

MINUTES OF COMBINED OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION MEETING

AUGUST 10TH 2003

Held at Hillsley – Noel St. Ivanhoe

1 pm – 2 pm – Tours of IGGS

2 pm Meeting

Present:

Ivanhoe Girls' Old Grammarians Association
St Catherine's Old Girls Association
Lowther Hall Old Grammarians Assoc
Toorak College Old Girls Association
Melbourne Girls' Grammar Old Grammarians Society
Presentation College
Loreto Mandeville Hall
Firbank Old Girls Association
St Margaret's Old Girls Association
MLC Old Collegians Club
PLC Old Collegians Association
Sacred Heart College Geelong Old Girls Association
Ruyton
Genazzano
Kilvington Alumni
Tintern
Academy Of Mary Immaculate
Camberwell Girls Grammar School
Morongo Old Collegians Association

Apologies:

CLC, Clyde, The Hermitage, Mercy College, Our Lady of Mercy College.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Read as correct

Moved: Presentation College Windsor Seconded: PLC

Business arising from the minutes: None

Agenda Items:

1. Survey Results
2. Tennis and Golf Competitions
3. General Business – no business arising

1. Survey results

Question 1

Presentation College – Breakfasts are quite successful which are advertised and combined with the school.

Loreto – much more receptive to events with the school. Always invite a representative from the school to be involved.

TOGA to enhance their involvement with the Year 12 assembly.

Question 2

Database programme – “Potentiality” is used by several schools. Ruyton.

Loreto – investigating “Potentiality”. Appears to be very useful for linking students. The catch is to get people to participate. Needs promotion. Can gather email addresses. Ruyton have advertised through their school magazine. Contact Loreto or Ruyton in regard to this.

Kilvington currently using “Links with Alumnae”. Looking for other schools who are currently making use of this program. Toorak College and Geelong College may be using this.

PLC publish all reunions on the school newsletter each quarter. Combined with school database. Reunions handled by school development officer.

Ivanhoe works with development officer to maintain records on school site, provides records to school but also keeps both hard and soft copies offsite.

Question 3 Internet and email and website

IGGS has website linked to school page, including successful ‘contact us’ section. May decide to remove committee list in future due to privacy constraints. Need to have someone with appropriate technical skills to maintain. Some success with www.schoolfriends.com.au, free registration for students and organisations. Can post info on reunions and gatherings. Collecting list of email addresses to notify members about events and also to maintain contact when postal addresses are no longer current. IGGS happy to speak to any organisations about setting up websites.

Toorak – changing current site, not been happy with site. Opting for static site on school page, possibly with ‘Potentiality’ database integrated. Science week – breakfast for Y10-12 girls with OG speaking about their careers.

St Margaret’s – looking at setting up site at the moment. Wanting to include bios of past students – career-based vocational links etc for career mentoring, to encourage student networking.

PLC has included vocational profiles in newsletter rather than on website. Past students invited to speak to current students

Loreto – concern about profiling on website – privacy concerns. Restrict access to current members only through potentiality.

MLC – guest speaker at a Old Collegians dinner was later approached by current students – personal touch more effective than published profiles

Question 4 Fundraising

IGOGA's role is not to fundraise for the school, but aims to maintain links between the school and past students. Raises funds for own organisation, and sometimes donates objects to school eg rose garden or play equipment for early learning centre. In addition to school rose, will be selling cards with an image of rose.

Christmas dinner – held at school, buffet at \$20 a head. Simple menu, popular in the past. Centenary events – broader participation than usual.

Tintern \$20 Antique quilt luncheon - very successful. Display and presentation on antique quilts, basket lunch prepared by committee. Looking at ways to join the generation, as majority of members are over 70. Trying to attract community to school. Funds donated to charity each year.

Lowther Hall – write directly to old girls to request donations for specific projects on behalf of the old girls association.

PLC – tap into other clubs that members may belong to. Recent brunch at Royal Melbourne Golf Club, (\$25) as a past student is a member there. Will hold centenary garden party (\$55) later in the year to be held at the school.

Toorak raises funds for a scholarship and for archive centre. Reasonable response to requests for donations.

Question 5 major events and celebrations

IGOGA – school rose, concerts, back to school day, community day. Very good response throughout the year.

CLC – combined church service then afternoon tea

MGGS – centenary next year. Regional branches of association will have functions around the world – luncheons, dinner dances, garden parties etc. SIG – evacuees, OBEs etc will also run special events. Launching function. School rose, centenary wine (red and white) – to be served at functions and on sale throughout the year. Calendar – will be sold to each member of the school community.

Tintern – 125th anniversary this year. Luncheon for past headmistress – coincided with her 100th birthday. Also had rose.

MLC – centenary calendar. Many functions planned, including dinner at Conference centre, commemorative book.

Kilvington – 80th anniversary – past parent function very successful.

Ruyton – 125th anniversary – dinner at Fed Square, music concert including current and past students.

Loreto – past pupils choir with 100 members to sing at the anniversary dinner. Younger members particularly enthusiastic.

Question 6 membership fees

IGOGA – have had voluntary membership until recently, now implementing automatic membership, fees added to school account and parents advised.

Firbank – membership fees added first Y11 and Y12 school accounts, \$75 each year for a total of \$150. Parents can choose not to pay.

Ruyton – wanted to reserve capital and offer bursary. To provide funds, decided to raise fees to \$200 for life membership, added to final account. Has been well received by parents, has allowed bursary to be made without eating into capital funds.

PLC – past pupils couldn't remember if they had joined or not. School didn't want to include \$100 membership fee on the account, situation now resolved. All students now members – money goes to school, which deducts costs of producing newsletter (association had several pages)

MGGS – non-refundable deposit paid to school, part of which was passed to the association. Now all past students have been declared members.

Presentation – raising life memberships – when increasing fees, can't ask members who have already joined to pay more. Have number of unsure members.

Toorak – assoc newsletter only sent to financial life members. All past students receive school newsletter. Have to err on the side of caution – if a member says she has paid in the past, have to accept this.

Question 7 archives

IGOGA – school-employed archivist one day a week. Happy to speak to other organisations.

St Margaret's – problem with privacy laws – concerned about publication of photos without consent. Apparently after a certain period of time (50 years), permission doesn't need to be sought.

Question 8

IGOGA – tennis and golf cups. A number of schools have fielded teams in the past, but the competitions have been cancelled in the past few years.

Ruyton – received letter from Sun in March saying that the tennis event will not be held again. Would be interested in setting up own round robin competition. Now having a sports subcommittee on association committee (tennis, hockey, golf). Maintaining a database of interested members. Advertised for participation.

MLC – organised tennis days for past students and partners – cancelled due to lack of interest. School's sports department very helpful, has allowed access to facilities etc.

Loreto – also received letter re the cancellation of the Sun Cup. No difficulty fielding teams, problems possibly due to organisation – no follow-through at all. More mature audience – had to encourage younger members, who enjoyed it immensely. Disastrous time of year – 25th March – lots of other activities at that time.

Numerous schools interested in participating in the golf tournament.

Lowther Hall – maybe tennis should be held during the week rather than at weekends.

IGOGA to contact Marj Cox to follow up.

Other business

MGGs – DJ Ross bursary – awarded to girl with some disability to allow her to attend or continue at the school

Genazzano – currently developing strategic plan.

Firbank – developed strategic plan three years ago.

Ruyton – annual strategic planning day, to review past year and plan for future. Putting together a policy and procedures manual to document the running of the association.

St Catherine's – does anyone have any input in changing traditions? School songs, crests.

Toorak – school song has been replaced. Principal will attend assoc meeting to discuss.

Loreto – past pupils have a fair deal of power, so school consults assoc.

Kilvington – song, crest and colours changed – things have to change, things have to move on. Current students have ownership, rather than past students.

Genazzano – mentoring programmes

Ruyton – mentoring program in its infancy – wanting to put past and current students in touch. Targets last year's leavers, offers assistance at tertiary institutions. Some success at careers nights. Past students database includes professions.

Firbank – compulsory committee membership for school captains or vice-captains? MLC used to do this, but have broadened this over the last few years, as these girls were often too busy to participate.

General business

St Catherine's volunteered to host the AGM in 2007.

3.30 pm – Guest Speaker: Dr Heather Schnagl – Principal IGGS

IGGS Centenary Year – installation of new stained glass window, community day, back to school day, centenary concert.

Introduction of Girls Sport Victoria – amalgamation of Victorian girls' sports associations to provide better competition for all 24 Victorian independent girls' schools. Appreciates support of past students' associations, some of which have endowed trophies for specific competitions.

4pm – Afternoon Tea

Future meetings:

2004 – Methodist Ladies College

2005 – Korowa Anglican Girls' School

2006 – Ruyton

2007 – St Catherine's