



NEWS

Lowther

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CELEBRATING . . . CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK,
THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY,
VCE SUCCESS . . . AND MORE

INSIDE



CELEBRATING . . . LEADERSHIP

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FRONT COVER:

Students from Years 7 to 12 and staff members dressed to express their cultural heritage - one of the many activities that took place at Lowther Hall during Victorian Cultural Diversity Week, March 17 to 21.

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Celebrating is our theme for this edition of the Lowther News and for this year. No particular anniversary is being commemorated in 2003, as it is one hundred and thirteen years from the inception of the school as the Winstow and Blinkbonnie Schools and eighty three years under the name of Lowther Hall - and there is nothing magical about eighty three! Yet in another sense there is magic in the learning and the events of every school year and this is our celebration. From the achievements of students and the Class of 2002 results, to the restoration of the stately Mansion building, to the welcoming of new staff, students and parents, we are celebrating and valuing our school community.

Effort is another powerful theme for the students in 2003. The achievements you will read of in these pages are all the consequence of effort. As Michelangelo is reported to have said, "If men knew how hard I work to gain my mastery, it would not seem so wonderful at all". Little is achieved without great effort. Let's make this a year when we celebrate achievement and the effort which leads to such achievement.

Noelene Horton

ASSEMBLIES OF DEDICATION



Bishop Paul White, is joined by Lowther Hall's School Captains and Prefects, Ms Noelene Horton and senior staff members (left to right) Dr Susan Leslie, Mrs Robyn Kronenberg and Mrs Nene Macwhirter. School Captain, Jessica Meilak, (front row 2nd from left) and Deputy School Captain, Rana Hussain, (front row 4th from left).



Ms Noelene Horton and Mrs Cheryl Penberthy, Head of Junior School, join Junior School Captain Lacy-Rae Garner (front row 3rd from left), Deputy Captain Charlotte Nicdao (front row 4th from left) and House Captains and Deputy Captains following their Assembly of Dedication.

ALLIANCE OF GIRLS' SCHOOLS ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

2003 School Captain Jessica Meilak and Deputy School Captain Rana Hussain attended the Alliance of Girls' Schools Annual Leadership Conference at Pymble Ladies College, Sydney. Here is their report:-

Over the five days of the conference, we took part in copious amounts of discussion concerning successful leadership. These workshops helped us to understand strategies to aid us with our leadership responsibilities.

In our separate cohorts, we not only pondered the nature of leadership and discussed relevant issues concerning our individual schools, but were also given opportunities to

explore and display our skills as future leaders. This was done through hands on activities given throughout the week, which also reinforced the importance of teamwork.

The development of our leadership skills was complemented with the opportunity to make new friends. Living with a group of fellow school leaders we had not previously met was at first strange, but proved to be a learning experience in itself. We found that we could connect to a deep level and share laughs, tears and life experiences.

We would like to thank the Invergowrie Foundation for providing the funds to attend the conference.

International Women's Day 6 March

As part of International Women's Day celebrations at Lowther Hall, students from Years 7 to 12 dressed up as famous women in history, encouraging other students to identify them. World leaders, authors, sporting champions, scientists, women's rights campaigners and royalty were all represented.





GIRLS SPORT VICTORIA (GSV)



Year 11 and 12 students (left to right) Nicolette Senserrick, Amanda Leedham and Marina Dolic, ready for softball and tennis in new senior sport and GSV uniforms.

As one of the twenty-four Independent Girls' schools currently taking part in GSV, Lowther Hall has had the opportunity to offer students a wider range of sporting activities and competitions. Girls from Years 7 to 12 are proudly wearing the School's new Senior Sport and GSV Uniform which features a tracksuit, polo shirt, shorts, tennis/netball skirt and bathers in traditional gold and blue.

During Term I, students have chosen to take part in coaching and competition for softball, tennis, swimming and fitness. Saturday training and competition in golf and surf league have also been available and a number of students have taken the opportunity to improve their current skills or learn new ones through GSV.

Zoe Hitchen, Year 12, competing in Lowther Hall's beach relay team at GSV Surf League, held at Mentone Beach. Zoe has been recognised for her contribution to surf lifesaving competition for both Lowther Hall and the Anglesea surf club. She was a finalist in the Leader Papers 2002 Junior Sportstar Awards and won a scholarship in the Active Girls Program, sponsored by the State Government.



Members of the swimming squad have been taking part in early morning training, under the direction of coach Belinda Meilak (2001 Swimming Captain), as well as GSV run Personal



Best meets and Carnivals involving all

participating schools. Diving has also been popular with Lowther Hall students. For the first time, a dedicated group of divers have trained regularly before school and joined in GSV carnivals and training sessions.

Special congratulations to Year 11 student Katrina Phillip (pictured during school training). During January, Katrina competed with distinction in breaststroke and individual medley events at the State Championships and State Age Championships, where she qualified for the 100 metre breaststroke at the National Age Championships to be held in Brisbane during April. As well as giving her all to the Lowther Hall team, Katrina is also captain of the East Keilor Swimming Club.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

During Term 1 Lowther Hall has hosted exchange students from Denmark and Canada and current students have warmly embraced their new friends.

Nadja Lund Kern spent the term in Year 11 on an exchange from Toftegaardsskolen School, Faaborg, Denmark, arranged by her cousin and now classmate, Pernille Hebert. The girls had not previously met, but their mothers had maintained contact for many years. When the Hebert family suggested to Nadja that she might like to experience life in an Australian school after completing the Danish equivalent of Year 10, she relished the opportunity.

Nadja, who plans a career in Psychology, says that becoming a student in Australia has improved her English considerably and she has thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her Australian relatives and their friends. She has enjoyed taking part in subjects such as Dance and Theatre Studies, which are not offered at her school. However, she found wearing a



Year 11 student Pernille Hebert (left) and her cousin Nadja Lund Kern, who visited Lowther Hall on exchange from Faaborg, Denmark.

school uniform and being mindful of a number of school rules, took a certain amount of adjustment.

The view that adjusting to a new school's guidelines, in a new country, is the most difficult part of being an exchange student is shared by a group of students from St Clements School, Toronto Canada.



Canadian students from St Clements School, Toronto. Left to right: Brittany Stief, Julia Perlis, Susan Kacaba and Lorna Sampson.

Susan Kacaba, Julia Perlis, Lorna Sampson and Brittany Stief recently spent four weeks at Lowther Hall. Their visit was the return phase of an exchange program established in 2002. Year 11 students Caroline Armour, Lucy Dalton and Shauna McEgan, who had previously visited St Clements, were hosts to the group, as well as Year 10 student Alessandra Wulf.

In addition to attending classes and some extracurricular activities, the Canadian girls had set work to complete, but they still found time to explore Melbourne (especially the shops), take weekend trips with their host families and even see a game of Australian Rules football.



CELEBRATING . . . NEW



SYLVIE BERTHIE

BA (Hons) Foreign Languages Grad Dip Ed (LOTE, ESL)

Sylvie joins the Language faculty as a French teacher. For the past 12 years she has taught French in Australia and her students have ranged from young

children to adults.

She has previously taught at Presbyterian Ladies' College, Alliance Francaise de Melbourne, Canberwell Grammar School, Pascoe Vale Girls' Secondary College and at the RAAF School of Languages.

Sylvie is married with two children, Lewis 9 and William 3. She has a passion for languages and practises Spanish whenever she can, as well as an interest in music and cinema.



CHRISTIAN CREVOLA

Dip T BEd P/Grad Dip Ed Studies Cert LOTE Meth

Christian is Lowther Hall's new Head of Languages and a teacher of French. Since 1980, he has taught French to students from Kindergarten to

University and his experience includes bilingual education and teaching via satellite television.

He is a native French speaker, passionate about his field of expertise and has conducted many professional development seminars for language teachers, both in Australia and overseas. He was awarded "French Teacher of the Year" for 2002 in Ballarat. Christian's hobbies are cooking, French films, wines, travelling and fishing.



MELISSA CALTHORPE

BA BTeach

Melissa joins the Lowther Hall staff as a teacher of Year 5. She completed her studies at the Australian Catholic University, majoring in Drama and for the past two years she has taught at St

Carlo Borromeo Primary in Greenvale.

Melissa is a sports lover who enjoys playing netball and taking an active interest in callisthenics. She is looking forward to being part of the Lowther Hall community.



STEPHEN CURTIS

BSc Grad Dip Ed

Stephen joins Lowther Hall as a member of the Science faculty, teaching Year 11 and Year 12 Physics. He came to Australia from England twenty years ago and has taught at The

Peninsula School, Hamilton College, Billanook College and for the past five years, at Korowa Anglican Girls' School.

In 'downshifting' his lifestyle, Stephen hopes to create time to pursue his interests in electronics, photography and Bridge, while at the same time, finding the opportunity for some community service.



BERNADETTE CAULFIELD

BScEd Grad Dip (Counselling)

Bernadette joins Lowther Hall as Head of Mathematics and Science. She is teaching Year 10 Mathematics and VCE Chemistry. Bernadette was

previously Head of Science at St Bernard's College Essendon and prior to this taught for eleven years at Mowbray College Melton, where she held several positions of responsibility.

Bernadette has completed a Graduate Diploma in Counselling and since 2000 has conducted VCE Revision seminars for students undertaking Units 3 and 4 Science and Mathematics. Bernadette and her husband Geoff have two daughters, Maddison 3 and Ella 2. She values family life and enjoys Thai food, antiques, travelling and shopping.



TRACEY D'ELTON

BSc Grad Dip Ed

Tracey joins the staff at Lowther Hall part-time as a teacher of Mathematics. She also has teaching experience in Science, Geography and SOSE (Studies of Society and Environment).

Tracey was previously a Leading Teacher in the State education system. She and her husband Brad have two children, Jessica 5 and Kyle 3.

Her interests include walking, gardening and netball.



MARY-JANE CLARKE

B Mus Dip Ed M Arts Ed Grad Dip (Student Welfare)

Mary-Jane is Year 9/10 Coordinator and a teacher of Music and English. She has previously taught at several Independent and Catholic schools in

Victoria including Geelong Grammar School's Timbertop campus.

In addition to music, Mary-Jane's hobbies and interests include travelling, reading, running and yoga.



MARIE FRANCHEL

MTFFL (Masters in Teaching French as a Foreign Language) MCh (Masters in Chinese)

Marie is teaching French at Lowther Hall during Terms 1 and 2. She has previously taught at Firbank Grammar

School, St Bede's College and Shelford Anglican Girls' School.

Marie is a French native and has been living in Melbourne since 1999. Her previous stints overseas have taken her to many parts of Africa, India and China. Her interests naturally include travelling, but also European films and enjoying Melbourne's vibrant lifestyle.

W MEMBERS OF STAFF



JAN HEGARTY
B Ed Dip T (Primary)

Jan is an Old Grammarian and we welcome her back to Lowther Hall as teacher of Year 4. She is passionate about teaching Mathematics and Music and thrilled to be back in the classroom.

Jan previously worked in the Faculty of Education at The University of Melbourne, with first to fourth year students. She has taught in a number of State Primary Schools including Yarrville West, Coburn, Rosehill and Overlands and has written a several of Blackline Master Books for teachers.

Jan is married with a daughter, Emma, 15 and her favourite pastime is walking on the beach with her dog.



SARAH HOBBA
BSc MTeach

Sarah joins the Philosophy and Religious Education faculty in a part-time capacity. She completed her studies at the University of Sydney, before teaching in the NSW State Education system and is currently studying for a Master of Divinity at Ridley College, Melbourne.

In her spare time, Sarah enjoys gardening, cooking, watching films and reading. She worships at St Jude's Anglican Church, Carlton, where her husband Jason is an Assistant Minister.



CHRIS ILIOPOULOS
BA Dip Ed

Chris joins the staff as a teacher of Humanities. He has many years teaching experience in secondary schools, TAFE Colleges and at LaTrobe University. He has also worked in freight and transport management, been a local government representative and is a Bail Justice.

Chris is currently researching for a higher degree in Philosophy and his other interests are politics, music and travelling.

Chris is married with two adult children, Andrew and Katherine. He enjoys the company of his family and is looking forward to travelling to Greece to hike along ancient routes.



YVONNE O'CONNELL
BA (Hons) Fine Art PGCE
Dip Professional Studies

Yvonne joins Lowther Hall as Head of Visual Arts. She was born in Yorkshire, England, where she attended school and art school, before studying to become a teacher in the early 80's. After five years as an Art coordinator in Lincolnshire, Yvonne participated in the International Teaching Fellowship Program for a year and came to live and work in Melbourne. It was during this time that she met her husband Tom and they now have a daughter, Emily.

Yvonne most recently worked as Art Coordinator at Alphington Grammar School. Her interests include reading, visiting galleries, cooking, gardening, music, travelling, socialising and anything to do with elephants. She supports the Brisbane Lions.



TESSA JOHNSTONE
BA BTeach (Hons)

Tessa joins the Junior School as a teacher of Year 1. She is a recent graduate from the University of Melbourne, but is not such a new face to Lowther Hall, as she completed a teaching internship at the Junior School in Term 3 last year.

Tessa has lived in the United Kingdom and travelled throughout Europe. On her travels she met her husband Carl. She enjoys swimming, netball and curling up with a good book.



SUSAN MAHER
BEd Dip T

Susan joins Lowther Hall as a teacher of Prep. She has twenty-five years teaching experience in State Primary schools, is highly trained in Early Years practices and has worked as an Early Years coordinator in recent years.

Susan has a love of teaching young children and is enjoying the learning environment at Lowther Hall. In her spare time she likes spending time with her husband Peter and children Matthew 17, Claire 10 and Caitlin 8, as well as reading and gardening.



SIMONE SAUNDERS
BBus Grad Dip Ed

Simone is an Old Grammarian who is excited about returning to Lowther Hall and taking on new challenges and learning experiences. After Year 12, she completed a Bachelor of Business degree and later worked as a resource officer at Victoria University. She then gained teaching qualifications and taught at Strathmore North Primary School.

Simone enjoys learning with her students and watching them grow and develop, as well as shopping, eating and travelling.



MICHAELA SMITH
BA BSc (Hons) Grad Dip Ed PhD

Michaela joins Lowther Hall as a teacher of Science, Mathematics and Geography. She completed her extensive studies at Monash University and her PhD thesis was in the field of Plant Cell Biology.

Michaela has many interests and hobbies including swimming, reading, film, and enjoying Melbourne's café society. She has a blackbelt in Goju Karate and loves to travel, listing Prague as her favourite city.



OLIVIA TARDIO
BApplied Science (Human Movement)
BEd

Olivia joins the Lowther Hall staff as Physical Education Coordinator, which includes the coordination of aerobics and camps. She has previously taught at Melton Secondary College, where she became Science Coordinator and in 2000 won a "Teacher of the Year" Award.

Olivia's sporting interests are indoor and outdoor cricket (in which she has represented Victoria) and volleyball. Her cultural interests include collecting antiques, painting, photography and theatre.



CELEBRATING ... VCE 2002 SUCCESS

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS 95+



Jade Sun: Jade was Lowther Hall's top VCE student. In Year 12 she completed English, Specialist Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Music Styles and University Mathematics. In Year 11 she studied Mathematics Methods and Chinese LOTE. Jade is now studying Dental Science at the University of Melbourne. She believes her strategy for success was choosing the right subjects - those she enjoyed, such as Music, as well as those which would advance career choices, in addition to constant revision.



Elena Jacovides: Elena's ENTER result was achieved by studying English, French, German, Mathematics Methods, Further Mathematics and Geography in Year 11. She is now studying Arts/Commerce at the University of Melbourne. Her strategy for success included personal organisation, keeping up to date with study demands and making time for recreation and social activities.



Lara Westbury: Lara studied Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics Methods, Specialist Mathematics and Physics and Geography in Year 11. She is also at the University of Melbourne, studying Science. Her strategy for success was to study and discuss issues with other members of her class, as well as balancing school, part-time work and social activities.



Emily Royal: Emily's ENTER was achieved by studying English, English Literature, Classics, Philosophy and Art, as well as History-Renaissance Italy in Year 11. She is now at the University of Melbourne studying Arts. She believes her strategy for success was choosing subjects that she enjoyed, making the workload easier.



Caroline Hine: Caroline studied Mathematics Methods, Specialist Maths, Chemistry, Physics, French and English Literature as well as Classical Societies and Cultures in Year 11. She is now at the University of Melbourne embarking on an Arts/Science degree. Her strategy for success was to work hard throughout the year, take breaks when they were needed and continue to take part in extracurricular activities such as Stage Band and Tournament of the Minds. Caroline was awarded the Lowther Clarke Scholar prize at Exeunt 2002.



Tiffany Hall: Tiffany's Year 12 subjects were English, Classics, English Literature, Philosophy and French. She completed Geography in Year 11. She is now studying Arts/ Media and Communications at the University of Melbourne. Tiffany's strategy for success was to focus on the score she believed was required for this course and she had it boldly displayed in places where she studied. She also maintained a balance by practising Tae Kwon Do.



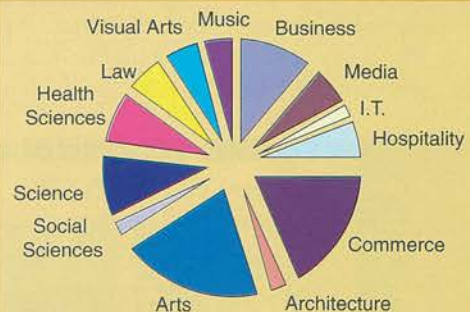
Anthea Ingram: Anthea studied English, Further Mathematics, French, German, Philosophy and Classics in Year 11. She is now at the University of Melbourne studying Arts/Media and Communications. Anthea believes that her strategy for success was choosing subjects that she enjoyed, as well as taking advantage of opportunities to attend oral lessons and seminars, both in the school and the wider community.

VCE 2002 CAREER DESTINATIONS

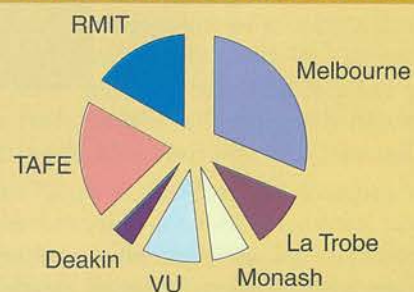
Lowther Hall's VCE Class of 2002 achieved excellent results and the majority of students gained entrance to tertiary courses of their choice.

- Seven students obtained an ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) of 95 or above, representing 14.6 % of our girls in the top 5% of the state.
- Seventeen students obtained an ENTER of 90 or above, representing 35.4% of the Class of 2002 in the top 10% of all students in the state. ENTER scores of 85 or above were achieved by 52.1% of students, placing them in the top 15% and 58.3% of students obtained an ENTER of above 80, placing them in the top 20% of the state.
- Perfect scores of 50/50 were obtained by two students in English
- 18.3% of study scores were 40 or above out of a possible 50, placing these students in the top 8% for the particular study.
- 51.7% of scores were A or A+
- 78% of Year 11 students successfully completed one or more Units 3 and 4.

COURSE DESTINATIONS



TERTIARY DESTINATIONS





OLD GRAMMARIANS

REUNIONS

The first Reunion for 2003, hosted by Lowther Hall, was held on 22 February. Members of the Class of 1973 celebrated thirty years of life after Lowther and the Class of 1978 got together to remember twenty-five years since HSC. All were delighted to see some past members of staff in attendance. The tour of the school always brings back fond memories and is the catalyst for many very amusing anecdotes. Reunions planned for the remainder of 2003 are:-

22 May

Class of 1988 15 Year Reunion; Class of 1983 20 Year Reunion

14 June

30 Years and over Reunion

16 August

Class of 1998 5 Year Reunion; Class of 1993 10 Year Reunion



*Friends from the Class of 1978 twenty-five years on.
Left to right: Jane Holmes, Zelda Hunt, Catherine McCallum (nee Cooper),
Angela Watt (nee Mirisklavos), Barbara Collins (nee Billett),
Judith Larkin (nee Glazner), Tracey Wisdom (nee Wood) and Janet Rice.*



*Classmates from 1973 revisit the Mansion.
Front: (left to right) Jennifer Malberg (nee Helmond), Rosemary Davies (nee Ireson)
Middle: Kerrie Dwyer, Diane Mansour (nee Sumner) Back: Lorraine Baker.*

LOWTHER HALL OLD GRAMMARIANS COMMITTEE 2003

President	Meredith Angwin
Vice Presidents	Mary Armour
	Valerie Fautley
Secretary	Donna Doughty
Treasurer	Carmen Rakic
Committee	Chanelle Black
	Bryony McCormack
	Belinda McLeod
	Simone Saunders
	Margaret Royston

A NEW FACE FOR THE MANSION

School families and any visitors to the Leslie Road campus during Term 1, will have noticed the major renovation work taking place on the rear face of Lowther Hall's historic Mansion. This building, originally known as "Earlsbrae Hall", was built as a private residence by brewer Coiler McCracken in 1890. The property was purchased by the Church of England in 1919 and Lowther Hall was established in 1920. The Historic Building Act has decreed the Mansion a building to "be preserved for the nation".



The rear face of the Mansion under restoration.

Conservation architects Allom, Lovell and Associates have drawn up blueprints for the restoration work to the cement render and fittings, which is being carried out by Norvech Property Services. Each face of the Mansion will take approximately one term to complete. It was exciting

to see the plastic sheeting removed from the scaffolding recently, to reveal a clean and upgraded section, complete with heritage paint work and the refurbishment of some windows.

On March 22, the Lowther Hall Old Grammarians Association hosted a Celebration of the Mansion Luncheon at

the school. Past students came along to hear Conservation Architect Ms Robyn Riddett of Allom, Lovell and Associates talk about the building and the work being undertaken to return it to former glory. Over lunch, many wonderful stories were told of the Mansion in eras past. These included the dormitories of the boarding era prior to World War 1, the different locations of the chapel, dining room and library, encounters in the Principal's office and of course, the ghost in the cellar.



CELEBRATING . . . THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

NEW PARENTS COCKTAIL PARTY



Left to right: Year 7 and Year 6 parents Alan Yildiz, Ghassan Ghali, Rose Yildiz and School Council member Josephine Ward.



Year 5 parents Michael and Michelle Hepburn (left) and Ferda and Ali Ektem, new parents to Year 6.



Left to right: Anne-Maree Mooney, John Mooney, David and Caroline Trembath, new parents to Year 7 and Year 4.

PRESENTATION BALL

Held at The Centre Ivanhoe



Arriving at Lowther Hall for photographs.
Left to right: Stephen Lucas, Kate-Eliza Dean, Phillip Juric, Marina Bojic, Anthony Bojic, Danielle Asciak.



Left to right: Ryan Stephenson, Bridget Hall, Ben Madden, Elise Grimsey, Bradley McCormack, Monique Millson, Vincent Bramich, Lauren Busch.



Louise Knuiksis and her partner Peter Corredig on the Mansion staircase.

KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 2 FAMILY PICNIC



Having fun at the picnic were Prep students (left to right) Maddison Noone, Georgia Wooderson and Lilandra Wardley.



Prep students Sarah Plant (right), Adriana Theocharous and friends having fun in the new Junior School cubby house and sandpit.



Kindergarten Assistant Mrs Jan Gilbertson enjoys the company of Prep students Left to right: Zoe Cornish, Paige Primavera and Roberta Hernandez.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2003

Thursday 7 August to Saturday 9 August
School Play – Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

Thursday 16 October to Saturday 18 October
Art Show – Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

Tuesday 2 December at 8.00 pm
Service of Carols – St Paul's Cathedral

Saturday 30 August 7.30pm
Spring Concert – Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

Sunday 26 October
Gala Event – School

Monday 8 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