individuals and groups who have been the recipients of their efforts.

Last year Peter Nguyen, now in Year Eleven, while part of the Middle School Social Justice team, identified a problem and worked to improve this situation. He met with a panel at the school to suggest a change to one of the school's practices; he suggested that the school change its toilet paper to one that uses environmentally friendly materials.

The brand he suggested also donates 50% of its profits to WaterAid, an organization that builds toilets in the developing world. Peter provided a great deal of research on the merits of WaterAid. After gauging its suitability, the school is now using, across the school, the brand suggested by Peter.

Interestingly, the musical *Urinetown: The Musical* that was performed by our students in July this year turned the problem of not having toilets into a farce; Peter Nguyen has taken a more practical and persuasive tack.

**Nina Bilewicz**  
Vice Principal



# PEGSfest

For the two weeks between Monday 8 and Friday 19 August, Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School celebrated the artistic life of the school community with the introduction of a combined school wide arts festival. Known as PEGSfest, this festival encouraged an exploration of the inner artist in us all and featured the work of students from all sections of the school in a number of formal and informal activities. These included visual art exhibitions; music, drama and dance performances; workshops, media productions and literature readings. Congratulations go to everyone whose efforts helped to ensure the establishment of this exciting initiative.





# Winter season success

For our boys' First teams, it has been one of our most successful seasons with three teams competing for premierships.

Our First Hockey team faced Trinity in the team's first grand final since 2003. Little separated the teams throughout the game but sadly our team suffered a narrow 3-2 defeat. Marcus Wilson, Tim Hiscox, Anthony Donato and Tom Saxon were all selected as AGSV representatives.

Our First XVIII qualified for their second consecutive grand final following a courageous win away from home against much fancied Ivanhoe. The grand final against Marcellin was a gripping game of football. Our boys' inaccuracy was costly as they could only manage 1.8 up to the 15 minute mark of the third quarter. A five goal burst saw us hit the lead however a freak goal from the boundary with two minutes remaining clinched the game for our opponents. Brock McGregor, Harrison Bult, Jean-Luc Velissaris, Matthew Williamson and Cameron Rayner all gained AGSV representative selection.

Our First XI Soccer team marched into the grand final after seven straight victories and conceding only two goals. An impressive strike from Connor Metcalfe was followed shortly after by an Ivanhoe own goal and our boys were two goals up inside ten minutes. The game was far from over and by half time the score was 2-2. In the second half both sides had opportunities and the game finished 2-2; enough for a well deserved premiership after we had defeated our opponents away from home during the season. Deniz Yildiz (Captain), Andrew Miano and Peter Marziano gained AGSV representation with Mr Colin Cooper as Coach of the AGSV team.

## **Chris Clark**

Coordinator of Sport (boys)

*Marcus Wilson (Hockey Captain), Deniz Yildiz (Soccer Captain) and Nick Giarrizzo (Football Captain)*



# Cross country in the Junior Schools

The Junior Schools' cross country season concluded on Friday 5 August with the annual AGSV Cross Country carnival. PEGS boys and girls won seven of the eighteen possible places on the day in our most successful cross-country season ever.

Earlier in the season, PEGS had seen a large number of students progress from the District to Divisional level in the VPSSA competition. Numerous students advanced further to the Western Zone Regional championships and the State championships.

James Sarris (Year Four) finished fourth in the state championship and will represent Victoria in the School Sport Australia Cross Country championships in Canberra later this year.

Until this year, one of our teachers and a former student, Mr Andrew Schulz, has been boasting about his cross-country record. In an era, long ago when disco music was still popular, Mr Schulz finished nineteenth in the state championships.

Until this year, no other PEGS boy has bettered this result. Mr Schulz has lost his bragging rights. James is the first student in the history of the Junior School (boys) to be selected in the Victorian cross country team. We congratulate James, the entire team, and its coaches, for a terrific cross country season.

## Craig McFarlane

Head of Junior School (boys)



## Taekwondo gold

Nicholas Price, Year Eight, has been selected for the Taekwondo Poomsae World Championships in Peru in September. He will compete in the individual traditional and pairs, representing Australia.

This is the culmination of ten years of practising taekwondo. He started when he was four years old, but only started competing two years ago.

In the last four weeks, he has been to Canberra to compete in the Presidents Cup at the AIS, where he won gold. And then in Perth last weekend the Australian team selections for the World championships took place where he won two gold medals.

Nicholas also represented Australia in the Oceania Competition two years ago in Sydney and competed in Scotland in Commonwealth Championships in 2014. He won two silver medals.

Nicholas is very modest about his achievements. He is quite awed by the experience of competing for his country, wearing the Australian uniform and belonging to the team.

Through taekwondo he has learnt to respect others, to value discipline and the need to apply effort to whatever he wants to achieve. It is important to belong and to show appreciation of every individual. These are all qualities and values that align with the culture that the school is promoting.

## Clare Langford

Year Eight Coordinator, Middle School (boys)

# *Urinetown: The Musical* - A Challenge Well Met!

The educational, social and personal benefits to be gained from a vibrant and inclusive Performing Arts programme are no more evident than in the production process for the school's annual musical. This year, the journey down to *Urinetown: The Musical* has significantly enriched the lives of the small army of students and staff who have been involved.

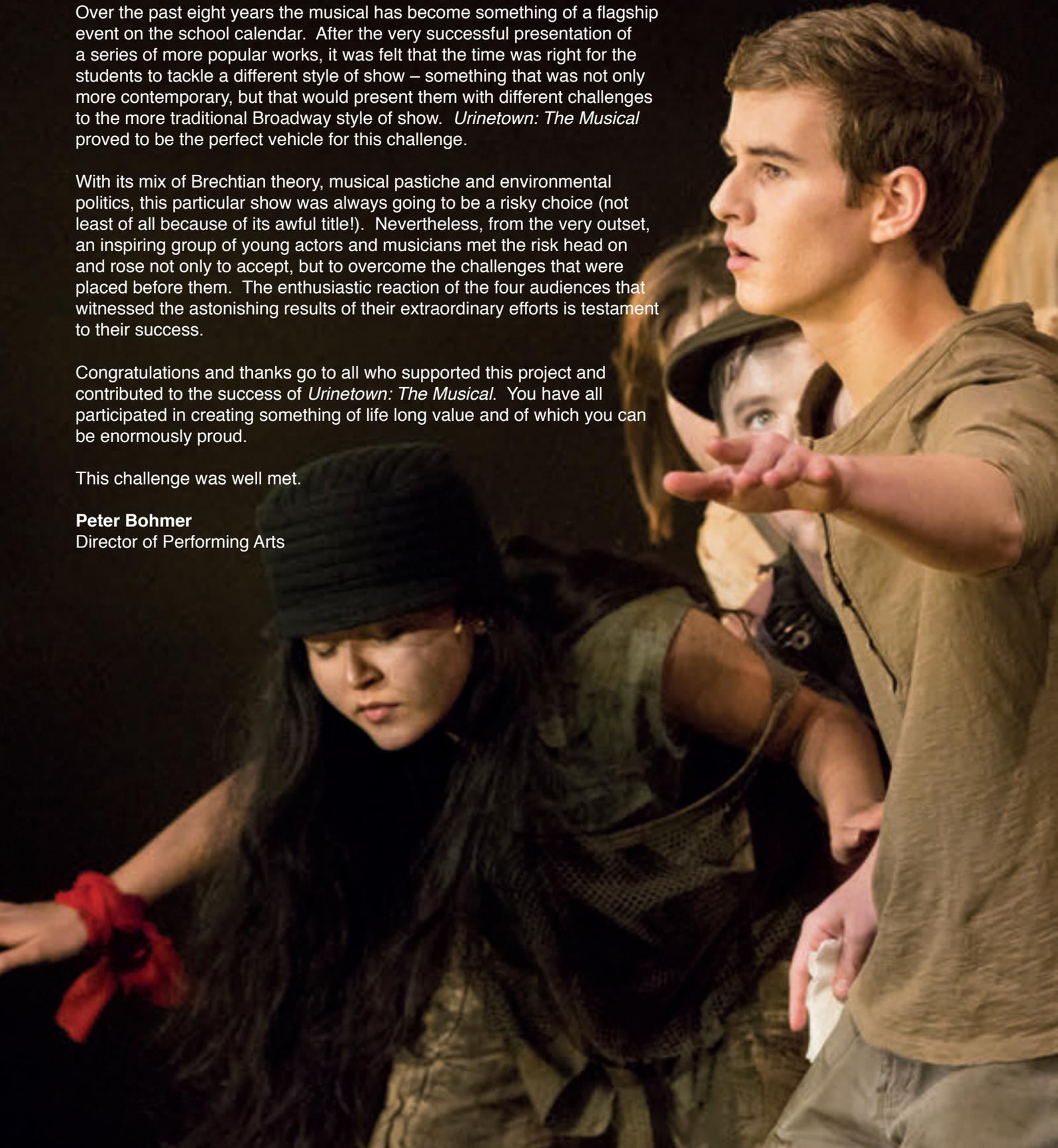
Over the past eight years the musical has become something of a flagship event on the school calendar. After the very successful presentation of a series of more popular works, it was felt that the time was right for the students to tackle a different style of show – something that was not only more contemporary, but that would present them with different challenges to the more traditional Broadway style of show. *Urinetown: The Musical* proved to be the perfect vehicle for this challenge.

With its mix of Brechtian theory, musical pastiche and environmental politics, this particular show was always going to be a risky choice (not least of all because of its awful title!). Nevertheless, from the very outset, an inspiring group of young actors and musicians met the risk head on and rose not only to accept, but to overcome the challenges that were placed before them. The enthusiastic reaction of the four audiences that witnessed the astonishing results of their extraordinary efforts is testament to their success.

Congratulations and thanks go to all who supported this project and contributed to the success of *Urinetown: The Musical*. You have all participated in creating something of life long value and of which you can be enormously proud.

This challenge was well met.

**Peter Bohmer**  
Director of Performing Arts





# (a)spire

Students from Club Dance presented a fitting finale to PEGSfest with the presentation of this year's dance show. Titled (a)spire, the students themselves devised the show over many months and were very proud to present it over two mid August nights in the Keilor East Drama Theatre. Appreciative audiences immersed themselves in a variety of visual experiences each of which explored the theme of ways in which we all aspire to achieve goals. The creative energy that the dancers brought to this project was both exhilarating and a testament to their efforts in aspiring to bring the performance to fruition.







# Unsung heroes

While many of our singing heroes were rightly receiving accolades for their outstanding work in *Urinetown: The Musical* on Saturday 30 July, a small group of non-singing heroes were in town as well. A guitar quintet, consisting of Claire Taranto, Trung Nguyen, Christian Georgianos, Rachel Chieng and Benjamin La were performing at the Annual Victorian Classical Guitar Society Gala Concert at Methodist Ladies' College. The following day, on Sunday 31 July, Caterina Nestic and Adam Oddo (voice), Caroline Lee (harp) and Kenneth Huynh (piano) performed at a memorial concert for Reverend HR Stevens in the Deepdene Uniting Church. While their audiences were smaller than at *Urinetown: The Musical*, these students are to be similarly commended for their dedication and commitment to representing the school.

**Peter Chaplin**  
Director of Music



# From the Archives

Brigid Cooper Archivist

**Mr Albert (Bert) Buchanan Foxcroft**, or "Foxie" as he was affectionately referred to by students was an integral part of the school for around 20 years.

A natural teacher, with great interest in his students' all-round development, Bert started at Northern Grammar School in 1931. He remained at the school as it merged with St Thomas' Grammar School and became Essendon Grammar school in 1934. After a short stint at Brisbane Boys' College, Bert returned in 1939 to work with the Principal, Mr C R Woollacott. He left the school to go to Haileybury College the same year that Mr Woollacott stepped down as Principal.

Bert died suddenly in 1957, leaving his wife, Betty, and two little girls, Jennie and Pam. Jennie was only six years old when he died, and she was keen to know more about her father and the time he spent in Essendon. Along with her nephew, Craig Michaels and her son, Eden Durand, Jennie visited the PEGS Archives and spoke with Mac Nicoll, an Essendon Grammar School student, who remembers Bert's classes fondly. Mac told us about "Foxie" playing the piano for assemblies and coaching the sporting teams, recited poetry that "Foxie" taught him, showed us the physical drill exercises and sketched the tiny school grounds where the whole of Essendon Grammar played.

It was lovely to renew the connections with the Foxcroft family and to keep the memory of a good, wise and generous man alive for the next generation.



Colleagues and friends, C R Woollacott and A B Foxcroft line up with some of the Essendon Grammar School's First XVIII Football Team, who were Schools' Association of Victoria Champions in 1943.  
Back L-R: Bryan Dale, Mr C R Woollacott, James B (Jim) Thacker, Wilfred G Reed, Mr A B Foxcroft.  
Front L-R: Alan Soon Lew, Colin E Black, Robert A J Hand (Captain), Malcolm J Hayes, John P Knight.  
(Donor: John Knight [PH04798])



Colleagues and friends, A B Foxcroft and C R Woollacott line up with part of Essendon Grammar School's First XI Cricket Team, who were 1947 Equal Premiers in the Schools' Association of Victoria in 1947.  
Back L-R: Mr A.B. Foxcroft, L.C. Schmidt, Mr C.R. Woollacott.  
2nd L-R: A.L. Hazelden, F.T. Widdop (Captain), W.H. Crellin (Vice Captain).  
Front: L.C. Sykes.  
(Donor: Greg Sewell [PH00128])



Eden Durand, Jennie Durand and Craig Michaels hear stories from Bert Foxcroft's 20 years at the school from former student, Mac Nicoll.

# Amy Turner Collection

Many wonderful items have been added to the Amy Turner Collection in the PEGS Archives recently. Here are a few memories of her 30 years teaching Junior School girls at Penleigh.

## Miss Amy Turner's Speech [PEGS05355]

Mr Stevens and Friends,  
I never dreamt that when I wrote to the Principal of Penleigh while holidaying in England in 1953, asking if there was a vacancy in the Primary School, that 30 years later I would be given a Testimonial Dinner. It was Miss Pearson who replied to my request and on my return offered me Grade 1. She was indeed a great inspiration to us all with her ready wit and loving concern. It was Miss Jopson who befriended me and made me welcome during those first days at Penleigh. We have remained good friends ever since and I would like to pay tribute to her for what she did for the school in days gone by.

We, the staff and parents, were a happy and close-knit family in my early days and worked hard to do the best we could for the school.

Some of the girls who are here tonight will remember how Preps and Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 were all housed in the old wooden block. The largest of the rooms with the folding doors was the original Assembly Hall. It was rather a sad day when that building was pulled down to make way for the Bird Cage.

Staff members have come and gone and I would like to pay tribute to each one I have been associated with. We have shared many and varied experiences and have weathered quite a few storms but life at the school has gone on regardless.

Of course the school could not exist without the children and their parents - I have followed with great interest the careers of the girls I have taught and am pleased to have had some part in their basic education even if it was only to teach them to read, to learn tables or to commence a scientific career by observing the things of nature which are so abundant in the grounds of Penleigh.

Parents, friends and girls, thank you for your friendship and co-operation. I would like to add a special word of appreciation for those who have worked so hard to make this evening such a memorable occasion.



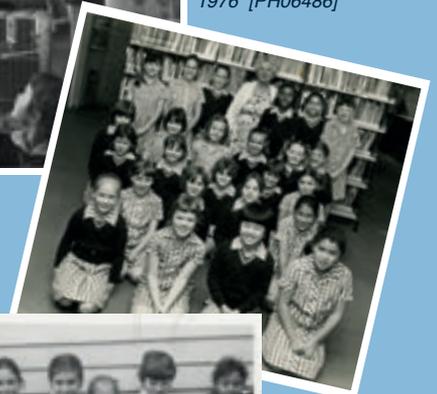
An invitation to Amy Turner's Testimonial Dinner in 1984 [PEGS05354]



Amy Turner says goodbye to her classroom before it is demolished to make way for the Bird Cage in 1976 [PH06486]



Amy Turner with her final Year 3 class in 1984 [PH06465]



Amy Turner's final Year 3 class in the Library in 1984 [PH06489]



Amy Turner with her final Year 3 class in 1984 [PH06464]



Girls from Amy Turner's final Year 3 class in 1984 [PH06469]



Amy Turner's 1973 Grade 3 class [PH06490]

# Former Students' Association News

## Alumni Spotlight Greg Hocking, Class of 1971

*What have you been doing since leaving PEGS in 1971?*

Since leaving school I have been active in the performing arts as a performer and producer. I started at Queensland Opera in 1974, moved to Australian Opera in Sydney in 1976 and started my own theatrical management and production business in 1979, based at the Universal Theatre in Fitzroy. In 1986 I took over the Athenaeum Theatre in Collins Street and, in 1987, was one of the founders of the Comedy Festival.

Simultaneously, I have been working as a conductor and in 2003 I founded Melbourne Opera, which is one of Australia's busiest opera companies. Currently we are working on a production of *Tannhauser*. It will bring opera back to the Regent Theatre.

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

While at Essendon Grammar I was lucky to receive a music education under the guidance of Mrs Mary Armour at the instigation of Rev Bert Stevens. I still remember Mrs Armour coming into my Grade Three classroom and asking if anyone wanted to join a school choir that she was starting. The subsequent growth of the PEGS music programme has been fantastic. I must also salute two great teachers - Phil A'vard and Ken Kemp. They sponsored a series of great school plays. And we got to meet girls!

*The Essendon Choral Society practises at Woollacott Hall at the Essendon campus. Tell us about the Choral Society and how others can get involved?*

Essendon Choral Society is a community choir. It is open to anyone and we perform quite serious and challenging repertoire. There is a wide variety of ages and experience in the group and it is very welcoming. We currently have about 45 members who rehearse weekly at the school. Our most recent concert featured Faure's Requiem. I first performed this piece with the school choir forty-five years ago in the very same hall!

*What is your favourite memory of PEGS?*

My favourite memory of PEGS is Rev Bert Stevens. He later assisted me with the running Melbourne Opera. He was a great and inspiring man and I count it a privilege to have worked with him when my school years were over. I also remember shaking Prime Minister Robert Menzies' hand at the opening of the Keilor East campus in 1961.

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

The only advice I would give is: have a go while you are young - there's plenty of time to settle down and you don't want to die wondering.



# Annual football luncheon and match

Over 120 guests attended the Annual PEGS Football Luncheon on Friday 17 June. Media personality Brian Taylor officiated as Master of Ceremonies with guest speakers Jonathan Simpkin and Shaun Edwards from the Essendon Football Club. Following lunch, guests assembled on the oval to watch the PEGS First XVIII take on Marcellin College.

This was a big occasion and a rematch of last year's AGSV Grand Final.

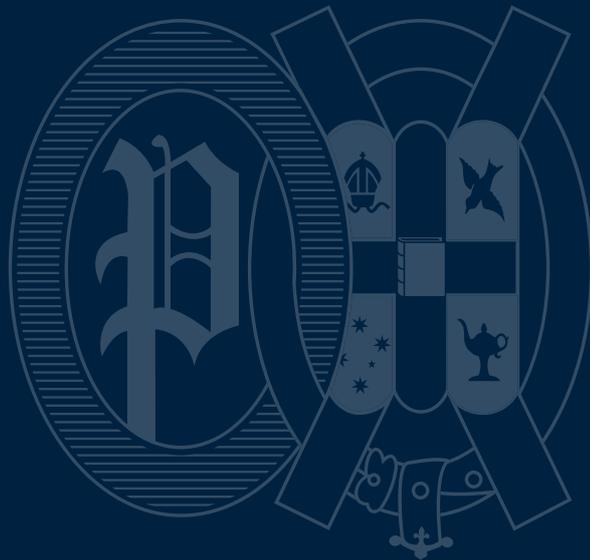
The talk in the week before the game was extremely positive and a real sense of confidence was brewing among the playing group. Redemption was in the forefront of the players' minds as they set out to complete an important part of their journey to the 2016 AGSV Grand Final.

After a tight start and a physically demanding first half, the boys were desperate during the half-time break to reset both physically and mentally. While slightly down on the scoreboard, the talk from the PEGS boys was still positive. Debutants Anthony Accadia and Anthony Horomidis lifted the team and the scores were level at three-quarter time.

Unfortunately, the last quarter did not go our way and Marcellin showed why they would eventually become, in a Grand Final re-match against PEGS in late July, this year's AGSV premiers. They kicked away to win this home-and-away game by 26 points.

The final scores were Marcellin 10.14.74 to PEGS 6.12.48.

**Clay Illman**  
First XVIII Coach





# PEGS Business Network

Lisa Leask PEGS Business Network Convenor



## Budget, Business and Economy breakfast

A sold out event resulted in a packed room at the RACV Club for the topical Budget, Business and Economy breakfast.

The morning started with network opportunities before our MC and former student Mark van Aken welcomed attendees. The initiator of the PEGS Business Network, Jordan Leask, reiterated the importance of the opportunities such events provided to connect with many influential business owners, leaders of industry, career aspirants and job seekers.

The morning's panel included current PEGS Board member and former Chairman, Robert Gottliebsen, as well as economist Edward Shann and businessman Tony Karabatsas. All three of these former students led valuable discussion and provided some great insights into the current state of the economy and business.

It was a fascinating morning. A range of topics was covered including the changing workforce, business contracts, local and world economy influences, the property market, the political landscape and the importance and effect of business confidence.

## Olympics and Business of Sport event

More than 135 attendees enjoyed a morning with some talented industry leaders at the PEGS Business Breakfast with a Sport and Olympics theme.

Sarah Lawrence hosted the event which offered some intriguing insights from former student and Twenty3 Group CEO John Tripodi, former student and Australian Diamonds Netballer Liz Watson and Essendon Football Club CEO Xavier Campbell.

Guests also enjoyed a humorous Q&A when former student Josh Pound interviewed 3-time Olympian and PEGS Basketball Coach Ray Tomlinson.

The Business Network continues to provide opportunities for connection, networking and industry knowledge for the benefit of all members of the PEGS Business Community.

An End of Year Celebration is planned for Friday 25 November as a relaxed networking event.

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).



# 10 Year Reunion Class of 2006

Saturday 30 July 2016

The Class of 2006 celebrated its ten-year reunion at The Leveson in North Melbourne. With over 80 people in attendance, the night was full of fun, laughter and plenty of embarrassing tales from school. As it was our first reunion, with many more to come, it was fantastic to catch up on what the last ten years have held for us all.

It was wonderful to see photos of families, weddings and new homes as well as to hear stories of countless overseas adventures and amazing careers. The reunion kicked on well into the night with many already looking forward to the next reunion. There's only ten years to go.

Emma Kendrick, Stefan Galbo and Nick Bulhakow worked with me organising the reunion. The support of Lisa Leask from the school and Anthony Simpson (President, PEGS Former Students Association) was essential.

**Stephanie Afford** (née Rogers)  
Class of 2006



## FSA Functions

**30 Year Reunion** – Class of 1986

22 October at the Leveson, Level 1, 46 Leveson Street, North Melbourne at 7.30pm

**Golf Day** - 12 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

9 November at Botanical Hotel, 169 Domain Road, South Yarra at 11:30 am.

Contact Judith Ross on 0417 538 335 for more information.

**2017 Dates** – 8 March, 12 July and 8 November

### 40 Year Reunion - Class 1976

19 November at Moonee Valley Legends, corner Thomas and Wilson Street, Moonee Ponds.

Contact Mary-anne Balabin on 0467 978 660 or [mbalabin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mbalabin@optusnet.com.au)

Guy Gibson on 0439 456 084 or

[guygibbo1@yahoo.com.au](mailto:guygibbo1@yahoo.com.au)

Diane Jakin (Mottershead) on 0412 988 435 or [dianejakin@gmail.com](mailto:dianejakin@gmail.com)

### Penleigh Class of '63 Luncheon

15 October at Kent Hotel, North Carlton at 12.30pm

Contact Helen Daprin (Watts) on 0412 471 151

## PEGS Business Network Functions

**End Of Year Celebration** - 25 November

The Bank of Collins, 394 Collins Street at 6.30pm

## Announcements

### Births

**Lucas Paterno** ('94) and Dominie Paterno, a son, Xavier Nicholas on 8 July 2016.

**Vanessa Tripodi (nee Schiavello)** ('96) and **Anthony Tripodi**, a daughter, Aria Grace, sister for Geneva Rose, on 14 July 2016

### Deaths

**Janet Tessa Clifford Hase (nee Buck)** (Penleigh Staff 1950 - 1951), on 13 June 2016, aged 88.

**Gordon Hobson** (Essendon Grammar 1969 - 1974), on 18 August 2016, aged 59.

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

## Trivia Night – Hawaiian Style

Trivia Night was once again enjoyed by many members of the school community who savored a touch of the tropics during Melbourne's cold winter. Great fun was had by all as memory and brain power were put to the test. Many prizes were gratefully received by the lucky winners of the Trivia and the many silent auctions offered. The Committee would like to thank the school and parents for their continued support of this great event.



## Mark the Date Annual Craft Market

15 October will see the return of the Annual Craft Market, always a great community day on the school calendar. Many favourite activities are returning along with a few surprises. Please watch for the information boards and flyers soon.

**Lyn LoMoro**  
President



# Dates for the Diary

## October

- 4, 5 October – VCE Art/VCD/Media Show
- 13 October – Piano Concert Two
- 17 October – String Concert Two
- 18 October – Valedictory Dinner
- 24 October – Suzuki Concert Five

## November

- 21 November – Junior Christmas Concert
- 23 November – Suzuki Concert Six and Break-up

## December

- 5 December – Carol Service

## Friends of PEGS

- 15 October – Annual Craft Market
- 2 December – Ladies' End of Year Event

## Former Students' Association

- 22 October – 30 Year Reunion (1986), The Leveson, North Melbourne
- 12 December – Golf Day

## Private Functions

- 15 October – Penleigh Class of '63 Luncheon, Kent Hotel, North Carlton
- 9 November – Golden Girls' Luncheon, Café Domain, South Yarra
- 19 November – 40 Year Reunion (1976), Moonee Valley Legends, Moonee Ponds

## PEGS Business Network

- 25 November – End of Year Celebration, The Bank of Collins

