



# NEWS

# Lowther

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*Prefects and Probationers 1927*



*Schools Constitutional Convention 2002*

**NON NOBIS SOLUM**  
**INSIDE**  
STUDENTS PAST AND PRESENT  
REFLECT THE ESSENCE OF LOWTHER HALL



## DR LORNA LLOYD-GREEN

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**FRONT COVER Top Photograph** Lorna Lloyd-Green (Front row centre) Lowther Hall School Captain 1927. The other students are fellow Prefects and Probationers. Back Row: (left to right) Betty Grewar, Dorothy Knight, Gwen Ellis, Gwen Lloyd. Front Row: (left to right) Jean Payne, Rosa Grosby, Alice Skinner and Molly Bentley – *Story Page 2.*

**Lower Photograph** Lowther Hall delegates who assisted in hosting the Schools Constitutional Convention with Keynote Speakers. Left to right: Hon John Cain, Prachi Bhave, Danielle Ascik, Anna Kantzelis, Ms Karen Dowling, Mr Rick Brown and Caroline Armour – *Story Page 7.*

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### Dr Lorna Lloyd-Green, CBE OBE 1910-2002

#### *A life dedicated to learning and helping others*

The Lowther Hall community was saddened to hear of the passing of Dr Lorna Lloyd-Green, a foundation student at Lowther Hall, who faithfully supported the school throughout her life as a dedicated medico, renowned for her work in Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Music Therapy.

Throughout her distinguished and inspirational life, Lorna attributed her sense of service to her family and school. She often quoted the Lowther Hall motto *Non Nobis Solum* (not for ourselves alone) and wore the badge of Old Grammarian with love and pride.

Lorna was a student at Blinkbonnie, Moonee Ponds from age 5 and began at Lowther Hall in 1920, when Winstow and Blinkbonnie merged to form a new Church of England girls' school. She completed matriculation in 1927 and in her final year was Captain of the School, Captain of Clarke House and Dux of the School.

She fought convention to study medicine at the University of Melbourne. She was one of twelve who were the second group of women ever to study medicine there. She graduated in 1933 and became a pioneer amongst medical women in Australia. Equal pay for equal work for female doctors was achieved largely through Lorna's work with the Australian Medical Association, an issue with which she was deeply involved while at university.

She was one of the first female obstetricians and gynaecologists in Melbourne, spending most of her working life in private practice in Collins Street and East Melbourne. In 1939 she was appointed medical superintendent at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital and held a number of positions there for many years including honorary assistant surgeon and obstetrician, senior gynaecologist and dean of the clinical school. She was also associate gynaecologist at the Royal Women's Hospital.

Lorna developed special interests in areas of women's health. Fuelled by her perception of a lack of concern for childless couples, she founded the infertility clinic at the Queen Victoria Hospital that ran for 25 years before becoming the IVF Clinic at Monash.

An ardent advocate of breastfeeding, Lorna was the first medical advisor to the Nursing Mothers Association, now the Australian Breastfeeding Association. She was the first woman fellow of the AMA, and foundation



*Lorna during a visit to Lowther Hall in 1999.*

fellow of the Australian College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. She was a senior member and president of the Australian Federation of Medical Women and president of the Medical Women's International Association.

Lorna had always been a talented musician and when she decided that she would no longer practise obstetrics and gynaecology, she underwent training as a music therapist and became involved with the Australian Music Therapy Association. She spent almost 10 years visiting patients at Bethlehem Hospital and Lovell House.

Lorna committed her membership, counsel, advice and leadership to many organisations. These include the Zonta Club (charter member of Melbourne, president), St Hilda's College (founding college council member, Communitas Medal recipient for outstanding service, benefactor), Lyceum Club, the Christian Medical Fellowship, the Australian Federation of University Women and of course, Lowther Hall (secretary and president of LHOGA and benefactor).

Lorna's work and dedication were highly recognised in the community. She was awarded an OBE in 1968 and a CBE in 1979. In 2000 she was received a Commonwealth Recognition Award for Senior Australians and in 2001, on the Centenary of Federation she was included in the Victorian Honour Roll of "Women Shaping the Nation".

One of the most important dimensions in Lorna's life was her Christian faith. It informed and influenced everything she did. She worshipped at St John's Anglican Church, Toorak, serving on the vestry and as a church warden. An ardent ecumenist, she played a significant role in the ecumenical movement among Toorak churches.

It was in St John's that a Thanksgiving Service for the life of Dr Lorna Lloyd-Green was held on Saturday June 29. In her inimitable style, Lorna had carefully planned the service and the Lowther Hall Senior Vocal Ensemble performed an adaptation of Psalm 23, just as she had requested. Senator Kay Patterson, Minister for Health and Ageing and a close friend of Lorna, delivered the eulogy.

*Parts of this tribute have been adapted from the eulogy, given by Senator Kay Patterson.*



*Lorna dressed for the school play in the 1920s*



## PROFESSOR JUDITH KINNEAR

Professor Judith Kinnear, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Sydney, highlighted the spirit of caring for others and a lifelong love of learning, that she learned from her mother Mary Adelaide Koops' all too brief time at Lowther Hall, when she officially opened the new Junior School building on 26 February.



Professor Judith Kinnear at the opening of the new Junior School

Below is her moving address:

Archbishop Peter Watson, the Principal Ms Horton, Members of the School Council, Teachers and Students of Lowther Hall, distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

You have extended a very great honour to me through this invitation to perform the opening of the new Junior School Building of Lowther Hall. 'But, why a Sydneysider?' you may ask. An answer will, I hope, become apparent later. For the moment, at least let me identify that my parents and grandparents lived in this local region and my first decade of life was spent in Moonee Ponds.

Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School is an institution with a proud history reaching back more than 80 years. Part of this history has been built by the dedicated commitment of generations of teachers and administrative staff; part of this history is expressed in the quality of generations of Lowther Hall students who have made and continue to make contributions both in distinguished public careers and in other settings less in the public eye.

Let me tell you one tiny anecdote from the less public history of Lowther Hall.

One Saturday in February 1926, a young girl, Mary Adelaide Koops, walked with her mother up Puckle Street and over the railway line at Moonee Ponds station to the Memorial Hall in Holmes Road. Mary, then aged 14, went there to sit for an examination for admission to Lowther Hall on a scholarship. Official advice about the outcome of the examination came to Mary by letter dated 12 Feb 1926. Receipt of an official letter by a young girl would have been an unusual occurrence and I can imagine Mary's sense of anticipation as she opened this letter and then her excitement when she read that she had qualified for entrance to Lowther Hall on a scholarship.

Mary commenced as a day girl at Lowther Hall in 1926 and, in the following year as a 15-year old, went into form Vb. At the end of 1927, because of difficult family circumstances, Mary had to leave school to assist her family domestically and also financially through obtaining employment. Mary's father had been honourably discharged from the 1st AIF but had suffered permanent incapacity. At home, there were four other children, all younger than Mary, including a one-year-old baby.

Mary was my mother. Today, I am wearing a brooch that was willed to me by her. This brooch had been passed to Mary by her mother who, in turn, had received it from her mother.

While Mary did not have the chance to continue her formal education, she retained very fond memories of Lowther Hall –

an affection that I came to understand only after her death when I discovered some of the letters in her possession. Lowther Hall takes pride in its sense of family and in the caring community that it creates for its students. Vivid evidence of this sense of family comes from a letter, dated 10 Oct 1926, sent to Mary's mother by the Headmistress at that time, M D Ferguson. This letter was written soon after the birth of Mary's youngest sister and I suspect that the Headmistress was aware of some of the difficulties being experienced at that time by Mary's family.

This letter reads as follows:

*'Dear Mrs Koops*

*Just a note to ask if you will allow Mary to accept an invitation to dine with us each day. I am sure you all have a great deal to do, and if this will help in any way we shall be pleased for her to join us.*

*With my kindest regards*

*Yours sincerely*

*M D Ferguson.'*

When I read this letter, I was struck by the graciousness of the wording: '... if you will allow Mary to accept an invitation to dine with us' and by the underlying solicitude of a school for one of its scholarship girls. I know that during much of her time at Lowther Hall, Mary joined the boarders for lunch each day in the dining room that has now become the chapel. I was delighted that many years later, the present Principal of Lowther Hall, with similar graciousness, accepted my offer to establish the Mary Adelaide Koops Prize that is awarded annually to a senior student of Lowther Hall for outstanding achievements in Science.

Perhaps recalling her own opportunities lost through no one's fault, Mary quietly encouraged my interest and participation in education. During her life, she took pride in my academic achievements and I know she would have celebrated my appointment to my current role as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Australia's first university, The University of Sydney. Education has enriched my life in many ways and has opened doors to knowledge and understanding in many domains. The achievements of my academic career in which I take greatest pride are those of opening the same doors of knowledge and understanding to the many young people whom I have been privileged to teach.

Learning is a distinctive human trait, whether undertaken because of its utilitarian value or for the sheer joy of learning. The new Junior School Building will provide magnificent infrastructure to enhance teaching and to support learning by new generations of students. To the present students of the Junior School of Lowther Hall, I encourage you: Grasp every opportunity for learning; enjoy the supportive environment around you; treasure the opportunities that Lowther Hall offers you.

I am honoured to declare open the new Junior School Building of Lowther Hall.



Mary Adelaide Koops – 1927



Catherine Cockshott, pictured with Ms Noelene Horton and Deputy School Captain Nicolette Quinn



Rony Duncan (left) and one of her former teachers Ms Felicity Snowden



Kat Clancy with staff member Mrs Nicola Sabbadini

## LIFE AFTER LOWTHER

### Past Students Speak to School Assemblies

Lowther Hall encourages past students to visit and tell current students about their study, career and personal journeys.

Recently, a student from the 1980's, another from the 1990's and one from 2000, volunteered their time to address the staff and girls about their life after Lowther.

**Catherine Cockshott (nee Landgren), Class of 1982**, told the morning assembly about her career path, which began through work experience in Year 10, when she spent time at a pathology laboratory. She returned to school determined to gain entry into the Medical and Laboratory Science course at RMIT and had landed some casual work as well.

At the time, Catherine had no idea that the career path she had chosen would also influence her personal life. After graduating from the course of her choice, Catherine went on a holiday to England and Europe and having discovered that there were many work opportunities in medical laboratories, decided to head for a working stint in London. During this time she met her husband and now, living not too far from Lowther Hall with young children, is still working part-time in the company that she first visited for school work experience. She emphasised that work experience had given her a realistic view of a future career.

**Rony Duncan, Class of 1996**, had three messages for students

1. *The years immediately following Year 12 are the most exciting in your life!*
2. *Travel!*
3. *Try everything!*

Rony outlined her career path and explained that the study of genetics, which began as a casual interest, has become the focus of her working life. After embarking on an Arts/Science course at the University of Melbourne, she decided to focus on Science after the first year, having discovered, almost to her surprise, that she found the subject of genetics, specifically the ethics of genetics, intensely interesting.

When discouraged from undertaking Honours in the ethics of genetics because it was still a pioneering field, Rony went backpacking for a year –an experience she recommends highly. On her return, the newly established Murdoch Institute of Genetic Research at the Royal Children's Hospital provided the opportunity for Rony to complete her Honours year and she is now working on Phd studies in the field of Genetic Testing in Children.

**Kat Clancy, Class of 2000**, addressed the school assembly on her positive experience of moving away from Melbourne to pursue the course of her choice, Bachelor of Information Technology at Deakin University, Geelong.

She also discussed the dilemma she faced when deciding which subjects to study and having opted for a course which offers many fast tracking opportunities, explained why she is going to resume studying Japanese and History, which have always given her great pleasure.

Kat also told the assembly of her plans to travel and study overseas in the future and of the positive aspects of campus life.



## AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Lowther Hall students, current and past have recently received awards for academic excellence.

**Bryony McCormack**, (Year 12, 2001) and **Alice Ramshaw** (Year 11, 2001) were awarded Premier's Awards for excellence in VCE 2001. Bryony received her award as one of the top five students for Music Styles and Alice was one of Victoria's top five Dance students. The girls, along with the state's other top students, received their awards from Victorian Premier, Steve Bracks at a ceremony in the Melbourne Town Hall.

Bryony is now studying Arts/Law at the University of Melbourne and Lowther Hall has received communication from the head of the faculty acknowledging Bryony's academic achievements.

Alice is currently completing Year 12. As a result of her achievements in VCE Dance, Alice was invited to perform in both the Top Class and Top Acts concerts, which showcased the very best VCE Performing Arts students.

**Nicole Peters**, (Class of 1999) was recognised by the School of Business, Swinburne University of Technology, in its awards for academic excellence this year. Nicole received the Charles D'Aprano Memorial Prize for Studies and Research work in Italy and its Culture. Nicole is completing a double Business/Arts degree at Swinburne.

## EXPLORING SCIENCE THROUGH YOUTH ANZAAS

During the last term break, Year 11 students Simone Gruca and Kate Mathews visited Adelaide to represent Lowther Hall at a Youth forum organized by ANZAAS (Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science), one of Australia's oldest scientific societies.

The aim of the forum was to motivate the students attending to become involved and interested in the world of science. Along with 38 other students from all over Australia, Simone and Kate stayed in the boarding accommodation at Pembroke College.

They visited Adelaide University and participated in intense discussions about gene therapy, xenotransplantation and stem cell research. The forum also visited the forensic odontology department where they learned about crime solving using dental records. The Douglas Scrub Observatory was another highlight. The students were able to view the planets in our solar system and other exciting objects in our galaxy through high powered telescopes.

In summary, Simone and Kate learned a good deal about scientific advancements, made new friends from many different schools and returned to Lowther Hall eager to pass on all they had learned. During their address to the school assembly they delivered these words.

"Almost every aspect of daily life, which we take for granted, has been affected by past advances in science. In the future our lives will be influenced by new science in ways we cannot yet even think of. In this period of rapid change, there is a great need for the whole community to be better informed about science and the implications of new scientific discoveries, if as a society we are to make wise choices for the future."

## JUNIOR SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of the ongoing enrichment program in Junior School, students have opportunities to enter academic competitions in a range of subjects. Three Year 6 students have recently been successful at state level.

Stephanie Ayres has been selected as a finalist in the statewide Alliance Francaise French oral and written competition.

Carla Bellomarino received **distinction** and Stephanie Dearaugo **credit** in the 2002 Maths Association of Victoria (MAV) Maths Talent Quest. The girls' work has recently been on display at Melbourne University and they will receive their prizes at an awards ceremony.



Alice Ramshaw with her Premier's Award medal and certificate for VCE Dance



Bryony McCormack



Nicole Peters



Simone Gruca (left) and Kate Mathews, Lowther Hall's representatives at the ANZAAS Youth Forum.



Front to Back: Stephanie Dearaugo, Carla Bellomarino and Stephanie Ayres at work in the Junior LRC



# NON NOBIS

## THANK YOU BARBARA WATSON



Mrs Barbara Watson retires from her many voluntary roles at Lowther Hall

Barbara Watson's warm smile has not been seen around Lowther Hall of late, because she had decided to retire from the voluntary roles she performed for the school community. Barbara began her association with the school in the 1980's when her daughters Cindy and Felicity attended.

She is best known for the many years she worked as wardrobe mistress for Performing Arts occasions including musicals, rock eisteddfods, plays and concerts. Barbara is a former office bearer of the Mothers' Social Group, and has for many years, been a member of the team of parents who organise the wonderful Mothers' Christmas Lunch.

Her dedication and service to Lowther Hall students and staff, past and present, have been extraordinary.

We thank her and we wish her well.

## FUTURE LEADERS

During May, Year 11 students Rana Hussain and Elise Malberg, accompanied by Ms Noelene Horton, attended the Future Leaders Discussion at the Sydney Myer Asia Centre, University of Melbourne. The topic of the discussion was 'A Vision to Build the Human Capacity of Our Nation' and the guest speaker Professor Fiona Stanley AC.

The occasion also incorporated the presentation of the Merlyn Myer Leadership Awards 2002, which recognize students with leadership potential who are keen to achieve and motivated to assist other people.

Recently Elise, accompanied by Dr Susan Leslie, Director of Students and fellow student Elsie Madigan returned for the second discussion in the series. Guest speaker Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG, Member of the High Court of Australia, addressed the topic "Australia-In a Country of Law and Justice".

Rana, Elise and Elsie are members of Lowther Hall's Student Council, which meets regularly to discuss issues relevant to school life and the student body. The SC is led by Deputy School Captain Nicolette Quinn.



Student Council members Rana Hussain (left) and Elise Malberg

## ILIM COLLEGE SAYS THANK YOU

The construction and fitting of the new Junior School building left Lowther Hall with a surplus of used school furniture. Recognising that the items including desks, chairs and tables, were still functional, the school set out to find a use for them.

It was discovered that Ilim College, an Islamic school in Broadmeadows, would accept the offer. Soon after taking delivery of the furniture that Ilim planned to use as the school grew in numbers, Principal Kadir Emniyet and

teacher Ahmet Aytakin visited Noelene Horton to express their gratitude and present a gift from their school to ours in recognition.

Ms Horton was presented with a beautiful ceramic clock and matching plates which featured traditional Byzantine mosaic patterns. These were displayed to the students during an assembly and a permanent display area is being sought for them. We hope to maintain a connection with Ilim College.



Ms Noelene Horton, accompanied by Ilim College teacher Mr Ahmet Aytakin (left) and Principal Mr Kadir Emniyet during their visit to Lowther Hall



## MEMBERS OF THE LOWTHER HALL COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTE TO A BOOK OF MEMORIES

Several members of the Lowther Hall community have had pieces of writing published in a book titled *THREEPENCE A BOOK and other stories from Moonee Valley*.

The book, which features short stories by local residents, young and old, about an aspect of their life in the Moonee Valley region, was published last year with the assistance of the Commonwealth and Victorian Federation Grant Scheme. It was compiled by Joe De Iacovo and officially launched by The Hon Justin Madden MLC, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Commonwealth Games earlier this year.

Current Year 9 students Michelle Hoggan, Alex Phelan and Laura Slavin had their work chosen as the result of a class writing activity. Former students from the Class of 2000, Hailey Boyd, Antoinette Cerantonio and Lauren Taylor had completed and submitted their pieces during Year 12.



The Hon Justin Madden (back), writer Joe De Iacovo who compiled the stories (left) and Lowther Hall girls (left to right) Alex Phelan, Laura Slavin, Michelle Hoggan and Antoinette Cerantonio

Past parent Mary Soumbasis and The Reverend Peter Horman, Minister at St Thomas's Church Moonee Ponds and a member of the Lowther Hall School Council are also contributors.

## LOWTHER HALL HOSTS SCHOOLS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

In June, for the second time, Lowther Hall hosted the Regional Schools Constitutional Convention, a continuing initiative of the Constitutional Centenary Foundation, which provides a contemporary forum for students in Years 10 to 12 to discuss constitutional issues that are important to them.

Representatives from St Bernard's College, Westbourne Grammar School and independent students also took part.

*The topic for discussion was "What Should We Do With The Victorian Upper House?"*

Keynote speakers for the day were Ms Karen Dowling, Education Officer, Parliament of Victoria, Mr Bill Forwood, Leader of the Opposition in the Victorian Upper House, Hon John Cain, former Premier of Victoria and Mr Rick Brown, Parliamentary Assistant to Russell Savage, MLA.

Students were able to ask questions of the speakers during a panel session, as well as form discussion groups and take part in open debate.

## EXCHANGING FRIENDSHIP AND LEARNING

Lowther Hall students and their families continue to offer friendship and support to students from other countries.

Hannah Plowman, Year 9 and her family said goodbye to French student Chloe Maingourd in March. As part of the Southern Cross Exchange Program, Chloe had lived with the Plowmans and attended Lowther Hall for eight months. Also part of the Southern Cross program, French student Anastasia Vecrin, who attends the Lycee Militaires De St-Cyr in Paris has

spent the past two months with Year 11 student Erin Pugh, attending Lowther Hall and living with the Pugh family.

During April and May, two students from St Margaret's School Christchurch became familiar faces amongst Year 9 at Lowther Hall. Zoe Carson was hosted by Year 9 student Freya McGregor and her family and Edwina Horne spent her time at the home of Kate Dean, Year 10 and her family.

School exchanges with our sister school the Shin-Ai High School, Osaka Japan and Northampton School for Boys, Northampton UK continue to be rewarding experiences. Both school groups have been part of the Lowther Hall community recently, joining in lessons, family life and even learning the finer points of Australian Rules football. Lowther Hall students visited Japan in April and a group of students will be travelling to the UK at the end of Term 3.



Erin Pugh (left) and French student Anastasia Vecrin



# IN THE YEARS TO BE

## REUNIONS

- Class of 1962 - Forty Years
- Class of 1972 - Thirty Years
- Class of 1977 - Twenty-Five Years
- Class of 1982 - Twenty Years



Revisiting the Class of 1972.  
 Left to right: Joanne Pettit (Goette),  
 Jennifer Turner, Jennifer Malberg (Helmond),  
 Christine Robson (Annetts),  
 Sally Stormont (Hicks) and  
 Maxine McLachlan (Baker)



Past students from 1962 and 1972 exploring the Mansion



Early arrivals from the Class of 1977



Left to right: Michelle Charles, Denise Summers (Spence)  
 and Amanda Sheffield (Boyden),  
 all from the Class of 1977



Former staff member Mary Thurman with Jeanette Drew  
 (centre) and Ronda Greaves, members of the Class of 1982



Members of the Class of 1982 - and new arrivals

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2002

Thursday 24 - Saturday 26 October  
 Art Show - Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

Tuesday 3 December at 8.00pm  
 Service of Carols - St Paul's Cathedral

Monday 9 December at 8.00pm  
 Exeunt - Melbourne Town Hall

For further information about any of these events please contact the Community Relations Department at the school on 9337 5011