



Lowther News

ABN 35 006 660 984

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APRIL 2006



New Beginnings



Mrs Grantskalns braves the flying fox on Year 7 camp, assisted by Year 7/8 Coordinator, Dr Michaela Lattimore.



Year 8 students Lauren Campbell and Elyse Brushfield welcome Mrs Grantskalns with cookies they prepared in Food Technology class.

DATES

AUGUST

Thursday 3 to
Saturday 5 August
**School Musical
Guys and Dolls** –
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

SEPTEMBER

Friday 1 September 7.30pm
Spring Concert –
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

OCTOBER

Friday 13 to
Monday 16 October
Art Show –
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre
Sunday 15 October
Mansion Open Day

DECEMBER

Thursday 7 December 8pm
Service of Carols –
St Paul's Cathedral
Tuesday 12 December 8pm
Exeunt – Melbourne Town Hall
For further information about
any of these events please
contact the Community
Relations Department
at the school.

Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School

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Essendon 3040
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Cover Photograph:
Lowther Hall's twelfth Principal
Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns receives
the Lowther Hall bear at the
Commissioning Service from Junior
School Captain Amelia Swain and
Deputy Captain Chelsea Gillis. They
are joined by The Administrator of
the Diocese The Right Reverend
Bishop John Wilson (left) and the
President of the School The Right
Reverend Paul White.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I will never forget my first sight of Lowther Hall and my first visit to the Essendon and Keilor campuses. When the car pulled up in front of the Mansion with all its historic splendour and I was then shown through the various facilities reflecting the changes in educational approach and the continuing improvement in school facilities which is the history of Lowther Hall I was excited by the idea of leading a school which has so successfully melded together what is richest in our history and tradition and what is best in terms of embracing new technologies and new approaches to teaching and learning.

When I returned to meet the staff and students as the person who would arrive in early January to become the twelfth Principal I was struck by the warmth of the community and of the relationships which are so central to Lowther Hall.

My husband Ervin and I have been most warmly welcomed by everyone in the school family and our transition from Adelaide to Melbourne has been helped in all sorts of ways from advice about the best local shops to ways to manage driving in the traffic of Melbourne. (I must say that Melbourne drivers are very forgiving though trams are another thing all together!)

I am slowly coming to know the staff, students and parents and would like to thank each and every one of them for the very warm welcome they have extended to me. After 16 years as Principal at Wilderness School in Adelaide it is quite disconcerting not to know everyone but that is part of the excitement of a new place too.

I am enjoying the interviews that I am holding with all staff members. No matter what their role they speak passionately about the care that this community shows to its members and there is no doubt that the team of staff is committed to giving every girl every opportunity to be the best person she can be.

The curriculum and the co-curricular programs are exactly what one would wish to see in a school which is inclusive in its enrolment policies. Staff strive to ensure that every girl succeeds in her own unique ways and knows herself as a person of mind, body and spirit. The fact that we are a relatively small school assists us in this aim – every girl can be very well known and there is room for everyone who wants to experience a particular activity to do so.

Lowther Hall is a very fine school and I am proud to have been chosen to lead it and to work with all of you to make it even better than it currently is. I am excited by the work that has already begun this year on exploring ways to deepen the thinking in classroom work and to encourage girls to develop even further their capacity to think deeply and laterally. A capacity to lead a thoughtful and reflective life is one of the keys not only to success but also to happiness and that is what we want for our girls – lives that are both happy and successful.

Carolyn Grantskalns

Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns
Principal

CONTENTS

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of the Principal

4 Welcome to New Staff

5 & 6 Camps and Activities

A family occasion: Mrs Grantskalns is joined by her husband Ervin, and her brother Rhys Goldsworthy and sister-in-law Kirsty Goldsworthy



THE COMMISSIONING OF THE PRINCIPAL

The bells rang out at St Paul's Cathedral on February 7 as the Lowther Hall Community gathered for the Commissioning Service for Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns, the School's twelfth Principal.

The service was attended by students and staff, parents, members of the Lowther Hall School Council and Old Grammarians' Association and the Principals of a number of Independent schools. They were joined by Mrs Grantskalns' family and friends.



Ms Elisabeth Rhodes (Deputy Principal), Mrs Nene Macwhirter (Deputy Principal), Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns and Mrs Cheryl Penberthy (Head of Junior School).



Guests at the Commissioning: Mrs Mary Armour (President LHOGA), Mr Mark Armour (Chairman School Council), Ms Jackie Dalzell (School Council) and The Revd Dr Helen Granowski (School Council).

During the service, representatives of the Lowther Hall community came forward to offer Mrs Grantskalns symbols of the School and its work. The School banner as a symbol of Lowther Hall and leadership; the School Bible symbolising Lowther Hall as a Christian learning community; the School badge with its motto *Non Nobis Solum* representing our values and the Lowther Hall bear as a symbol of pastoral care.



Left: Mrs Grantskalns and Junior School Leaders

Below: The Senior Strings, conducted by Ms Emma Rudin, performed prior to the Commissioning Service.





New teaching staff for 2006:
Belinda Lavan, Anna Gunn,
Polly Manning and Anne Earley.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

ANNE EARLEY

Anne is excited to be part of the Lowther Hall community. She has a background in Special Education and is working as an Education Support teacher in both Junior and Senior Schools. For the past six years Anne has been teaching at Sunbury West Primary School. She enjoys walking for fitness, reading and catching up with friends. She loves attending local music and drama productions near her home in the Macedon Ranges and looks forward to attending performances at Lowther Hall.

ANNA GUNN

Anna hails from Launceston, Tasmania and joins the Lowther Hall staff as teacher of Year 3. She completed her tertiary education at the University of Melbourne, gaining a Bachelor of Education, specialising in Health and Physical Education. In 2005, Anna worked in a number of Melbourne schools teaching Physical Education and coaching a range of sports. She is a keen netballer and also enjoys travel, reading, sailing, water skiing and fishing.

BELINDA LAVAN

Belinda is another new face in Junior School. She is teaching Year 6 and thoroughly enjoying her experience as a classroom teacher at Lowther Hall. She has a Bachelor of Education (Primary) from the University of Melbourne and enjoys swimming and travel. She recently spent the Christmas break in New York.

POLLY MANNING

Polly moved from Sydney to Melbourne to take up her position at Lowther Hall. She graduated from Macquarie University with a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education. She is teaching Year 5 at Lowther Hall. During 2004 and 2005 Polly taught Year 1 at Ravenswood School for Girls in NSW. Her interests are kickboxing, watching all sports and travel.

The Music faculty welcomes Marc Alexander (piano and accompaniment), Helen McCorry (piano), Geoffrey Morris (guitar) and Matthew Thomas (brass). The Drama and Dance faculty welcomes Melanie Trembath (private drama).

NENE MACWHIRTER VISITS INDIA ON STUDY TOUR

During the January school holidays, Deputy Principal Mrs Nene Macwhirter was one of twenty Australian teachers who travelled together to India on an exchange arranged by the Asia Education Foundation at the University of Melbourne.

The tour included time in New Delhi visiting schools and travelling from southern India through to the north, taking in major landmarks. For part of the tour Mrs Macwhirter was placed in a New Delhi school with 2,400 students (over three times the size of Lowther Hall). She taught Year 5, Year 8 and Year 11 classes with 35 to 40 students in each.

During May, Mrs Macwhirter's host will visit Lowther Hall and teach some lessons as part of the exchange. This is a great way to foster international understanding and we know that the girls involved will learn a great deal from the experience.



Mrs Macwhirter, dressed in traditional Salwar Kameez chats to Year 10 students Jenna Halpin, Shannon Samarasinha, Stephanie Williams and Katerina Tyros about her Indian teaching experience.

Our students have learned that the classes in India were conducted in English, so with no language barrier, Mrs Macwhirter was able to introduce the students to Australian literature and customs.



Year 6 students: Minh Pham, Stephanie Briggs and Melissa Yoon enjoying the Notebook Program with teacher Belinda Lavan.

YEAR 6 NOTEBOOK PROGRAM

In February the Year 6 girls received their notebook computers. Everyone was extremely excited and many people had been counting down the days.

In the first week we explored our new computers and learned about new programs and features. Lately we have been focusing on Power Point presentations and a software program called Inspiration, which helps us with our thinking skills.

We do most of our homework on our computers and use many programs and websites. We can access the Intranet from home which is very useful for using the Library catalogue. As the year goes by we hope to explore and learn about more programs and features of our notebook computers.

Edwina Backwell 6D
Celeste Guzzo 6D

YEAR 7 CAMP NEW FRIENDS, NEW ACTIVITIES

On 8 February the Year 7 students and teachers went to Camp Weekaway at Lancefield.

When we were put in our activity groups we were with people we didn't really know so we could make friends with other people not just with the people in our Home Groups. Over the next two days we all tried every activity. Everyone seemed to like the flying fox and canoeing and thought that the bush rescue would never end, but we all had a go and worked together in groups to complete activities everyone thought impossible.

Camp was different from the hustle and bustle of school and home and everyone enjoyed it.

Amy Golding 7M

YEAR 8 WRITERS' CAMP

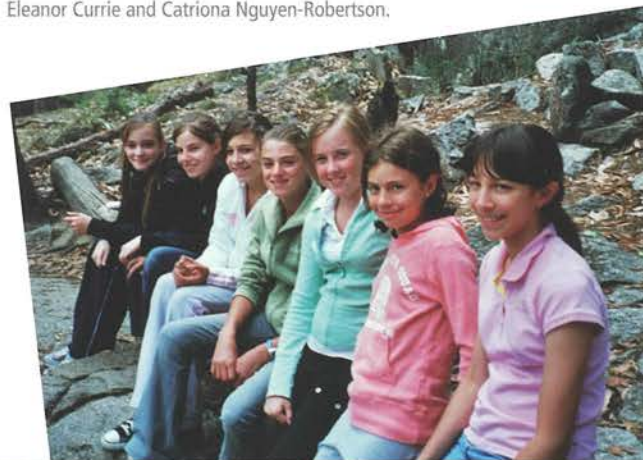
As part of the Year 8 curriculum, we are fortunate to attend a writing workshop. These workshops are short two day trips in which we are able to meet with published authors and, through a series of writing workshops, improve our writing skills. This year the workshop was held at Opoeia Eco-Arts Retreat located in the beautiful bushland near Airey's Inlet.

The visiting authors were Cath Crowley and Archie Fusillo. Cath was the author who attended my camp and ran our writing workshops. She focused on descriptive writing and similes. To show us just how much a few words can enhance a piece of writing, we played lots of games as well as doing many writing exercises. We then had to put all of this into practice and write our own narrative.

The workshop was heaps of fun, we learnt a lot and I know that all the girls really enjoyed themselves and have definitely become better writers.

Sarah Wilde 8S

Year 7 students take a break in the Lancefield bush: Audrey Giles, Vanessa Berardone, Alicia Caputo, Samantha Hood, Caitlin Ticehurst, Eleanor Currie and Catriona Nguyen-Robertson.





Student leaders representing their schools at the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia conference.

Students from St Clement's School Toronto and their Lowther Hall hosts. Back: Caitlin Herold, Sarah Hogan, Kaelene Kiapekos, Robyn Cardy. Front: Rebecca Siler, Claire Gorrie, Tamara Jewett, Karen McGregor, Alex Rancourt, Stephanie Lapinsky.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

ALLIANCE OF GIRLS' SCHOOLS AUSTRALASIA STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2006

During January we had the opportunity to join students from throughout Australia and overseas at Melbourne Girls' Grammar School and St Catherine's School, South Yarra, for a four-day residential conference.

The experience exceeded our expectations and provided us with essential skills that will contribute to our leadership positions at Lowther Hall this year. The conference offered numerous activities to help establish our goals for the year ahead and working with student leaders who shared the same hopes and concerns provided us with inspiration and support.

The conference reinforced the concept "to be a good leader, you must also lead from behind". There was a good deal of team work within activity groups and we are still in regular contact with a number of girls we met there.

Sarah Nicolazzo (School Captain)
Kassandra Hamilton (Deputy Captain)

LEADERSHIP IN YEAR 6

This term Year 6 girls have had some great experiences learning about leadership and what makes a good leader. We spent a day with Rhonda Briscoe and Amanda Mior from the Connecting Kids Company doing activities which taught us the values of leadership.

It was fun and informative when Essendon footballer Dustin Fletcher visited the School and told us about the qualities a footballer needs to be a leader.

At the National Young Leaders Day at Vodafone Arena, all Year 6 girls heard speakers such as rower Drew Ginn and author Hazel Edwards talk about leadership. Ron Barrassi gave us a quote "If it is to be, it's up to me". The Year 6D girls have adopted it as their class motto.

Amelia Swain (Junior School Captain)
Chelsea Gillis (Junior School Deputy Captain)

PERI'S EXCHANGE TO JAPAN

During December and January, Year 12 student Peri Hasan travelled to Osaka, Japan for a five week independent exchange at Lowther Hall's sister school, the Shin-Ai High School.

Peri, who is currently studying VCE Japanese and plans to continue her language studies at university, made the trip in order to improve her speaking and reading skills.

Over our Summer break she took classes in English, Computer, Physical Education, Music and Home Economics with Shin-Ai students and also received Japanese tutorials with other exchange students from Germany.

CANADIAN STUDENTS ARRIVE AT LOWTHER

Five students from St Clement's School Toronto have been attending classes and taking part in extra curricular activities at Lowther Hall during a five week student exchange.

Robyn Cardy, Caitlin Herold, Tamara Jewett, Stephanie Lapinsky and Alex Rancourt have been living with Year 11 host students Claire Gorrie, Sarah Hogan, Kaelene Kiapekos and Karen McGregor and Year 10 student Rebecca Siler.

Kaelene Kiapekos, who visited Canada and St Clement's School in 2005 says, "It was constantly entertaining to have someone your own age from another country living in your family home. We enjoyed being at Lowther Hall together and in the holidays we visited many of Melbourne's tourist destinations and went to the Commonwealth Games hockey and athletics competitions".



Essendon star Dustin Fletcher during his visit to Junior School.



The rowing squad celebrate a successful season with Coordinator Mrs Sharyn Baddeley.



Junior School students warm up with coach Daniel Ryan.

AN "OARSOME" ROWING SEASON

The 2005/2006 rowing season saw innovations in the program and new faces introduced to the Lowther Hall team. The learn to row program and crew development began during Term 3 under the direction of Rowing Development/Skills Coach Mark Dwyer and crew and sculling coaches Ellen McSweeney, Elsie Madigan and Lucas Mills and by Term 4, fitness and skills had consolidated in preparation for the regatta season.

Rowing Camps, based at Essendon Rowing Club, occurred at the end of the school year and prior to school resuming.

The Head of Schoolgirls Regatta at Geelong, Australia's largest two-day rowing competition was the culmination of a successful season. Lowther Hall fielded four crews and one sculler and achieved some outstanding results in Year 9, 10 and Open (Years 11 and 12) competition. Congratulations to 2006 Rowing Captain, Thisari Ranaweera, who received a Morongo Medal. These medals are awarded to students who are in Year 12 and have competed in the Head of Schoolgirls Regatta for three or more years.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES WARM UP WITH ELITE ATHLETES

In the lead up to the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, junior and senior students were given an insight into some of Australia's most popular sports by the men and women who play them at the highest level.

February 23 was Commonwealth Games Day at the School. Special guests for the day were Australian Opals basketballer Carly Wilson, Melbourne Phoenix and international netballer Renae Hallinan and goalkeeper for Australia's women's soccer team, the Matildas, Melissa Barbieri.

At both Senior and Junior School Assemblies the athletes outlined the path they had taken to reach the top of their sport. All students from Years 7 to 10 later attended skills and training sessions conducted by Carly, Renae and Melissa.

Junior School students from Prep to Year 6 had their chance to get active under the direction of top level athletes on Monday March 6. The students travelled to the Rec West indoor sports centre to take part in taekwondo, basketball, athletics, handball and fitness training as part of the popular Coach Approach program.

GSV SPORTS BREAKFAST

Lowther Hall Sporting Captains who represented the School at the annual Girls Sport Victoria Sports Captains Breakfast held at St Margaret's School, Berwick on 23 February, pictured with guest speaker, Judo Olympian Catherine Arlove. Anna Tesch (softball), Shavina Wilson (tennis), Lauren Clarke (Sports and netball), Abbey Glassford (athletics), Alana Istanto (football), Samantha Flores (basketball).





Y Le



Jue Jiang

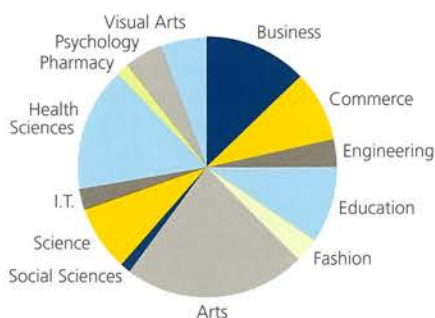
VCE RESULTS 2005

Congratulations to the Class of 2005. Lowther Hall's VCE students achieved excellent results.

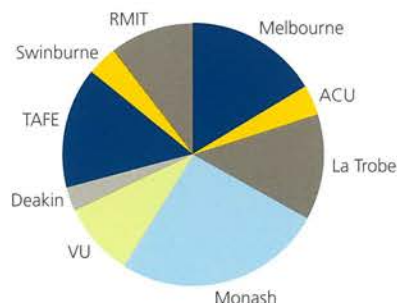
Of particular note:

- All girls successfully completed their VCE - a 100% pass rate.
- 13 students obtained an ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) of 95 or above, placing 18% of our girls in the top 5% of the state.
- 24 students obtained an ENTER of 90 or above, placing 34% of the class of 2005 in the top 10% of all students in the state and 52% of students achieved an ENTER of 85 or above, placing them in the top 15% of the state.
- Perfect scores of 50/50 were obtained by two students, one in Physical Education and one in English as a second language.
- 17% of study scores were 40 or above out of a possible 50, placing these students in the top 8% for a particular study.
- 44% of scores were A+ or A.

COURSE DESTINATIONS 2005 VCE STUDENTS



TERTIARY DESTINATIONS 2005 VCE STUDENTS



JUE JIANG DUX OF 2005

Jue Jiang was Lowther Hall's top VCE student for 2005 and recipient of the Principal's Award for the Outstanding VCE Result. Jue achieved an ENTER of 99.8 and has begun studying Dental Science at the University of Melbourne. Prior to beginning the academic year, Jue spent time travelling throughout China.

During Years 11 and 12, Jue studied eight VCE Units 3 and 4 gaining outstanding results. In Year 11 she completed Chinese (as a second language), Biology, Mathematics Methods and Music Styles. English, Specialist Mathematics, Chemistry and Psychology were undertaken in Year 12.

Jue is modest about her VCE success but believes that maintaining good study habits over a two year period contributed to achieving high marks. "I made sure that I did some study and extra work every day. If you let study slip it can quickly become a habit", she said.

Y LE - LOWTHER CLARKE SCHOLAR

The 2005 Lowther Clarke Scholar, Y Le, achieved an outstanding ENTER of 99.65 completing Visual Arts, Japanese, English (as a second language) and Specialist Mathematics in Year 12 and Vietnamese and Mathematics Methods in Year 11. She is spending 2006 studying languages and business and exploring university options for the future.

Y was Lowther's Visual Arts Captain in 2005 and some works from her VCE portfolio have been selected as part of the VCE Season of Excellence - Top Arts 2006 exhibition. The exhibition will be held at the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia from 27 April to 16 July.

Y's strategies for VCE success included working very closely with her teachers and maintaining a balance between study and social activities.

13 students obtained an ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) of 95 or above, placing 18% of our girls in the top 5% of the state.



Louise Creasey



Veronica Chong

TERTIARY DESTINATIONS

LOUISE CREASEY – SUCCESS IN VICTORIA UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP PORTFOLIO PROGRAM

Louise, who was Lowther Hall's Deputy School Captain in 2005, is in her first year of a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Paramedics) at the Victoria University of Technology. Louise was accepted in to the course through the Partnership Portfolio Program, an initiative which requires students to present an extensive written portfolio, which is reviewed by the University prior to VCE exams. Lowther Hall was invited to join the program, designed for schools in the western region, in 2002 its inaugural year.

Louise is thrilled to be on track to achieving her long time ambition of paramedics. She is also coaching netball at Lowther Hall in the GSV program and continues to work as a volunteer at a nearby nursing home.

Tiffany Stevens who is studying Physical Education/Teaching at VUT was another successful applicant in 2005. In order to complete a portfolio application, students are required to present a record of their extra curricular activities, community service, consistent high academic achievements, awards and leadership initiatives, accompanied by references and documentary evidence.

Lauren Clarke



Laura King



VERONICA CHONG – MONASH UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Veronica is the recipient of the International Scholarship for Excellence, awarded to international students by Monash University. She has begun a double degree in Commerce/Arts with the aim of running her own international business.

Veronica, who achieved an ENTER of 98.05, attended Lowther Hall from Year 7 as an international student. She moved from her home in Hong Kong to Australia in order to study English and found that she thoroughly enjoyed her secondary school years at Lowther Hall.

In order to maximise her study time Veronica would spend a good part of her weekend at the State Library.

LAUREN CLARKE AND LAURA KING – EXCELLENCE IN YEAR 11

In 2005, Lauren Clarke, now Captain of Clarke House and Laura King, now Captain of Perry House, achieved outstanding success as Year 11 students studying Year 12 subjects.

Lauren achieved a perfect score of 50 for Physical Education Units 3 and 4 and Laura scored 47 for Psychology Units 3 and 4. They were two of the many girls who achieved outstanding scores completing Units 3 and 4 of a VCE subject while in Year 11.

Both Lauren and Laura say they were motivated to complete a subject in Year 11 to lighten the study load of Year 12 and also to gain experience in study and exam techniques. They both chose a subject they were especially interested and successful in, believing that this contributed to their high score.

Both girls are now studying five subjects in Year 12. Lauren is hoping for a career in Law, while Laura is aiming to study Psychology at university.





Members of the LHOGA Committee for 2006.
 Back: Jessica Meilak, Susan Isles,
 Margaret Royston, Danielle Romagnano,
 Courtney O'Brien, Kay Trounson.
 Front: Bryony McCormack,
 Val Fautley, Mary Armour, Donna Doughty.

LHOGA COMMITTEE 2006

The Lowther Hall Old Grammarians Association held the 2006 Annual General meeting at the School on Wednesday 22 February and welcomed new Principal Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns, who conducted the election of committee and office bearers.

They are	President	Mary Armour
	Secretary	Donna Doughty
	Treasurer	Margaret Royston
	Vice President	Valerie Fautley
	Vice President	Bryony McCormack
	Committee	Susan Isles
		Jessica Meilak
		Courtney O'Brien
		Danielle Romagnano
		Kay Trounson

CLASS OF 2005 AFTERNOON TEA



Year 12 2005 students Simone Steele and Laura Slavin share news of their university studies with Mrs Nicole Sabbadini, Head of Humanities.

LHOGA SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

At the end of 2005, Ms Meredith Angwin who had been the LHOGA nominee on the School Council since 1996, retired due to a career transfer to China. The LHOGA committee wish to thank Meredith for the wonderful contribution she made in this role. Meredith was also President of the LHOGA from 2000 to 2003 and Secretary from 2003 until 2006. There is a saying "If you want a job done give it to a busy person," Meredith personified this.

Old Grammarians who may wish to apply to be part of the School Council are advised to contact:

LHOGA President,
 Mrs Mary Armour, PO Box 178 Essendon Vic 3040.

MOYA KNIGHT AND THE LHOGA GOLFING TRADITION

The passing of Moya Knight (Class of 1946) saw the end of an era in past student golf. Moya, a keen golfer and winner of multiple championships at Green Acres, was the Lowther Hall representative and coordinator for the Annual Women's Inter School Golf Cup. One of her proudest moments was in 1999 when the LHOGA team won the cup.

Jill Scott (Nee Crook), a regular member of the LHOGA team, is currently seeking past student golfers who may wish to take part in future friendly games and competitions. As a tribute to Moya, she is planning to hold a friendly golf day (catering for all abilities) for Old Grammarian golfers and friends. A perpetual trophy dedicated to Moya Knight will be awarded to the top scoring Old Grammarian.

Inquiries Jill Scott Tel. 9817 2952 (home) 9817 6151 (business)

CAREER MENTORING PROGRAM

Our very comprehensive data base, covering all areas of expertise is just waiting to be tapped into. There are large numbers of Old Grammarians who are prepared to share their advice with current girls and past students.

Enquiries: lhoga@lowtherhall.vic.edu.au

As a tribute to Moya, we are planning to hold a friendly golf day (catering for all abilities) for Old Grammarian golfers and friends. A perpetual trophy dedicated to Moya Knight will be awarded to the top scoring Old Grammarian.



Bryony McCormack in Ireland.



Jessica Meilak in Canada.

LIFE AFTER LOWTHER

BRYONY MCCORMACK (CLASS OF 2001)

Bryony is currently studying Law at the University of Melbourne. She spent Semester 2 of 2005 on exchange at University College, Dublin Ireland. She reports;-

"I lived in an international student residence, meeting people from all over Europe and America and of course got to know some fantastic Irish people. It was an amazing experience, both in terms of the study and the travel. I travelled all round Ireland while I was there, getting to Galway, Cork, Waterford, Northern Ireland and of course spent a lot of time in the city of Dublin. I was living in Blackrock, a seaside suburb on Dublin's outskirts.

I had the opportunity to travel to Scotland and Southern France during the semester. Before and after my university experience I managed to travel to Spain, Portugal, Paris, Rome, Malta, Vienna and London. The past six months have been an amazing experience."

FREYA MCGREGOR (CLASS OF 2005)

Freya has recently completed an exciting two weeks as a volunteer at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games. She was a photo assistant at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre where swimming, diving, and squash competitions were held. Freya applied to be part of the Games volunteer army thirteen months prior to the opening. She went through the interview process, training at a TAFE College, uniform accreditation and role specific training prior to the beginning of competition. She says that it was all worthwhile to be part of a major sporting event.

After the excitement of the Commonwealth Games is over, Freya is planning to spend the remaining months of 2006 travelling overseas. She has organised volunteer work at summer camps in the USA and a lionpark in South Africa and plans to do some backpacking around Europe.



Freya McGregor

JESSICA MEILAK (CLASS OF 2003)

Jessica is in her third year of a degree in Human Movement Science at RMIT. She spent a semester of 2005 on exchange in Canada at the University of Alberta, located in Edmonton.

Before returning to the Australian summer, Jessica travelled to Arizona to meet a pen pal she had first made contact with in a Year 8 class project at Lowther Hall. This visit gave Jessica a taste of the western lifestyle, including living on a ranch, exploring the Grand Canyon and attending rodeos. The news of her visit spread so rapidly amongst locals that Jessica's presence in the town made the local newspapers.

BIRTHS

Katie Bartrop (nee Clinnick, Class of 1995) and her husband Michael welcomed twin boys James Michael and Matthew Geoffrey Garry on 5 November 2005.

DEATHS

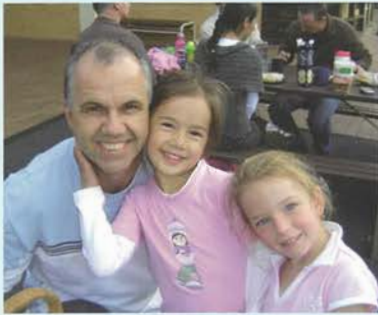
Lowther Hall extends deepest sympathy to the families of past students who have recently passed away.

Heather Gordon (nee Leech) Class of 1942.

Ernest (Bert) Gilbert student during the 1920s and husband of Gwen Gilbert (nee Steele) Class of 1938.

Moya Knight (nee Watson) Class of 1946.





Mr Rodney Crole enjoys the picnic with his daughter Emilie and Prep classmate Annie Cox.



Prep student Julia Xu proudly introduced her parents Hong and Yan to friends and teachers.

NEW BEGINNINGS

NEW PARENTS COCKTAIL PARTY

The Lowther Hall Mansion was a haven from the summer heat when new parents to the School came together to make acquaintances on February 24. This function provided an opportunity for new members of the Lowther Hall family to meet the Principal, Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns and her husband Ervin, as well as members of the management team and School Council.

The function was a very enjoyable way for everyone to meet and mingle. Further events, which will include all parents, are planned for Term 2.

KINDER/PREP FAMILY PICNIC

This annual event for Lowther Hall's youngest students and their families is also a favourite with Junior School teaching staff. The picnic, held in the Junior School playground, allows parents to meet the classmates they have heard so much about and many continuing family friendships are formed.



New parents enjoyed getting acquainted at the New Parents Cocktail Party, held in the Mansion.

REUNION DATES 2006

Saturday 13 May 4pm at the School

Class of 1971 Thirty-Five Year Reunion
Class of 1976 Thirty Year Reunion

Saturday 15 July 4pm at the School

Class of 1981 Twenty-Five Year Reunion

Saturday 29 July 4pm at the School

Class of 1961 Forty-Five Year Reunion
Class of 1966 Forty Year Reunion

Saturday 12 August 4pm at the School

Class of 2001 Five Year Reunion

Saturday 26 August 4pm at the School

Class of 1996 Ten Year Reunion

Saturday 7 October 1.30 pm at the School

LHOGA Golden Mitre Club Reunion

Saturday 14 October 12 noon Royal Hotel Mornington

Mornington Reunion

