

JUNE 2019



NEWS FOR OLD GIRLS' PARENTS & FRIENDS



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This magazine is co-jointly produced by the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association, Nga Tawa Parents and Friends Association and Nga Tawa School. If you would like to contribute to future issues of The Calico Line, please contact gilmourkatie@ngatawa.school.nz.

Thank you to those that generously contributed to this edition of The Calico Line.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is with considerable pride that we embark on our 128th year of educating young women.

Girls' schools are uniquely placed to educate young women without gender nuance. We are, as we proudly proclaim, Made for Girls. Our girls are not fixated on how they look. There are no boys to impress. Here they are focussed on learning and achieving without distractions. And they can learn, anything! Being a leader is cool and an aspiration for most. Our girls have the freedom to explore, to dream and to become the person they want to be. Much of who they become is determined by self-image and a girls' schools nurtures the development of a positive, resilient self-image and with that, selfbelief.

I believe our girls are part of an environment that will equip them with the knowledge, skills, values and the self-belief to be confident creators of their world. Nurturing and challenging our girls on this journey will be our committed staff, who willingly do that bit extra that being part of a small school demands. The school can be likened to a small village and everyone has a contribution to its overall well-being and success – and we've had plenty of successes to share already this year.

Our year began with news of our outstanding 2018 NCEA achievement. We are once again a very proud teaching team.

- We achieved;
- 100% pass rate at Level 3 and 92% University Entrance
- 100% pass rate at Level 2
- 96.3% pass rate at Level 1

Of those,

- 46% were Excellence endorsed at Level 1
- 30% Excellence endorsed at Level 2
- 29% Excellence endorsed at Level 3 that's 10% higher (on average) than all NZ decile 8-10 girls' schools.

Our fantastic 2018 NCEA success continued with Scholarship results announced in February. Five of our most recent Old Girls, our 2018 Year 13 leavers, were awarded seven scholarships between them. A fantastic achievement given only three per cent of Level 3 students in New Zealand are awarded Scholarship. We then awarded a record eighteen academic ties at our Academic Awards ceremony, acknowledging students who have attained an NCEA Excellence endorsement for two consecutive years.

While our academic programme underpins a Nga Tawa education, students flourish in an environment with our rich offering of humanities, sporting, pastoral and special character events. Already this year our girls have been named as regional and international sport representatives, demonstrated school-wide community service, excelled in Humanities, relished the introduction of our new Careers programme, Swivel and embraced the addition of subjects such as Agribusiness and Earth and Space Science to our curriculum.

Since our last edition of Calico Line, we underwent an Education Review Office review and our assessors' findings gave us another fabulous story to share. We received the highest possible praise from ERO who described Nga Tawa as "highly successful in achieving excellent outcomes for all students". The best measure of this report is that their next review date is not until 2023 – the longest possible ERO review period.

Our two boards are effective, collegial and focused on the needs of the students and bettering the school environment. There is a great deal of synergy between the boards which is largely due to the Board chairs. I especially want to thank Roger Dalrymple and Dave Wilson for their encouragement and willingness to adopt new practice.

Our PFA, Old Girls and parent

community are equally supportive, providing helping hands and funds to enhance the functioning of the school. Nga Tawa is a richer school with such an encouraging community. In particular, I thank you for: "We are, as we proudly proclaim, Made for Girls."

- Managing and coaching sports teams
- Cheering on our sport and equestrian teams
- Transporting student to events; sporting, equestrian and humanities.
- Being an appreciative audience at House Music, House Drama, and soirées
- Attending Nga Tawa sports days and House dinners
- Providing wonderful floral displays
- Welcoming new parents and creating the family atmosphere
- Supporting our fundraising efforts
- Being Board and PFA members
- Supporting our marketing at Open Days and events
- Billeting visiting sports teams
- Hosting International students over holidays and Exeat weekends
- Being brand warriors and talking about our successes with the wider community

Our staff all recognise the privilege of being a part of the Nga Tawa story and sharing the lives of such an exceptional group of young women. We share in the invigorating and challenging world view of Generation Z. Working with young people keeps you young, well at heart anyway, as they have such a refreshing and invigorating world view. It is a pleasure and a privilege to share their teenage years, which I think is the most interesting and challenging time in a person's life as they forge a distinct identity.

I look forward to sharing our continued successes with you. Those who live locally are always welcome at our celebratory days and for those further afield, please do follow us on Facebook to stay connected.

Lesley Carter Principal CarterLesley@ngatawa.school.nz

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A WORD FROM THE BOARDS

on behalf of the Diocesan Board and Board of Trustees

Nga Tawa is an education provider in a very competitive market. Parents have plenty of choice when making the decision about where their children are going to go to school.

What I believe really makes us stand out from the crowd is our special character school and our premier Equestrian Academy. Our Anglican faith together with our school values – respect for others, integrity, and courage - are what we as a school endeavour to live by and instil in every girl who is lucky enough to come to Nga Tawa.

At Nga Tawa, our curriculum delivery, sporting achievement and performing arts offerings are right up there with the best. I know I'm preaching to the converted, but I think it is important to reiterate that we aim to provide a schooling experience second to none for our girls. We want it to be an experience that they look back on favourably once they are immersed in life outside of the green gates.

Our two Boards at Nga Tawa work hard in their specific areas to deliver this experience and often work collectively. This year we are reviewing and refreshing our strategic plan, there will be an emphasis on continuing to connect with our local community and lwi and we have initiated a review of our Equestrian facilities as we look to evaluate any potential opportunities our current facilities may provide for the school.

The Board of Trustees, ably led by Dave Wilson, is responsible for overseeing the day to day running of the school which includes making sure we are abiding by the curriculum guidelines and most importantly, monitoring student achievement. Our Board of Trustees works closely with our Senior Management team.

The Board I chair, The Diocesan Board, looks after everything else

outside the classroom. We are assisted by our dedicated Bursar, Helen Campbell who keeps the school looking great and running smoothly. The Diocesan Board is focused on both short and long term outcomes and providing the facilities we need as a school to remain viable and attractive for our girls.

For example, 2020 brings exciting new changes to enrolment at Nga Tawa. We've considered what modern day families want and have made the decision to remove all enrolment zones. Families can choose how they wish to access this extraordinary school. We will offer 2 – 7 day boarding options and day girl places next year to families living at any distance. Due to the current zones we have in place, families in Whanganui, Feilding and Palmerston North have had limited options. We look forward to being able to cater for more families in 2020.

On behalf of both Nga Tawa Boards, I'd like to thank the Nga Tawa staff. We employ just over 80 staff and they play an important role. A special mention must go to our Senior Management team, led by Lesley. We are fortunate to have a team that works so well together for the betterment of the school.

Our recent ERO report tells our fantastic Nga Tawa story. I see you - our Old Girls and supporters - as great ambassadors for our school as well. You are our best advocates to share stories of our special character, our academic results, our music, sporting and performing arts successes, or just simply what Nga Tawa has done for you. I look forward to your ongoing support.

Roger Dalyrymple Diocesan Board Chair

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DIOCESAN BOARD MEMBERS

Mr Roger Dalrymple, Chair Mrs Beverley Andrews Mrs Kirsten Bryant Mr Mark Chamberlain Mrs Koo Greenway Mrs Jenny Hornblow Mr Chris Bone Mr Mike Strang Mrs Alison Watters Mrs Helen Campbell, Secretary

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Mr Dave Wilson Mrs Lesley Carter Mr Mark Chamberlain Mr Roger Dalrymple Mrs Elaine Reilly Mr David Green Mrs Annie Whitfield Mr Peter Thomas Mrs Alison Watters Mr Mike Strang Mrs Helen Campbell, Secretary Miss Katrina Vagg, 2019 Student Rep Mrs June Jackson, Staff Rep

Pictured: 2019 Deputy Head Girl, Holly Hodgson and 2019 Head Girl, Rebecca Nesdale.

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STAYING CONNECTED

With Nga Tawa and each other

Welcome to the 2019 Calico Line – a magazine to help keep you in touch with Nga Tawa and each other.

It's fantastic to receive so many messages and emails from Old Girls (and family members of Old Girls) who have such fond memories of their time at school. Our School Archivist, Sally Patrick is doing a fantastic job staying in touch with our Old Girls, updating our database, hunting out news stories and digitising the stacks and stacks of school archives.

We look forward to inviting you to our planned regional gettogethers in the coming months and continuing the conversations of our youth! Keep an eye on your inbox.

We are grateful to our tireless Nga Tawa community of Old Girls and PFA members who put their hand up to help at Open Day and Equestrian Interschools and wave the Nga Tawa flag at various promotional stands at events such as Horse of the Year, Central Districts Field Days and Marton Harvest Festival. Thank you for helping us to tell the Nga Tawa story.

One of the major focuses for our Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association is to assist young girls to be the best they can be through the opportunities offered at Nga Tawa – the opportunities many of us benefited from. In 2020, we'll once again be offering a scholarship for a student enrolling in Year 9 as a full boarder. The total value of the Old Girls' scholarship is \$50,000 and applies for the full duration of the student's time at Nga Tawa. Applications for this scholarship are now open so please do encourage daughters of friends and family to apply.

We are indebted to the generous supporters of our school that make this scholarship possible. If you'd like to contribute to our Old Girls' Scholarship fund and help to give a young girl the same opportunities you may have been lucky enough to receive, please contact Fi Dalgety at fidalgety@xtra.co.nz.

We aim to put the Calico Line in as many letterboxes as possible. With heightened postal costs, we have once again mailed out one magazine per household, but if you've had more than one family member attend Nga Tawa you are welcome to contact us to request an additional magazine for your household. An e-version is also available. Please contact our Archivist if you'd like her to send you a copy, patricksally@ngatawa.school.nz.

Stay in touch.

Meredith Carpenter (nee Collier) PFA Chair

Fi Dalgety (nee Grace) Old Girls' Association President



Fi and Meredith.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS



2018 joint Dux award winners and Scholarship recipients Lydia Whyte and Bridget Bone

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Our fantastic NCEA results

2019 began with news of our outstanding 2018 NCEA achievement. We are once again a very proud teaching team.

We achieved;

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Five of our most recent Old Girls, our 2018 Year 13 leavers, were awarded Scholarship in February. A fantastic achievement given only three per cent of Level 3 students are awarded Scholarship. Congratulations to **Bridget Bone** (Biology at outstanding level and PE and Health), **Florentine Majid** (German), **Jaimey Clifton** (Biology), **Georgia Green** (Geography) and **Lydia Whyte** (Classics and Economics to add to her English and History Scholarships from 2017 which she sat as a Year 12 student!)

A record eighteen academic ties were then awarded at our Academic Awards ceremony in March, acknowledging students who have attained an Excellence endorsement for two consecutive years. This outstanding level of academic excellence speaks volumes about the dedication and commitment of our staff and students.

The top five academic students in Years 10-13 are selected annually to join the Scholars' Society. These students are identified as priority learners and often accelerated in their learning programmes. Members also take part in scholars' outings and extra-curricular activities such as running homework clubs for local primary schools, theatre trips and quizzes. Our 2019 highest academic achievers are this year led by Head Scholar, **Anya Weth**.

2019 Scholar's Society

Year 10: Lili Calitz, Emma Clark, Amy Ellis, Rebecca Kong, Keira McLeish

Year 11: Kenzie Genet, Anna Green, Ashley Hanegraaf, Lydia Harrison, Sam Nicholson, Milla Walton-France, Harriet Whitfield Year 12: Katie Bridgeman, Georgina Bryant, Emma Hockly, Sophie McVerry, Trelise Wattam

Year 13: Tamaira Barcham, Aliyah Dekker, Angel Ireland, Florence Lee-Jones, Christy Lo, Lily Marcroft, Rebecca Nesdale, Anya Weth

OUR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

Bringing the world to Nga Tawa

Currently we have 20 enrolled international students from a number of countries.

Our international students have the chance to experience life in New Zealand and learn in a student-focused environment where each girl is valued, encouraged and challenged to reach their own potential. Our international family also provide our domestic students with opportunities to learn about new cultures, bringing a richness and experience that is invaluable to them as they continue into adult life.

We continue to offer our annual Australian exchange to Year 10 students. This year **Amy Ellis** spent half of Term 2 at Pimbles Ladies College in Sydney. **Natalie Bone** and **Emma Clarke** will spend Term 3 at St Margaret's Anglican School in Brisbane.

Some of our 2018 Year 13 International leavers (and newest Old Girls), share their experiences of Nga Tawa.



Claris - Hong Kong

"I was a city girl and wanted to go to a big school or to a school with boys. My mum wanted me to go to Nga Tawa for the education it provides but also because she thought the uniform was pretty. I'm so glad I did because people actually knew me as a person and I felt like part of a community."

Claris, a big city girl with a witty sense of humour, spent three and a half years at Nga Tawa. She finished her final year of school with great grades and went on to study Accounting. She was the first to admit sport wasn't her thing but she tried everythingsoftball, badminton, tennis, and even the Nga Tawa fitness programme. Unfortunately, one thing she didn't have a go at was horse riding - she realised on her first day she was allergic to horses so stayed well away from the yards! She has great memories of her teachers and the friends she made.



Florentine - Germany

"Nga Tawa gave me opportunities to do things I never thought I'd be capable of, like the confidence and experience to go to London on my own to attend the London International Youth Science Forum. It's crazy to think about!"



Silvia - China

"I learned a lot about myself at Nga Tawa. What I was able to achieve while I was there, especially the improvement I made with my English. It makes me, and my family, very proud."



Elaine - Hong Kong

"In Hong Kong, it's like teachers are programming robots. At Nga Tawa, they take more care. They knew me as a person and not just a number."

For Florentine, Nga Tawa opened doors for her that wouldn't have

been possible in Germany. In her final year at school she was a Peer Supporter, attended the Young Enterprise regional finals, travelled to London to attend the London International Youth Science Forum, and visited her classmate Elaine in Hong Kong. She rode Tevy, a school horse, and sat eight Year 13 exams including two New Zealand Scholarship exams. She loved being part of the tight-knit Nga Tawa community and will always cherish the friendships she made.

Sylvia arrived at Nga Tawa with very basic English. She left Nga Tawa in 2018 with Level 3 English, 10 of those credits Excellence endorsed. After Nga Tawa, Sylvia headed to Australia to study Media and Public Relations. One day she hopes to produce reality television shows.

Elaine found Nga Tawa's peaceful, rural environment a stark contrast to her upbringing in Hong Kong. She also went from having 40 students in her class to small classes with lots of one on one time with teachers. She loved Nga Tawa's nurturing learning environment where teachers listened and took the time to help her find a word or to point her in the right direction. While at Nga Tawa she rode a horse for the first time, played tennis and badminton, and fell in love with rugby. She went on to study Food Science and Nutrition in Auckland.





Briar Bayes, Lilly Carpenter, Katie Bridgeman and Emma Gibb

A THRIVING EQUESTRIAN ACADEMY

Home to New Zealand's largest on-site school equestrian centre

Our Equestrian Academy really is made for girls and their horses. Set amongst 50 acres of rolling Rangitikei farmland, the centre provides all the facilities young riders need – including three all-weather arenas, 80 covered yards and an equine studies classroom. We also have 30 school-owned or leased horses and ponies for girls who don't have their own.

Our Academy is at full capacity with 78 riders and 89 horses at school (30 of which are school ponies). The yards are a hive of activity and our school truck travels up and down the country most weekends to various competitions.

The girls have had some really exciting results this year. We kicked the season off at Horse of the Year where we had 13 girls and 16 horses competing. It was great to see our girls performing so well in a such a huge arena - there were around 2500 horses and ponies competing at the show! Horse of the Year is the pinnacle of competition in New Zealand, so for Nga Tawa to have been so well represented is outstanding.

Stand out performers were **Katie Bridgeman** who was a member of the Auckland Team that placed 2nd in the Saba Sam Shield 1.15-1.25m Teams Challenge. She also placed 3rd in the Pony 1.25m Championship on Tallyho Scoundrel and came 7th in Pony of the Year 1.25-1.35m.

Melissa Brinsdon placed 1st in the Level 2D dressage on Tickety Boo, and 5th in the Rising Star Rider of the Year 13-15 on Anything but Average.

Laura Hare and Zen E Bear placed 4th in the Level 2D dressage

and 6th in the Level 2 Pony Dressage Freestyle. She then came 5th in the Level 2 Dressage Pony of the Year.

Annie Airey and Tazen the Wob placed 2nd in Open Pony Hunter over jumps and **Emma Ferguson** and Piece by Piece came 6th in the Pony 1.10 2 Phase.

The following week we hosted the annual Nga Tawa Interschool, with teams from 20 different schools competing for the Nga Tawa Shield. After an eight-year drought, Nga Tawa Gold took out first place! Congratulations to **Briar Bayes**, **Lilly Carpenter**, **Katie Bridgeman**, and **Emma Gibb**. Our girls achieved some amazing results and it was awesome to see so many competing. This event is only possible thanks to our incredible sponsors and the outstanding assistance we receive from students and parents to help the day run smoothly. Well done to our Equestrian prefects **Katrina Vagg** and **Emma Slaney** for all of their work preparing for the day.

There is still lots to look forward to for the year. Following on from our successful, inaugural exchange with New England Girls School (NEGS) in Armidale, Australia in 2018, we will offer this trans-tasman exchange again this year. We are also continuing our newly established Nga Tawa Riding School. We run an eightweek programme which is open to the public to meet a growing demand for riding lessons. Lessons take place every weekend. And of course, there are still plenty of events to come such as the hotly contest Inter-House Show Jumping.

SPORT AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Encouraging an active lifestyle and promoting physical fitness

At Nga Tawa, playing sport is compulsory and all Year 10 students are expected to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award. We offer Outdoor Education at Years 12 and 13. Modules include rock climbing, rafting, kayaking, abseiling, survival, tramping, orienteering and team building adventure based learning.



Isabella Wassilieff New Zealand Archery honours

In March, **Isabella Wassilieff** competed at the North Island Youth Archery Championships in Palmerston North. In her Junior Archer category, she placed 1st in her age group round and 2nd in Match Play. **Isabella** then competed at the Archery World IFAA Championships in Wellington during the April school holidays. At this championship event, a rare occurrence where New Zealand Archers didn't have to leave the country to compete, Issy performed well and to the high level that she always maintains and sets herself. Issy placed runner-up in the freestyle unlimited young adult female category, setting a world and NZ record for one of her rounds. Her continued success has seen her named in the New Zealand Archery team for this years'. Trans-Tasman competition. At a recent training camp she was named as female team captain.

Gemma Lovewell Our cricket star

Gemma was awarded the most coveted prize at her Porirua Junior Cricket Club prize giving, The Kirk Motors Premiere Award for achievement in cricket. The award is the most prestigious award given out at her club and is awarded by the clubs' committee to a player for their achievement at both club representative level and regional level. What made this award even more special is that it was the first time in the club's history where the award has been given to a female player. Well done Gemma on this fantastic achievement. We look forward to watching you grow and continue to write history as a female cricketer.



include: Archery Athletics Badminton **Basketball** Cricket **Cross Country** Cycling Dance Equestrian Football Hockey Netball Rowing **Rock Climbing** Softball Skiing Snowboarding Swimming Tae Kwon Do Tennis **Touch Rugby** Triathlon Weightlifting

Sports on offer



NZSS Triathlon Champs Congratulations Georgina, Adelaide and Molly

Three of our Nga Tawa triathletes competed at the NZSS National Triathlon held in New Plymouth. The girls navigated the challenging but fast course to gain some fantastic results.

- **Molly Burne** finished 10th in a small but competitive U13 field which was an outstanding result for her first ever national Triathlon.
- **Adelaide Roper** came 25th in the U16 race, crossing the line with one of the fastest run splits in her field.
- **Georgina Bryant** finished 8th in the highly contested U19 race, running through the field after initially missing the front bike pack.

Adelaide and Georgina then competed in the Tag Team

Relay along with two girls from Feilding High School, with each person in the team completing what was meant to be a mini triathlon. Unfortunately, this had to be changed to a mini duathlon following a grain spill in the water which meant it was unsafe to swim. Each person did a 500m run on the beach, a 5km cycle and a 1km run. Our team crossed the line as the second girls team in a very close race that came down to the last leg of the relay, less than a minute behind the winners.

As a result of her fantastic finishes, **Georgina Bryant** has been selected in the NZ Age Group U19 Triathlon team to attend the Triathlon World Champs in Lausanne, Switzerland in August of this year.

NZSS Athletics Championships

Well done Meg and Adelaide

Adelaide Roper and **Meg Thomas** competed at the North Island Secondary School Athletics Championships in Tauranga. They both had some great results over the two days.

Adelaide came 9th in the Intermediate 3000m race and 13th in the 1500m race.

Meg competed in the Senior High Jump and successfully made 1.45m, her new PB height. She now has her sights set on jumping 1.50m by 2020.



YOUR ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Keeping you in touch

Kia ora koutou.

I trust that 2019 is shaping up to be a truly rewarding year for all Old Girls. Nga Tawa Archives has definitely had that; made especially memorable by the sheer number of you that have contacted us, visited in person and sent or lent treasure pieces to add to the Archive collection.

Highlights for the year? So many. One in particular has to be the continuing engagement with Nga Tawa's academic staff and School Librarian this year, notably through the Year 9 Interdisciplinary (English and Social Studies) Connection Project which ensures our newest pupils engage with Archives, researching "touchstones" that connect Nga Tawa's past to their personal present day.

A special salute to Suzette Stephens (School Librarian) also for undertaking the establishment of the 'Horse and Pony' database; yes, we're now recording details of Nga Tawa's equine members!

We've also had invaluable support this year from the school's multitalented Tutors. Mya and Julia give four hours of their time weekly, researching the first 30 years' pupil list, and digitising early pupils' photograph albums.

Upgrades to the Old Girls' database this year have meant we can now more easily identify the links between our "legacy" families (and there are so many); and slowly and surely build an understanding of the whakapapa/connections of our students over the years who identify as tangata whenua.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to stalwarts **Karen Stothart, Trish Keiller, Locheen Lilburn**, and **Vicky Duncan** for their support this year, and to Old Girls' Executive Chair **Fi Dalgety** and her Executive team.

For those looking to reconnect with an old teacher or friend, organise a class reunion or event - I'm your first port of call. I always love to hear your news and if you haven't liked us on Facebook yet, please do. Please email me with all your updates and if you're passing, please do pop in.

Sally Patrick

Archivist patricksally@ngatawa.school.nz 027 200 6163

AGM



Sally Patrick

To update your details so we can stay in touch please visit www.ngatawa.nz/oldgirls

Calling all Old Girls to attend our AGM Friday 27th September at 10am Upstairs in the Events Centre, Nga Tawa Please join us for lunch followed by House Drama RSVP to Fi Dalgety - fidalgety@xtra.co.nz



Back row: Annabella Tompkins, Florence Lee-Jones, Sophie McVerry, Cill Waugh, Meg Thomas and Margaret Menzies **Front row:** Samantha Nicholson, Georgia Taylor, Lilly Carpenter, Matilda Howard, Kelly Corbett and Lydia Harrison **Absent:** Phoebe Howard

Daughters of Old Girls'

Lilly Carpenter Kelly Corbett Lydia Harrison Matilda Howard Phoebe Howard Sophie McVerry Margaret Menzies Samantha Nicholson Georgia Taylor Meg Thomas Cill Waugh

Meredith Collier (1985-89) Jeannine Roygard (1981-84) Louise Sloman (1974-1978) Charlotte Stanford (1977-80) Charlotte Stanford (1977-80) Sarah Willis (1984-88) Charlotte Gorringe (1983-86) Pauline Wyley (1985-1989) Caroline Crawford (1986-90) Helen Willis (1986-90) Sutton Potts (1983-86) Birch Sprott Barker Birch Birch Sprott Sprott Sprott Sprott Sprott Sprott

Granddaughters of Old Girls'

Lydia Harrison Sophie McVerry Georgia Taylor Meg Thomas Annabella Tompkins Anne Vosper (1947-50) Wendy Dasent (1957-61) Jillian Dawson (1960-64) Wendy Dasent (1957-61) Felicity Faris (1942-46) Barker Sprott Studholme Sprott Birch

Great Granddaughters of Old Girls'

Florence Lee-Jones Samantha Nicholson Jean Thoms (1915-17) Ula Ramsey (1929-1930)

Barker Sprott

NGA TAWA CLASS CATCH UPS

Friends for life



Class of 1958 gather in Wellington and Martinborough

The 1958 third form class had a fantastic get together in April with 17 ladies attending some or all of the planned four day activities.

They gathered in Wellington on April 2nd to view the real Treaty of Waitangi at the National Library and the huge, scrolled Petition for Women's Suffrage delivered 125 years ago. It was a buzz looking up their ancestors to see who had signed it.

They then lunched at the Backbenchers pub before crossing the road to be greeted by the armed guards at Parliament. That evening the ladies shared dinner at Sue Shand's apartment on Oriental Parade. The next morning, they spent two hours at Weta workshop getting an insight into their fantastic creativity and world renowned abilities.

That afternoon it was off to Martinborough where they were versed in the intricacies of making olive oil before dinner at Dinny's. The following day saw them on an old-school bus (rather more luxurious than they remember them!) heading for the Cape Palliser Lighthouse, via Pirinoa Cafe, Ngawi. They saw Kupe's Sail and the seal pups in their nursery. Finally, they arrived at Lake Ferry for bubbles on the deck at Dinny's bach then up to the pub for lunch. That evening they had the choice of two movies before dinner at Circus cinema.

After a final breakfast on Friday morning, all departed buzzing from a fantastic few days together. They've already locked in the next one. They meet again in Christchurch in 2021 Christchurch for as Sue puts it - their grand final reunion.

Those who attended:

Aly McKegg (Fullerton-Smith), Binnie Brown (Johns), Cici Jull (Train), Dinny Pearce (Allan), Honor Kemp (Carrick-Robertson), Jeanette Goodwin (Cameron), Jilly Kennedy (Neild), Joan Paterson (Renton), Julian Jensen (Morris), Lynne Booth (Besley), Mary Miles, Rossi Caughey (Richwhite), Sally Hansen (Grace), Sue Cremer (Palmer), Sue Shand, Vicky Duncan (Perry) and Wendy Willis (Dasent).



Class of 1984 weekend in Taupo

Back: Megan Welton (Little), Penelope Roberts (Allen), Anna Cardno (Cleland), Sarah McVerry (Willis), Sally Allen (Yortt) and Anna Trewavas (Basin)

Front: Sarah Scott, Jane Kerr (Kilmister) and Antonia Granger (Tripe)

Not pictured: Angela Guy, Miranda Gleesen (Walkinton), Amanda Lupton and Joanna Craw (Jull)

Class of 1979 – 40 years on

On 1-2 March 2019, a large number of the 1979 year gathered at the Speedy's beach house at Waitarere Beach. Many of the girls hadn't seen each other since they'd left school. With the best turn out yet, some stayed for one night and others for two. The weekend was spent eating and drinking and was full of constant chatter and laughter. A highlight was the 40-year quiz and a Skype call with Di in England.



Those who attended:

Trish Coleman (Lewis), Kirsty Maurice, Vicki Rathbone (Halliwell), Kate Miller, Sarah Turner (McNeill), Jackie Ross (Pennefather), Jane Taylor (Malcolm), Julia Gatley, Julie Mason Julie-Ann Foster), Katie Bennett (Edmonds), Liz Chatterton (Lawton), Paula Squire (Squire-Thomas), Rachael Speedy, Rose Duncan (Fegan), Sam Younger (McColgan), Sarah Brown, Sarah Storey, Sue Wilson, Vicki Simpson, Gayle Reynolds and Heather Hall (Bishop).

Apologies:

Cali Martin (Petrie), Amanda Wong (Harkness), Hilary Webb, Diana Lethbridge (Wilson), Bindy Coker, Susi Allison, Sue Elliott, Louisa Scanlan (Pringle), Angela Shallcross

Class of 1998 catch up in Byron Bay

Back row L-R: Chanel Guppy, Amber Johnston, Georgie Smyth (Jones), Mary de Joux (Riddell), Tiffany Linton (Pickford).

Front row L-R: Amy-Jo Tennant (Bunny), Lucy Giesen, Liv McGregor (White) and Rosalind Poole.





Rosie McCarthy

Navigating the Paris fashion industry and rising YouTube fame

Rosie McCarthy's (2003-2006) life was flipped upside down by love. It led her from her rural Levin life to the heart of the global fashion industry and growing internet fame.

When Rosie McCarthy, 29, moved to Paris in 2013 she knew one person and a handful of French words courtesy of Year 9 French with Mrs Coleman.

Six years later, she works for fashion giant L'Oreal and is a growing French internet celebrity releasing videos about her fish-out-ofwater Kiwi expat experiences every Wednesday to her thousands of fans via her Youtube channel, Not Even French.

It all started when she met her French husband Niels Peyre while on a Fonterra internship in Auckland just over seven years ago.

After Peyre moved to America for work and McCarthy started a human resources job with Fonterra in Hawera, Taranaki, the couple maintained their relationship on opposite sides of the globe for a year.

McCarthy said they knew they were falling in love, so the effort was worth it. And when she went to visit him in New York, the couple decided to move to France together so they wouldn't be apart.

Upon moving to Paris, McCarthy studied towards her Masters in Business, including paid internships with Louis Vuitton and Moet Hennessy.

"My life was flipped upside down. I was just this easy-going rural Kiwi girl. All of a sudden I was travelling to New York and Paris, working for some of the biggest fashion companies in the world."

In Hawera, work had taken her out on the farm and she mainly dealt with truckies and farmers – practical, down-to-earth Kiwis.

In France, the same kind of job had her suddenly surrounded by beautiful models and designers. She was responsible for picking \$2000 bottles of champagne and staying in 14th century castles.

"It was the most insane feeling... scary and awesome at the same time. I was in the same field, but a completely different world.

"All the clichés about the fashion industry – The Devil Wears Prada, all of that – it's all true."

McCarthy dreamed about writing a book about it all as she thought people might like an insider's view of France's fashion industry from a rural Kiwi girl.

So, two years ago, she started Not Even French to practise her storytelling skills, pass on tips and share observations about French culture with fellow expats.

As it turned out, most of her viewers are French – they love how as an outsider she's noticed little things about their culture they don't.

"It's giving them a mirror. I get people writing to tell me they are falling in love with their country all over again, through my eyes."

The channel now has 88,000 subscribers and YouTube's statistics show it's on track to hit 100,000.

That's the breakthrough point, where channels start making good money and growing exponentially, Rosie says.

McCarthy didn't think it would ever be her primary income – it was a step towards the couple's plans to find more flexible work so they could split their time between New Zealand and France more evenly. At the moment, McCarthy only visits home for a month each year.

"That was fine when I was 23, without a care in the world. But now I'd like us to be able to spend more time with my parents and family as well."

notevenfrench

Not Even French

Belinda Coker

Accomplished designer, manufacturer and international marketer with a clean water mission.

It's the early 90's and Belinda Coker (1979-1981) sees the Guns N' Roses November Rain music video for the very first time. It's big bangs. It's round sunglasses. It's brown lipstick. It's every girl's dream – especially that wedding dress.

Belinda didn't know then, but years later she would take that favourite song, her impeccable style – and most of her all her heart and drive – and turn them into something amazing; November Rain: an Australian-based designer and manufacturer of stylish and sustainable rain ponchos.

With carefully researched palettes and flattering design, this is not your frumpy, dumpy garbage bag-esque rain gear. On the contrary, the inventory goes through a rigorous development process to create a fashion story that is cohesive and works with a wide demographic.

Belinda credits her studies in design for the versatility of her ponchos.

"I studied pattern-making (old school from cardboard blocks, not the computerized version!), so creating the pattern for the ponchos was easy for me. I needed something that women of all shapes and sizes could wear, whether they are blessed with curves or fabulously tall and willowy. Unless we are a perfect industry size, there is always the issue of fit. And I wanted to overcome that, for all women."

The idea for November Rain came only as a catalyst to Belinda's primary initiative to provide fresh drinking water to developing countries. Unlike other organizations with a "give back" component, Belinda didn't tack it on as it an afterthought to the main company mission.

Donating a portion of revenue to clean water programmes has always been THE mission. It's a cause she holds near to her heart, and to her business plan – one that she's supported vigorously for many years, working alongside orphanages and other significant operations in developing countries.

30 years ago, she spent six months in far north India on the Tibetan plateau, helping install solar to remote areas accessible only in the summer. Through her travels, she's seen first-hand how crucial fresh water is in developing countries. It's the difference between life and death, she says.

"Poor water and sanitation cause terrible diseases and death in small children. Women and children walk for miles each day to carry home a single bucket of water for the family to use. It's hard to comprehend how lucky we are."

Belinda shares these experiences with her children. She's taken each of them at age 14 to volunteer at an orphanage for one week.

"It gives them a real wake-up call as to how privileged they actually are. My son who recently turned 21 said in a speech that this was one of the most memorable turning points in his life."

In addition to supporting proper water sanitation around the world, November Rain gear also supports the environment. This means



their ponchos are fashioned "using ecologically sound waterless printing methods and quality crafted with heat sealed seams."

This system originates from Belinda's previous enterprise, Envirosax, famous for being the first designer reusable bag with environmental certification. Ecologically speaking, the transition from Envirosax to November Rain was a "no-brainer" says Belinda.

"Having founded Envirosax, I already had the knowledge and production ability on hand. The durability ties in with being ecofriendly. Clothing nowadays is not made to last and ends up in a landfill. I am an advocate for buying quality items that last."

As for the future, Belinda is always open to collaboration and dreams of creating more brands. Her main focus at the moment is growing the give back component of November Rain and really making a difference in areas of the world where preventable diseases, like Cholera, run rampant.

Her advice for the rest of us: "Make giving back your main priority. Don't throw it in at the last minute as a marketing tool. People see through this. I aim to make money to provide funds for my projects, and this resonates with my brand. This is who I am and what I am about. You need to find your 'why."



NEWS AND CELEBRATIONS

Ten of our 2018 leavers were awarded scholarships worth \$136,000 from universities in Auckland, Wellington and Otago. Congratulations to Bridget Bone, Lydia Whyte, Lara Westraad, Juliet Bonnor, Jaimey Clifton, Georgia Green, Stephanie Chan, Hannah Lane, Amelia Bryant and Alexandra Burns.

2018 Head Girl, Bridget Bone received numerous scholarships and awards last year and came very close to studying at Cambridge University, United Kingdom. The Sir Douglas Myers Scholarship is a three-year scholarship worth \$210,000 awarded to a Year 13 leaver to study at Cambridge and stay in Gonville and Caius College. Bridget was one of five shortlisted (and the only girl!) and attended a dinner and an interview in Auckland. Despite just missing out, Bridget, as optimistic as ever, told us how she gave it her very best and gained a lot from the experience.

Jasmine Robertson and Jaimee Gowler are both key team members of Waikato Stud - the world-renowned, record-setting Thoroughbred nursery in Matamata. Jasmine is their Marketing Manager and Jaimee the Yearling Manager. Jaimee and her team had a fantastic year at the prestigious Karaka Yearling Sale this year with one of their Savabeel yearlings fetching \$1.4 million, the highest-priced yearling ever sold at Karaka.

Sian Poulton was admitted to the bar by Justice Denis Clifford in the High Court at Palmerston last year. She works for BVA The Practice as a crown prosecutor. Sian hopes to climb the prosecutor ranks and ultimately become a district court judge. We were honoured to have her speak at the recent Sprott House Dinner.

Jess Handley (nee Till) successfully opened the big, shiny new Tauranga Crossing shopping mall in April. It's been a busy few months in her role as Marketing Manager.

Hannah Stantiall is loving her new role as the Kelly Tarltons Marketing Manager. Her sister, Sophie Stantiall, is currently in Canada working on the ski slopes after completing a Bachelor of Food Science with Honours.

Paige Hourigan is New Zealand's number one ranked female

Births

Anna (Lissington) and Jimmy Samuels Sophie Gibbs and Matt Simmers Hanna (Gilbert) and Andy Christiansen Sarah (Hansen) and Roger Jamieson Sarah (Williamson) and James Glenn Jessica (Henneker) and Jake Carlson Georgie (Parsons) and Ken Lupton Katie (Goodall) and Hamish Williams Emma (Rowe) and Allan Bain Jocee (Clegg) and Courts Garnham Sarah (Guertjens) and Steven Parkinson Alice Rachael Third and Richard Arends Alex (Harding) and William Chapman

Arihia	January 2018
Indie	January 2018
Olive	June 2018
Ruie	June 2018
Lucy	July 2018
Arlo	July 2018
Olivia	July 2018
Isobel	July 2018
Phoebe	August 2018
Huia	August 2018
Alice	August 2018
Madilyn	October 2018
Willow	October 2018

tennis player. She was back in New Zealand over summer playing in front of a home crowd in the ASB Classic doubles final. Paige has her sights set on being inside the top 200 world-ranked players by the end of 2019.



Ingrid Culliford at her investiture with her daughter, Elena.

Ingrid Culliford has been inspiring music students at Nga Tawa for 23 years. At the end of April, she was awarded her New Zealand Order of Merit for services to music and education at Government House, by the Governor General, Patsy Reddy. We know our music students and Music Department have, and continue to, benefit from her amazing talent, teaching and love of music. Congratulations Ingrid.

Lisa (Giesen) and Tom Driffill Vera (Nydeggar) and Steve Shailer Kylie (Frecklington) and Michael Knox Kate (Deadman) and Lewis Waterworth Katy (Warner) and Staf Whittfield Nicole (Brennan) and Vincent Bayliss Anna Holmes and Jacob Moore Amanda (Weir) and Isaac Scott Heather (Horrocks) and Sam O'Neill Kate (Pickford) and Drew McBride Erica (Wood) and Daniel Saunders Sue (Rainey) and William Taffs

Lyla & Mila October 2018 November 2018 Logan November 2018 Hugo December 2018 Elsie Matilda January 2019 Thomas January 2019 Flora February 2019 Hugo February 2019 George March 2019 Nico March 2019 Jack March 2019 Monty April 2019

Marriages

Rebecca Howard to Reece Laidlaw Natalia McGregor to Bradley Fordyce Alyce Tod to Peter Novokshonoff Caity Randall to Ross Mooney Emma Horrocks to Nathan Holloway Samantha Frecklington to Andrew Morriss Hayley Jewell to Shaun Hadfield Bridget O'Neill to Blair Willson Coralie Wedekind to James Allison Sam Tod to Toby Haliday Anna Kane to Dave Gibbs Kate Fluker to Reon Boe Kloe Palmer to Josh Aplin Sarah Montford to Travis Harris Liz Fullerton-Smith to Paul Hutchinson Zoe Clark to Andrew Morley Anna Sinclair to Leon Armston Cushla Bruce to Guy Fraser Olivia Manthel to Willy Parker Amanda Knox to Elliot Carruthers Courtney Elkerbout to Rob Lloyd Aimee Picot to Paul Harmer

January 2018 February 2018 March 2018 September 2018 October 2018 November 2018 November 2018 December 2018 December 2018 December 2018 January 2019 January 2019 February 2019 February 2019 February 2019 February 2019 March 2019 March 2019 March 2019 April 2019 May 2019 May 2019

Cushla Fraser (nee Bruce) married Guy Fraser in Wairarapa in March 2019. The couple lease a farm together in Taumarunui. This gorgeous photo was captured by Nga Tawa Old Girl, Alex Pearce who was also her Maid of Honour.





Olivia Parker (nee Manthel) was married at her family home in Feilding by Nga Tawa Old Girl Katie Gilmour and Sally Manthel and Amy Williams (nee Hazlitt) by her side.

NGA TAWA



Sarah Harris (nee Montford) married Travis Harris at the Old Church in Napier. Nga Tawa Old Girl, Emma Deadman stood beside her as her Maid of Honour.



Liz Hutchinson (nee Fullerton-Smith) married Paul in a beautiful ceremony at her family home, Holtby, in Marton.



Amanda Carruthers (nee Knox) was married in Byron Bay in April with two Nga Tawa Old Girls in her bridal party – Jessica and Emma Lourie.



Kloe Aplin (nee Palmer) and her Nga Tawa bride tribe – Ali Palmer, Lucy Stone, Deanne McKean (nee Lennox) and Carrie Fullerton-Smith (nee Peterson).

WE REMEMBER

Sara McLeod	1972-74
Annabel Temple (Brett)	1976
Beverley O'Dowda	1944-1946
Sheila Moselen (Cameron)	1938-1944
Barbara Bellamy (Will)	1946-1948
Prue Free (Winder)	1945-1951
June Douglas (Kay)	1939-1942
Sheila Lethbridge (Powell)	1952-1955
Susan Latham (Campbell)	1944-1946
Josephine Broad (Abraham)	1941-1944
Jenny Lowe (Allen)	1952-1956
Margaret Sainsbury (Godfrey)	1950-1954
Rosemary Buchanan (Barklie)	1934-1939
Natalie Gould (Amyes)	1939-1941
Alison Hanham	1940-1945
Judith McKenna (Russell)	1945-1950
Marjorie Macdonald (Ferguson)	1940-1944
Sallie Hall (Ashby)	1939-1943
Mary Moore (Mynott)	1940-1942
Janet Wilson (Paterson)	1944-1950
Diane Monro (Moore)	1941-1944
Barbara Kay (Haughton)	1943-1944
Ethel Redmayne (Ellis)	1945-1949
Brita Hollows (Gillingham)	1965-1970
Judith Salmond (Younger)	1945-1948
Adair Marsden (Mackersey)	1936-1940
Duncan Hart QSM JP	1978-1987
Margaret Wedd (Holden)	1946-1948
Janet (Jenny) Hall (Wilson)	1942-1946

Studholme Barker Barker Birch Sprott Studholme Studholme Barker Studholme Barker Birch Sprott Studholme Sprott Sprott Sprott Birch Sprott Barker Birch Birch Sprott Birch Barker Sprott Sprott Former Bursar Barker Studholme

We have honoured more of our Old Girls' and friends of the school on our website. Read their obituaries on our website at ngatawa.school.nz/ obituaries

Josephine Abraham (née Broad)

Born 1926. Died 4 August 2018, in Wellington, aged 92

Jo loved her Nga Tawa years (1940 - 1944). She was Head of Barker and recipient of the Nga Tawa Prize in 1944. Nga Tawa gifted her life-long friendships, a deep faith that always sustained her, and the foundation for a vocation teaching the natural sciences.

In 1945, encouraged by Jane Jackman (née Black) and her family, Jo left for Otago University to study zoology. Jo's mother died during the summer holidays of 1947 and she transferred to Victoria University to complete her Bachelor of Science and be closer to her Manawatu family. After graduating, she taught biology

at Samuel Marsden Collegiate School in Wellington. Jo was only a few years older than her pupils and loved getting them out of school and on field trips.

From 1950 to 1954, Jo worked as a research assistant and lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Zoology at Massey University. She left to travel overseas in 1954, and after a remarkable journey through India and Europe, she was offered a position as lecturer at the Natural History Museum in London.

In 1958 home called, and Jo returned to New Zealand. She briefly



taught biology and science at Wanganui Girls College before marrying Ted Abraham. They raised their family, farming in Kiwitea and then in the Rangitikei hill country near Mangaweka. In 1971, Jo accepted the position of biology teacher at Taihape College, where she worked for 20 years. It gave her enormous satisfaction to connect her students to the natural world. There were many field trips and adventures into the Ruahine, Tongariro National Parks and beyond. Her classroom was alive with creatures, plants, and colourful posters. The family hosted the class axolotls, lizards, and

pet rats in the holidays, and shared the freezer with strange specimens put aside for student investigation. In the years that followed Jo's retirement, her children were often approached by ex-pupils whose lives and careers she had inspired.

Jo passed away peacefully at Huntleigh Home, Karori, on 4th August 2018. She was the beloved wife of the late Ted; loved mother of John, Marianne and Edward; and grandmother of Thomasin, Daisy and Bodhi.

Clear themes of adventure, friendship, faith, study, and a love of this planet ran through Jo's long life.

Jenny Hall (née Stewart)

Born 19 October 1928 in Palmerston North. Died 15 April 2019, in Wellington, aged 90

Janet Rose Stewart Hall - or Jenny as she was known - was born at home in Palmerston North on 19 October 1927.

Her father Ivan was a doctor and her mother Nan a nurse. She and her younger brother Stewart had a very happy childhood in Palmerston North. Her father's surgery and consulting rooms were attached to their home, they had a spare section next door to graze their pony Peggy, and had wonderful visits to their grandparents' home in the country.

Jenny started school at the age of six at Carncott. Their headmistress was Dorothy Dudding, a Nga Tawa old girl. The girls all wore brown Nga Tawa uniforms and started learning French and Latin at the age of seven.

In 1935, war broke out and life changed. Ivan joined up, closed the surgery and moved the family to Wellington. With frontline medical experience in the First World War he was made Assistant General of Medical Services.

With Ivan at Army headquarters, Jenny's mother, Nan ran a first aid post on Molesworth Street and worked in the clearing stations on the dock which processed the wounded from the hospital ships arriving from the war.

Jenny loved Wellington. In 1942, after 18 happy months at school at Marsden, she caught the train to Marton to start school at Nga Tawa. She loved her five years at Nga Tawa despite having to cope with what is now recognized as dyslexia. She recalled she spent a lot of time hiding in the loos so she didn't have to read out loud and found it strange that no one seemed to miss her or that she managed to pass any exams! But pass she did.

Nga Tawa at that time, with a school role of 150, had a brilliant academic record. The staff, apart from the French mistress, were all women, all English and very academic.

Jenny was proud of her Nga Tawa year group of 20 girls. Her year produced two doctors, one senior law practitioner, one headmistress, one vice-chancellor, one PHD, four BSc (including Jenny) and two BA graduates. Not bad for young women of the 1940s!

She recalled that during the war years the girls all had their big brown cloaks and a packed bag hanging on the back of their dorm doors in case of a raid. One alarm meant they would have to run and hide in trenches dug around the school. If there were two alarms they were to run to a local farm and take shelter.

Many of Jenny's Nga Tawa schoolmates remained her closest lifelong friends – something which still rings true for Nga Tawa girls of all ages and generations.

Jenny finished school in 1946 and went to Victoria University to study science. She loved university, (especially as she wasn't required to read out loud!). Aside from physics, chemistry and biology her life was full of dances, parties, picnics, golf and the races.

In her third year, she was employed by the University to teach dissection to the 1st and 2nd year zoology students and was very



proud of her ability (inherited from her father) to be able to use a scalpel in both her right and left hands.

She finished University with a BSc and was offered a place to do medicine at Otago university but her father thought she wasn't strong enough.

Her compensation was a six-month trip to England sailing on the Rangatiki and it was on the return sailing home that she met a very dashing young Englishman called Peter Hall. They became engaged and were married in August of 1951.

Over the next 30 years, Peter and Jenny lived and travelled all over the world as Peter's career dictated: Hull in the UK, Dunedin (where her three children Julia, Sally and James were born), London, Dunedin again, Auckland, Sydney, Wellington, London again and then back to Wellington.

In 1978, Peter and Jenny bought the Karori Garden Centre as a retirement prospect. Taking the reins, Jenny turned it into a great little business, using her brain and business smarts and bringing her passion for gardening to the commercial venture.

In later life Peter and Jenny moved to Waikanae and upon Peter's death in 2014, Jenny moved back to her favourite city, Wellington to an apartment at Huntleigh Retirement Home.

Jenny got huge pleasure from the time she spent with her six grandchildren. Three of her granddaughters, Georgie Caldwell and Annabel and Sophie Hall are Nga Tawa Old Girls and they spent much time with their grandmother talking about her school days, and theirs more recently.

Jenny's was a life well-travelled, a life full of unfailing elegance and charm and a life full of many changes - all of which she faced with fortitude and great humour.

She is remembered as stylish, intelligent and articulate and as a devoted wife, friend, mother and grandmother.



www.ngatawa.school.nz

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