St Hilda’s School is set to host an Australian ranking tennis tournament in November following substantial investment in excess of $750,000 in facilities and coaching programs by the school and tennis management partner, Pure Tennis Academy.

“Hosting the Tennis Australia junior event is a significant milestone for the St Hilda’s Pure Tennis Academy,” said Head of School Peter Crawley. “The academy was established in 2013 with the aim of attracting many of Queensland’s up and coming, as well as elite players.”

The St Hilda’s Pure Tennis Junior Championships will see more than 200 elite players in the 12 to 16 years age divisions compete on the newly-refurbished hard courts from 1-2 November 2014. This event coincides with the Old Girls’ Weekend so we hope you will take the opportunity to visit the tennis facilities, including the new Turbayne Sports Centre.

The sports centre, overlooking the tennis and netball courts, was opened on Friday 5 September and is a key component in the school’s tennis development strategy. The centre was fast-tracked through two generous bequests made to the school by Queensland family, Mary (nee Dulhunty 1940) and David Turbayne.

Mary Turbayne’s family has a long history with the school dating back to 1908 when former student and Mary Turbayne’s mother, Sylvia Dulhunty (nee Dixon 1908), attended Goyte-Lea, a girls’ boarding school owned by Miss Helena Davenport. Goyte-Lea was re-named St Hilda’s School in 1912.

Four past students who attended St Hilda’s between 1942 and 1980, with direct family connections to Sylvia Dulhunty and Mary Turbayne, attended the sports centre opening. They were Margot Lockhart Gibson (nee Dulhunty 1945), Sylvia Alexander (nee Gibson 1980), Margaret Brown (nee Crombie 1963) and Julia Crombie (1963).

Other special guests were Tennis Queensland’s Head of Tennis Travis Atkinson and President of Tennis Gold Coast Mike Ford.

Continued overleaf
Michelle Dicks appointed to School Council

St Hilda’s School Council has pleasure in appointing 2009 graduate Michelle Dicks as a member of Council. Michelle writes:

As a recent St Hilda’s Old Girl, it was indeed an honour to be invited on to the St Hilda’s School Council earlier this year. I am passionate about being able to exchange information, honestly express perspectives, pose questions, clarify viewpoints and be an integral part of a shared vision and the strategic direction for our school.

Having had a wonderfully fulfilling and happy time at St Hilda’s, I enrolled as a student at the University of Queensland before commencing a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery degree at Bond University.

Now in my fifth year out of school, this opportunity has enabled me to reconnect with St Hilda’s and once again, be a part of its dynamic environment. Interacting with staff, students and parents alike, whilst attending events such as the School Musical, the opening of the new Boarders’ Reception, the Foundation Ball, business breakfasts and the annual Women’s Auxiliary High Tea, confirms to me that St Hilda’s is indeed a vibrant and exceptional school!

Non Nobis Solum reminds us all that we are to serve, not for ourselves alone but for others. I am therefore, humbled to be a School Council member and will fully support the spiritual, emotional, psychological, academic and physical growth of each and every student.

In planning for our school’s future, I relish the opportunity of being able to uphold our Christian vision of Love, Compassion, Forgiveness, Hope and Grace for all who attend St Hilda’s School.

St Hilda’s marks new era in tennis

The new Turbayne Sport Centre features a café, tennis pro shop and office and an outdoor seating area that overlooks netball courts and the new tennis playing facility. The tennis facility comprises five full-size courts with fencing and lighting, as well as four dedicated ANZ Hot Shots red ball courts and an orange ball court.

Coaching and playing milestones also are fully in the frame. In a first for St Hilda’s, the St Hilda’s Opens Tennis Team recently won the Queensland Secondary Schools Teams Championships in Rockhampton. The team of Lily Clements-Markham (Year 9) and Yasmin Foster, Arki Truscott and Lara Tupper in Year 10 went through undefeated.

“The Opens players have been successful this season, benefitting from a renewed focus on coaching skills and development of teamwork,” said Mr Crawley.

“This represents a record level of achievement for the Opens team and we are looking forward to more success for the girls and other teams.”

St Hilda’s School Pure Tennis Academy is open to the public, for coaching at all ages and levels.

To find out more about bequests, please phone Business Manager, Mr Paul Salter on 07 5532 4922.

St Hilda’s School Pure Tennis Academy Team, winners of the QLD Secondary Schools Teams Championships Left to Right: Yasmin Foster, Arki Truscott, Lara Tupper and Lily Clements-Markham.

St Hilda’s School Old Girls’ Weekend

Friday 31 October – Saturday 1 November

Program of Activities

Friday 31 October 2014
6pm – 8pm
Principal’s and OGA Cocktail Party
Dress: Cocktail
Cost: Complimentary (includes beverages and canapés)

Saturday 1 November 2014
9am Morning Tea
9.30am Tour of the School
11am General Meeting
Venue: Bev Philben Room (not far from the Chapel)
A light lunch will be served following the meeting

RSVP Cheryl Reddy Email creddy@sthildas.qld.edu.au
Phone 07 5577 7297

Join us on Facebook
President’s message

Debbie Buckley

OGA continues to strengthen community connections

The OGA welcomed our newest members, the 2014 Year 12 cohort at a Senior School Assembly in August. Each student was presented with a welcome card and OGA badge which they will wear with pride for the remainder of the year.

During the presentation, OGA Committee Member and Bond University Future Students Manager, Claire Henkey (nee Holtsbaum 1993) spoke to the girls about the importance of connections and especially, staying connected with each other and their school. These connections can assist us all personally and professionally and for young graduates, offer mentoring opportunities within the St Hilda’s School community.

It was a pleasure to have attended the inaugural St Hilda’s Foundation Ball at the Marriott Hotel Surfers Paradise in March. It was a wonderful occasion for the newly-formed Foundation with many Old Girls supporting the event. Guests would have been deeply moved by sisters, Olimpia (2011) and Angelica (2009) Opara, who shared their personal story of family break-up, and the support they received from the School Council which enabled them to complete their secondary education.

Head of School Peter Crawley and staff went above and beyond to support these young women to dream and to achieve - the fundamental aim of the St Hilda’s Foundation. We hope the Old Girl community will support the foundation with its fundraising efforts.

OGA Committee is looking forward to welcoming Old Girls back to St Hilda’s during the OGA Reunion Weekend to be held from Friday 31 October to Saturday 1 November. All year levels are welcome to attend the Friday evening Cocktail Party as well as join the tour of the school, morning tea and General Meeting to be held on Saturday. Details and times are included in this newsletter.

As the year draws to a close, I wish all Old Girls and their families a safe Christmas and holiday season and extend best wishes to the Seniors of 2014 as they complete their education and start the next chapter of their lives.

Debbie Buckley (nee Clarke 1978)
President

OGA GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 1 November 2014 at 11am

You are invited to attend the next General Meeting of the OGA to be held in the Bev Philben Room, starting at 11am. The meeting will follow an early morning tea to be held at 9am and a tour of the school, starting at 9.30am. Your attendance and contribution would be very welcome.
Nicolle A Sista to women in need

Nicolle Craft Edwards (nee Craft 1992) co-founded Assist A Sista support organisation for abused women with her friend Manuela, after seeing a desperate need in their community.

Manuela came across a young mother with her baby and young children on a bus who had left an abusive relationship and walked out with her children and nothing else. Manuela contacted Nicolle who put the word out to her network and within a day, had found this young mother emergency accommodation and the start of a new life.

As an Old Girl who knew the School Motto and School Song well, Nicolle knew that ‘girls were strong as well as men’ and if, as women, we banded together we could do and achieve anything, especially when it came to assisting other women in need.

Nicolle has always been passionate about helping those without a voice and she wanted to continue to assist other women and families in their hour of need.

Working with agencies and refugee centres, Assist A Sista is notified when a woman needs assistance and then helps and restores hope to families who are survivors of domestic violence by assisting them to move successfully from ‘shelter’ to independence.

Nicolle and Manuela were thrilled to be nominated for the Pride of Australia Community Spirit Medal and are extending their reach nationally.

Nicolle invites you to ‘Like’ Assist A Sista’s Facebook Page and to make contact if you have skills or time to help out.
**ENGAGEMENTS**

**Danella Rockley (1993)** announced her engagement to Alistair Mitchell on 1 June 2014 in Bali. Al took me down to the beach for what I thought was breakfast on the beach; there was this beautiful setting with amazing turquoise ocean and a gazebo draped in white curtains and flowers – then he proposed. It was very romantic!

**Caitlin Woods (2006)** Caitlin announced her engagement to Geoffrey Onus on 22 August 2014. Our story is simple and sweet: Geoffrey proposed to me on my birthday after making me an amazing champagne breakfast. The ring was in the last present I unwrapped! Geoffrey and I are currently working in the Agricultural industry in Goondiwindi.

**Aurelia White (nee Dang 1999) and Phillip White** were married on 5 September 2014.

**Denise Tairua (nee Andres 1996)** was married on 6 September 2014 to Jacob Tairua at La Piazza, Runaway Bay.

**Alana Wee (nee Wilson 1996)** married Alexander Wee on 3 August 2014 on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. Alana attended St Hilda’s until 1996, before moving back to the United States. Alana met Alexander (TSS, graduated 1998) at the TSS fete in 1997. After living overseas for many years, they are now residing on the Gold Coast.

**Jane Watkins (nee Elliott 2000)** and husband Kris were married on 17 April 2014 - Easter weekend - by Fr Sid Rogers at Sanctuary Cove Intercontinental Chapel, with the reception held at the Country Club. The couple went to Fiji for their honeymoon. Jane’s best friends from St Hilda’s class of 2000, Sarah Benson (nee Ginnane), Jane Elliott (nee Watkins), Lauren Herd (nee Pask), Emma Pearce, Sylvia Wilson (nee Tolg) and Caroline Eriksen joined the celebrations.

**Lauren Spencer (nee Boyle 2006)** and Mark were married on 12 April at the Chapel of St Alban (TSS). Lauren is teaching Geography and History at St Hilda’s School.

**MARRIAGES**

**Caitlin Woods (2006)** and Mark were married on 12 April at the Chapel of St Alban (TSS). Lauren is teaching Geography and History at St Hilda’s School.
The Ramsey Old Girls team reigned supreme again this year with another win over the St Hilda’s Open Basketball Team. Each year the Ramsey sisters and friends come together to remember their sister Sherilee (2006) who passed away suddenly in 2007.

Where are they now...

Kellie Freebody.

Andrea Crothers visits Di Hutcheon.

Nicole James.

Leanne Kenway.

Georgia-Rose Brown.

Amelia Wilson and family.

Candice Gregor.

Leanne Kenway (nee Fair 1987)

Leanne, who was Head Daygirl in 1987, is working as a physiotherapist at Burleigh Heads and completing her PhD, studying Tremor at Griffith University. She writes: I love teaching Anatomy, Physiology and Neuroscience to the uni students, and hope to focus on this on completion of my doctorate.

Andrea Crothers (2010) is pictured above with Boarding House Mother Di Hutcheon on a visit to the school in June. Head of Boarding Gayle Churchill also met up with Andrea when they both attended the Weengallon Pink Ladies Day. Andrea was on official duties at Pink Ladies Day as Queensland Country Life journalist covering the event.

Georgia-Rose Brown (2012)

Georgia-Rose competed at the Commonwealth Games this year as a member of the Australian Women’s Artistic Gymnastics Team. Since her primary school days at St Hilda’s, Georgia-Rose has been living in Melbourne.

Kellie Freebody (2005)

Kellie was deployed in Kandahar, Afghanistan as part of the Heron UAV detachment. She returned home to Newcastle in July and is looking forward to a long relaxing holiday with her sister, travelling to London.

Amelia Wilson (nee Barton 1994)

My husband and I have been living in Airlie Beach for the past eight years, running our own surveying business - Vision Surveys (Qld) Pty Ltd. We have three beautiful children, Oliver (5), Millie (3) and Isobel (5 months). We love living up here not only for the business opportunities but also for the lifestyle. We are fortunate enough to live in a lovely home on acreage but also have an amazing back yard being that of the Whitsunday Islands and their surrounds.

Nicole James (2004)

Nicky’s dance and aerial career has seen her travel extensively over the past 10 years. She was very excited to be back on the Gold Coast as the dance captain in the recent successful season of the Ultimate Vegas Show, staged at Jupiters Casino. When the Casino show finished, she started rehearsals and is now performing at nearby Dracula’s Cabaret Restaurant in their show, Spiderlash. “I am the featured aerialist and perform on silks, net, split straps, lycra and two stationary apparatus,” said Nicky. “We will be performing Spiderlash until mid next year.” Nicky is looking forward to seeing her school friends at their reunion later this year.

Hannah Sandgren (2005)

Hannah was the designer in the production of new opera Mayakovsky by Michael Smetanin, Alison Croggon and the Sydney Chamber Opera which played at Carriageworks during July. Mayakovsky is a tale of the Russian futurist poet who became the bard of the revolution then watched it murder art; who expunged bourgeois sentiment from his own work, only to be himself expunged by socialist realism; who embraced insolence to the bourgeoisie, to be repaid by contempt from bureaucrats.

The production uses projection on the side wall with instrumental ensemble at the back, and is economic in gesture to facilitate the music’s surging pace, and text’s pessimistic prognosis.

Anna Gook (nee McLaren 1986)

I live in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory with my husband and two children. My eldest son is in Year 11 at TSS and our daughter is in Year 4 with Mount Isa School of the Air; and hopefully, going to St Hilda’s in 2017. We manage a cattle station and fatten cattle for live export. It is an amazing place to live.

Candice Gregor (1995)

I have a background in magazine editing, writing and styling and have worked with Bride to Be, Women’s Health, Marie Claire and Tatler magazines. About five years ago I fell in love with interior design and decorating and was keen to learn more about interior styling. My blog, Teacup & Sourcer was born of two loves - writing and homewares. While it’s still only early days with the blog (I haven’t quit my day job in PR yet) I was lucky enough to visit New York to attend NY NOW, one of the biggest and most reputable home and lifestyle shows in the world. Whilst there I was chosen as a finalist in NY NOW’s Best Blog competition, which was a real honour. I cannot wait to share more in upcoming posts on Teacup & Sourcer. I’d love the Old Girl community to follow me on Instagram @teacupandsourcer. I hope you enjoy the blog and photos as much as I do.
The OGA organised two ‘away’ lunches during 2014 at Toowoomba in May and Brisbane in August. Both events were well attended.

Many Old Girls travel some distance to join the lunch in Toowoomba and thoroughly enjoy the time spent with fellow students and friends. Marian Michael (nee Perdriau 1957) did a stellar job of gathering a good selection of her cohort at both events.

This year also saw a mini reunion of the 1978 group in Brisbane and it was evident that they just picked up where they left off! Some of the girls hadn’t seen each for 36 years and look forward to catching up more often.
BIRTHS

Larissa Sattler (nee Nicoll 1999)
Koen Bern Sattler was born 18 July 2014, weighing 3.73kg. Koen has a big sister Milli who will be two in November.

Jessie May (nee Milkins 2005)
Finley Allan Ronald May arrived in the world on 2 July 2014. He was four weeks early but healthy and happy.

Renee Clarke (nee Bernays 1994)
Airlie Taylor Clarke was born on 7 April 2014, 57cm long and weighing 4.6kg, a little sister to Robbie.

Stephanie Day (2006)
Addison Jane Edith Douglass was born on 26 April 2014, weighing 3.25kg, and welcomed by four-year-old half-sister Summer.

Amelia Wilson (nee Barton 1994)
Isobel Wilson was born in Mackay on 10 April 2014, a little sister to Oliver and Milie.

Shonel Susan Hall (nee Lipp 1999)
Raife Sebastian Hall was born on 6 September 2014 at Royal Brisbane Birth Centre. He is a brother to Jude Hall, aged two years.

Catherine Mills (1993)
Georgette Beer was born on 9 August 2014, a sister to Bella and Sophie.

Belinda Mason (nee Salk 1996)
Angus William Mason was born on 8 September 2014, weighing 3.875kg, a baby brother for Annabelle.

Kim Simovic (nee Banner 1999)
Mia Lucija Simovic, was born on 7 September 2014.

Peta Thompson (nee Bird 2000)
Lily Ann Thompson was born at Cairns Private hospital on the 30 March 2014.

Catherine Sparkes (Shackleton 1936)
passed away peacefully on 27 August 2014 at the age of 85. Catherine was a past student as well as teacher at St Hilda’s until 1989.

Kath Pitman Music teacher and pianist at St Hilda’s School for 30 years from 1960 to 1990, Kath passed away on 2 June 2014.

Margaret Campbell (Thomas 1956)
passed away at Roma Hospital on 7 June 2014, surrounded by loved ones.

Ann Murray (Horden 1952) passed away on 3 October 2013 on Kangaroo Island. Her funeral was conducted on Lord Howe Island. Ann attended St Hilda’s School from 1948 to 1952.

VALE

The Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane trading as St Hilda’s School
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REUNIONS

The excitement builds as reunions are fast approaching and we wish everyone a fabulous event as you re-acquaint yourselves and relive your school days. The Facebook groups have been working overtime sharing photos and good times and we look forward to sharing some of the excitement in our next newsletter.

5 years 2009, Saturday 4 October Stingray Bar and Lounge at QT Hotel
Coordinators: Olivia Piat (2009), Brooke Lee (2009), Lucy Cushman (2009) via Facebook
10 years 2004, Saturday 1 November Race Day at the Gold Coast Turf Club
Coordinator: Nina Young (2004) via Facebook
15 years 1999 Coordinator: Kate Jorgenson-Cox (nee Bielefeldt-Jorgensen 1999) via Facebook
20 years 1994, Saturday 1 November Southport Yacht Club
Coordinators: Liz Marshall (nee Wright 1994) and Emma Gardner (1994) via Facebook
25 years 1989, Saturday 11 October QT Surfers Paradise
Coordinators: Mandy McDonnell (nee Greff 1989) and Rachel Lam (1989)
30 years 1984 Friday and Saturday 10/11 October Salt, Kingscliff
Coordinators: Catriona Noble Hallas (nee Noble 1984) and Catherine Pey-Trewartha (nee Pey 1984) via Facebook
40 years 1974, Saturday 1 November Coordinator: Kathy Watkins (1995) via Facebook
50+ years 1963/64 Monday 6 October at 12pm St Lucia Golf Club, Hillstone Street
Coordinator: Gillian Turner (nee Webster 1964) gillanded@bigpond.com
Reunion coordinators for 2015 Reunion

If you are interested in helping arrange your reunion please email oldgirls@sthildas.qld.edu.au or phone Cheryl Reddy at St Hilda’s on 07-5577 7297.

We would like to hear your news to include in the next issue of the OGA Spirit.
Please tell us about your studies, career and life adventures via oldgirls@sthildas.qld.edu.au
President: Mrs Debbie Buckley
Mobile: 0412 173 033
For general enquiries
Contact OGA officer Cheryl Reddy on 07 5532 4922 (St Hilda’s School)
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