



FOUNDATION

newsletter

WINTER 2019

A thank you... the impact of a Foundation Rural and Regional Bursary

In the past twelve months Frensham Old Girls have provided significant financial support through the Scholarship Fund to families of rural and regional boarders applying for fee remission – making enrolment possible for girls whose parents need assistance in order to accept a place for their daughter.

Building on the major donations by Old Girls featured in our last Newsletter, twenty-three Old Girls supported the Scholarship and Bursary Fund in 2018, adding \$65,000 to the Fund.

We can all imagine how support by an Old Girl for her old School instils gratitude in the recipient – the next generation of Old Girls – but what about the impact on parents...? The following excerpt from a letter to Foundation from the parent of a recently graduated student provides insight:

'I want to thank Foundation from the bottom of my heart for the generous boarding bursary that gave my child the opportunity to attend an extremely precious school....It is an emotional challenge to express the gratitude I feel for what Frensham has given my daughter: remarkable pastoral care, educational excellence, inspirational music immersion, admirable sense of humanity and service to others...and acceptance into all the universities to which she applied....'

*Photography: 'Drought and Dust' by Miranda McGufficke (Year 12)
Third Prize – 'Your Health Link National Photographic Competition' (High School 2018)*

THE DINING ROOM

Described by the girls as 'amazing', the extended and refurbished Dining Room provides space for everyone, allows for conversations around the table, is fantastic for Friday night activities and special celebrations, and – the girls say...



'even the food tastes better...!'





At Foundation's Annual General Meeting in April, Members were keenly interested in the update provided about future plans for Frensham Schools and about Foundation's initiatives to support realisation of the next elements of the 2035 Master Plan. We are acutely aware of Foundation's role in helping to

meet the educational challenges of the 21st Century with the same creative spirit that marked the founding of Frensham Schools.

In the past year, the Scholarship and Bursary Fund has continued to support girls whose families would not otherwise be able to afford a Frensham education. I am pleased to note that we are highly committed to the provision of funds to the School annually, to sustain bursary support for enrolment of rural / regional boarders.

Separate, we have continued to allocate funds to provide scholarships for teachers to undertake major Professional Learning experiences or studies. Please take a moment to read excerpts from the reports by staff on how they benefit from this programme, and on the impact not only for themselves, but for colleagues and for the students they teach.

Another important initiative is the continued development of staff accommodation. Last year, the Foundation purchased a house adjacent to Frensham in Railway Parade, Mittagong, and it is now gainfully occupied by a teacher who has joined the School.

The Foundation Annual Dinner in August, held in conjunction with the opening of the new Dining Room, attracted a broad cross-section of the Frensham Schools community and was highly successful, raising \$150,000 on the night!

This year, as well as the Annual Dinner in May, we are looking forward to the Bush Dance – a Calendar highlight for every family – on Saturday 2 November. These events are an excellent way to connect with others in our community, and to make a direct contribution to Foundation.

I am also delighted to extend a warm welcome to our new Director of Philanthropy, Ms Jackie Dalton (see the Introduction to Jackie in this Newsletter), as she works with us to guide and inspire our efforts.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all who have supported Foundation over the last year!

Alan Watson

Chair, Winifred West Schools Foundation

In a recent meeting with Jackie Dalton, our new Director of Philanthropy, she said, 'After all these years, I think the best word to describe what motivates 'giving' is 'kindness' – 'doing something for the benefit of others, simply because you can'. She went on to give some examples of what past and current Foundation donors have been saying to her in the first weeks of her exploration of the culture of philanthropy at Frensham Schools.

We have a remarkable history of strong commitment to Foundation's efforts on the School's behalf, marked in particular by an intensity of gratitude expressed by those who have valued their School experience, either directly as a student, or as a parent or staff member. Historically also, there is an embedded sense of quiet dignity around recognition of major gifts – with respect for contributors uppermost in determining how best to say 'thank you'.

I commend to the attention of all the outstanding leadership by our Foundation Directors and Foundation Chair, Alan Watson – to engage us all in a range of opportunities to support their compelling work for Frensham Schools.



How do I convey powerfully enough the life-changing outcomes that follow support for student enrolment or staff professional learning or the future-proofing of our Schools when major gifts to our building fund make essential progress possible...?

Julie A Gillick

Head of Frensham & Head of Frensham Schools

DINING ROOM OPENING & FOUNDATION ANNUAL DINNER – AUGUST 2018



Geoffrey White, Julie Gillick, Sally White and Elizabeth Stuart




STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP

Foundation supports a Staff Scholarship Programme to enhance teacher access to world's best practice and research. The benefit for students is far-reaching and is reflected in the defining learning environment of Frensham Schools – a culture that sets the highest benchmarks for continuous improvement – teachers and students embracing challenge and celebrating growth and achievement.

In March this year, Merrilee Harris, Head of the Jamieson Programme, attended the Cambridge Schools Biannual Conference in Cape Town. This provided her with an exceptional opportunity to interact with educators from around the world, share knowledge and discuss common challenges.

The theme 'Creating the Conditions for Success' was explored in depth and Merrilee built relationships with experienced teachers who implement the Cambridge Courses around the globe – new networks from which to draw wisdom for years to come.

 **Cambridge Assessment**
International Education
Cambridge International School



Frensham is a world-class School, genuinely dedicated to supporting its staff to improve teacher practice. I am looking forward to bringing renewed vitality, knowledge and passion to my role and will ensure that the girls and my colleagues share in this unique professional development experience.

~ Merrilee Harris

Left: Frensham Year 9, 2018 achieved top results – A and A – in the Cambridge International Global Perspectives course*



JAMIESON PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES



WELCOME TO JACKIE DALTON – Director of Philanthropy



Following a review of Winifred West Schools Foundation undertaken by a firm of external strategic consultants, the Board decided to employ a Director of Philanthropy.

After a thorough search this appointment was finalised at the end of 2018 with Ms Jackie Dalton taking up the position early this year.

Jackie brings a great deal of experience to the role. Most recently she was Head of Foundation and Development at Ascham School and prior to that headed up Development for the Faculty of Veterinary Science at The University of Sydney. Jackie's career spans primary teaching, consulting (Boston Consulting Group in Australia and Europe and Takeovers, Mergers and Acquisitions for Lloyds Bank) and corporate public relations (The Rowland Company).

Jackie said Winifred West's philosophy that we should *develop our talents and use them for the common good* connects strongly with her personal beliefs. 'Every one of us has been fortunate, simply by circumstance of birth, to have had great opportunities – and by virtue of that, I believe we all have a duty to make a difference in the lives of others.'

She went on to say, 'For each of us that will be something different. For me, the wonderful thing about working in philanthropy is that there are so many ways in which to help make the world a better place. By getting to know members of our community and offering them the opportunity to help make an impact, we can change lives and make great things happen.'

Early days at Frensham Schools...

Jackie said, 'Since moving to Mittagong, I have been warmly welcomed by everyone in the Frensham Schools community – thank you!'

'Every week I am being introduced to new faces – from all sections of our community – and my picture of the School is building piece-by-piece, day-by-day. In a recent meeting with an Old Girl, I was told that in her time at Frensham she felt she was allowed to 'fly' and that she was immensely grateful for what she considered had made such a positive difference in her life.'

'Another Old Girl explained that her decision to support the Bequest programme was prompted by her desire for country children to have the opportunity of a Frensham education. She said, 'I have always been interested in education and Frensham is a place that I know and love well. At Frensham you learn to get on with others; to be tolerant and respectful of others...'

In closing Jackie noted, 'I am excited to be here!'

LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISE

With the challenging seasonal conditions many of our rural families are heading into a third year of drought. However, farmers are eternal optimists and for them it is not a matter of 'if' the rain will start to fall again but just a matter of 'when'. With that in mind Year 7 and 10 rural families were asked at their Term 1 year weekends if they would be prepared to host livestock once seasonal conditions improve. There are now some 20 names on the list and, with cash in the bank ready to invest, the Livestock Enterprise is once again poised to work with our rural community to raise funds that will, in turn, be used to support enrolments from rural families.

With \$100,000 already donated to the Bursary Fund this scheme has proven to be an effective and creative fundraising scheme and the Management Committee is eagerly waiting for the opportunity to purchase and place new stock.



... supporting Rural Enrolments



Saturday 2 November
Frensham Games Field, 5-10pm
In Australia's largest Big Top!

Live and Silent Auctions
(fabulous prizes to be won)
Dancing for all • Bucking Bull
Gib Gate Line Dancers
Frensham Country Band
and much, much more ...

FRENSHAM FELLOWSHIP CENTENARY (1919-2019) CELEBRATIONS ~ 6 & 7 APRIL

The Fellowship Centenary celebrations were characterised by generous giving, enduring legacies and more than 200 Old Girls returning to School to join in fellowship at the Cocktail Party on Saturday evening and the Centenary Service in Clubbe Hall on Sunday morning.



Fellowship Committee

Back: Ingrid Ridge, Liz Hunter, Susie Arnott, Cath Brennan
Front: Sam Kennedy, Julia Laverty, Kate Waldren



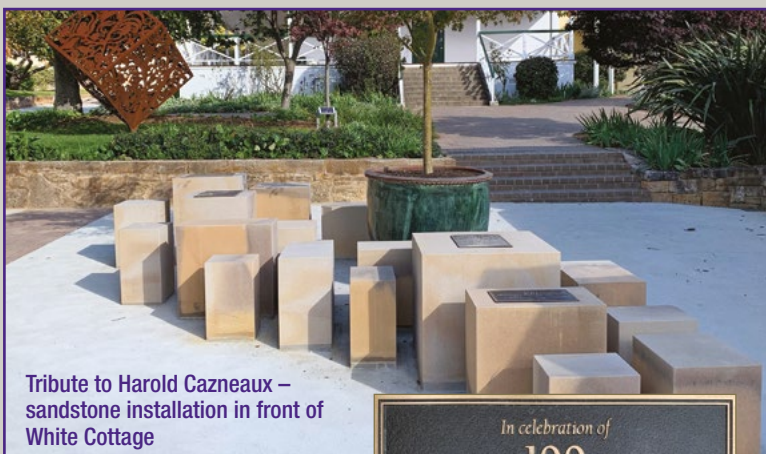
Old Girls and Foundation members
Julie Drew and Anne Bishop



Frensham staff Ros Buick with
Harriet Hooke, Old Girl and staff



Centenary Collection in
Cooper Hall – installation of
120 photographs



Tribute to Harold Cazneaux –
sandstone installation in front of
White Cottage

In celebration of
100
PICTURES by HAROLD CAZNEAUX
The Frensham Book 1934
Frensham Fellowship Centenary
1919 - 2019



This stone seat and a grove of birches donated by
past and current Presidents of Fellowship.
Pictured: Past Presidents Jo Hawker, Margie
Krahenbuhl and Alison Rosenberg

Old Girls donated 16 named seats that have
now been installed at the Sports Courts.
24 more are needed – see the enclosed
donation form to donate a seat in your name.



Joan Baldick – in her 100th year –
made an on-screen appearance to
celebrate Fellowship's Centenary
at the Service, with her Frensham
bear 'Jessica'.



Cake-cutting by past Presidents of Fellowship and
Head & Vice Head Girls at the Centenary Service &
Celebration.



The spectacular commissioned musical work
In Love Serve One Another composed by
Michael Spencer, brought tears to the eyes of
all at the Centenary Service.



A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Leaving a legacy

Frensham Schools have a reputation for world's best practice in education today, moving beyond traditional structures and breaking new ground for Australian schools.

Our students are inspired to be ambitious academically, to thrive in terms of character, leadership and wellbeing, and to use their talents to make a positive contribution to the world.

Your gift will support what it means, at the core, to be a member of the Frensham community – 'To give back'.

A Gift in your Will is a genuine way to leave a legacy that will make a lasting contribution for many years to come.

From a recent supporter of the Bequest programme:

Frensham gave me the gift of self-confidence, a love of learning and a freedom of spirit which set me off on a wonderful life of adventure and discovery. A Testamentary Bequest to Winifred West Schools Foundation is my thank you. And I really mean it!

Should you like more information, you are warmly invited to call or to meet with Jackie Dalton our Director of Philanthropy, to consider ways to leave a legacy that will inspire and enrich the lives of future generations of our Schools. +61 2 4860 2000 ~ jdalton@frensham.nsw.edu.au

THE JAMIESON PROGRAMME

Hilda Jamieson was a graduate in Science at the University of Sydney in 1923, when this discipline attracted few women. Hilda had a strong conviction that:

Those who had received the opportunity for higher education should return, in their vocational and voluntary work, the advantages they had received.

Hilda came to Frensham in 1927 to teach Mathematics, although her versatility and enthusiasm extended into most areas of school life. In particular, her passion for horses and riding was shared by the girls.

Hilda was an intrepid adventurer, and at the height of summer in 1930 she set off from Frensham with another teacher and two Old Girls, riding horses to Jenolan Caves and back. The four women showed great courage and determination while grappling with the extremes of a heatwave (*We complimented ourselves on our powers of endurance.*).

Beyond her teaching career: From 1942 Hilda was a Company Member; she was Secretary of the Frensham Fellowship Committee; in 1953 a Committee was formed with Miss Jamieson as Secretary, to arrange for the opening of Gib Gate; and, in 1955, Hilda was Gib Gate's first Nominee Governor.

Hilda died on 7 June 1984 and provided \$13,000 to the School (about \$40,000 in today's terms) through a gift in her will.

In accepting her bequest, it was decided that Hilda's gift should be a lasting one—utilised in a way that complemented her grit, her love of the outdoors, and her determination to give back. Accordingly, Jamieson Weekends began in 1986 when some of Hilda's gift was used to buy camping equipment.

Hilda's life story was the inspiration for the Jamieson Programme we know today – established in 2007 to challenge students to strive to meet expectations well beyond core educational outcomes – now a defining and ever-evolving approach to life at Frensham Schools.

By choosing to leave a gift in her will, Hilda's contribution to the community is now perpetuated way beyond her lifetime, and her legacy lives on in the lives of Frensham girls today.



Teacher inspires a powerful legacy that lives on...



FRENSHAM SCHOOLS
GIB GATE · FRENSHAM · STURT

**GIB GATE
FRENSHAM
STURT**

Preschool - Year 6
Boarding & Day School for Girls
School of Excellence in Arts, Design & Fabrication