

the SOUBEIRAN

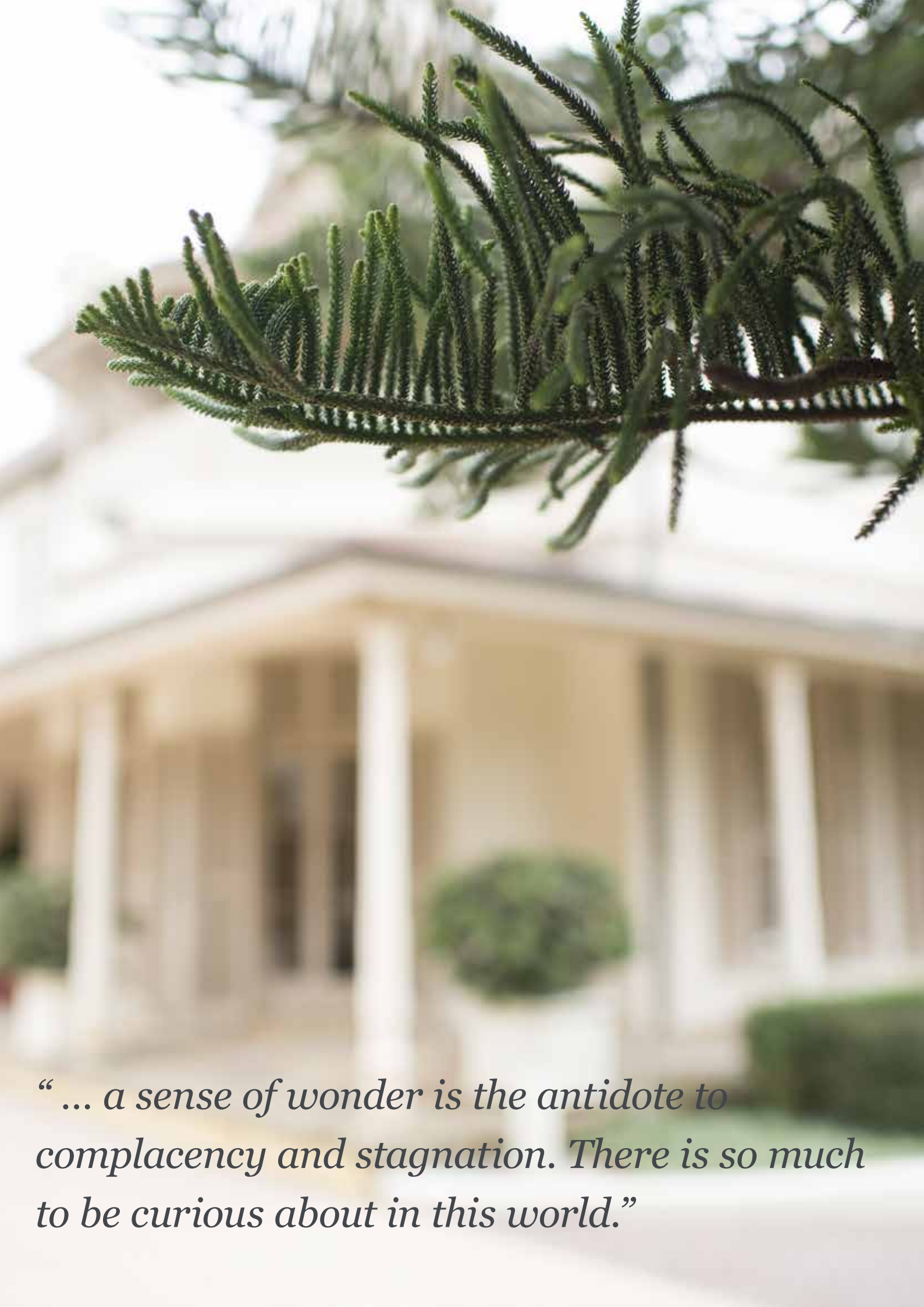
and KOGU magazine



KAMBALA

BI-ANNUAL MAGAZINE

WINTER 2016



“... a sense of wonder is the antidote to complacency and stagnation. There is so much to be curious about in this world.”



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MAGAZINE THEME

Wonder

PRINT

Bluestar Print

ON THE COVER

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from the principal

Debra Kelliher

Recently I had the privilege to attend the opening of an exhibition at the Sydney Jewish Museum which honoured the young writer, Anne Frank. The *Anne Frank - A History for Today* exhibition documented her life, including her tragic end as well as her family's journey as they hid together in a secret annexe behind a bookcase in the building where her father worked.

Despite the terrible restrictions of her life, Anne did not lose her sense of wonder and optimism. Hers was a joyous and exuberant outlook, where she demonstrated curiosity and imagination about the world, life and love. "It's really a wonder that I haven't dropped all my ideals," writes Anne, "because they seem so absurd and impossible to carry out. Yet I keep them, because in spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart."

It is a beautiful quality to have carried this sense of wonder with her, despite her ordeals. At Kambala we aim to encourage this sense of wonder in our students and teachers and through the delivery of an engaging education program. The natural world, new ideas, spirituality and creativity all provide inspiration and provoke wonder. Each of these aspects of learning contribute to the education of the whole girl.

Our 2016 Music Festival, held on 13 March was outstanding. It was wonderful to see how well our students negotiated new territory and rose magnificently to the occasion. Witnessing a quiet student step up and speak with confidence, a timid student successfully manage an unexpected crisis, and a bold, independent student become a cooperative team member provided memories that made this a magical event.

A recent meeting with our Elevate team, where we spoke about students connecting with what they are passionate about, provided further opportunity to approach lessons with a sense of engagement and wonder. We seek to have every Kambala student interested and challenged by her learning. I strongly believe a sense of wonder is the antidote to complacency and stagnation. There is so much to be curious about in this world.

I hope you will enjoy this edition of *The Soubeiran*, reading about the wonderful things that have been happening at Kambala. May they in turn inspire your own sense of wonder.



Finally, I end with a quote from one of my favourite authors, Alice Walker: "I think us here to wonder, myself. To wonder. To ask. And that in wondering bout the big things and asking bout the big things, you learn about the little ones, almost by accident. But you never know nothing more about the big things than you start out with. The more I wonder, the more I love."
- *The Color Purple*.

welcome to kambala's new executive team

A new Executive team has overseen the management of Kambala's internal operations since the start of 2016. The team, consisting of eight highly qualified executive staff, is responsible to the Principal and School Council. The skillset on Kambala's Executive team spans various disciplines including finance, marketing, human resources, psychology and management. Whilst managing the School's operations, the Executive team is also responsible for implementing Kambala's *Strategic Vision*.

Deputy Principal

Mr Kim Tsolakis is responsible for the quality and consistency of research-based programs implemented by members of staff and focuses on the wellbeing and academic growth of all students. With extensive experience in the area of academic programs and a background as a Senior School Head, Mr Tsolakis is a tremendous asset to Kambala.

Head of Senior School

Following the departure of Mrs Jennifer Crossman, Ms Carolyn Gavel is Acting Head of Senior School. The Head of the Senior School is responsible for the wellbeing, attendance and academic care of all students from Years 7 to 12 and the Senior School staff.

Head of Junior School

Mr Stuart Coppin is responsible for the wellbeing, attendance and academic care of all students from Hampshire House to Year 6. He also oversees all Junior School and Hampshire House staff. Mr Coppin brings a real depth of knowledge in girls' education that will further strengthen the love and curiosity of learning, which is so important to Kambala's younger students.

Dean of Wellbeing

Dr Tamara Lang, along with the counselling team, provides a confidential service that supports and promotes the growth and wellbeing of all students. Dr Lang is responsible for wellbeing programs throughout the School. She holds a PhD from Oxford and Masters of Clinical Psychology and Bachelor of Psychology with Honours from The University of New South Wales. Recently, Dr Lang has been working at The Sydney Children's Hospital in adolescent mental health.



*From left to right:
Mr Stuart Coppin
Ms Carolyn Gavel
Mrs Sarah Gregory
Mrs Candice Heapes
Ms Danielle Kassoua
Dr Tamara Lang
Mr Kim Tsolakis*

Director of Development and Communications

Mrs Sarah Gregory is responsible for Kambala's development, communications and marketing activities including development of a philanthropic program to support the *Strategic Vision*. Mrs Gregory works closely with the Foundation and Kambala's Parents' Association, as well as the broader parent and Old Girls community.

Business Manager

Mrs Candice Heapes is responsible for strategic financial planning and effective management of the finance and administration of Kambala. In addition to this, Mrs Heapes is Secretary to the School Council and is responsible for ensuring the School meets its statutory obligations and conducts business under its government charters.

Human Resources Manager

Ms Danielle Kassoua manages human resources at Kambala and supports the development of programs to maintain a positive working environment and an engaged team. Operationally, Ms Kassoua oversees recruitment, professional development in conjunction with the Deputy Principal, Work Health and Safety, and employee retention.

kambala parents' association welcome cocktail party 2016

Shannon Kennedy

Kambala commenced the 2016 academic year with the annual 'Welcome to Kambala' Cocktail Party, hosted by the Kambala Parents' Association (KPA). Over 400 parents gathered in the Tivoli forecourt on Thursday 28 January to catch up with old friends and welcome new families to the community.

Thankfully we were blessed with beautiful weather and were able to witness the sun slowly setting behind Sydney Harbour, always a spectacular sight. This year the party had a Greek taverna theme and guests enjoyed traditional cuisine below a canopy of festoon lighting. Stalls offering dolmades, kofta, spanakopita, haloumi and calamari were arranged around the courtyard in an intimate village-inspired setting.

Guests enjoyed the food and drinks while Kambala's very own Mr Peter Corkill and his band, *The Rare Grooves*, entertained with a mix of tunes ranging from popular genres to contemporary funk. The Kambala community from Preparation through to Year 12 mingled and connected in a relaxed and vibrant atmosphere, with many of our boarding families making a special effort to attend.

The outgoing KPA President, Mrs Catherine Happ, welcomed and thanked the community for their attendance and contribution to this wonderful school.

Once again, we would like to thank all who attended, making the night a truly memorable event.

1. Ms Carolyn Gavel, Mrs Margot Shannon and Ms Eleni Zaferis at the KPA Welcome Cocktail Party.

2. Ms Sophie Whitehouse, Mrs Kate Hawthorne and Ms Tara Thomas.

3. Kambala mothers Mrs Lucy Ferguson and Mrs Mel Carter enjoying the event.

4. Dr Lynsey and Dr Michael Byrom.

5. Mr Matt Carter, Mr Peter McClintock, Mr Iain and Mrs Ingrid Goddard.



kambala strengthens global ties with new york internship

Maja Andersen

The inaugural recipient of the Kambala Old Girls' Internship, Lucinda Bradshaw '07, has described her recent three-month internship at Linden Global Strategies in New York as having "laid the best possible foundation for her career."

The internship, which was made possible by Kambala Old Girl, Josephine (Brazil) Linden '69, is offered to an Old Girl of Kambala who dreams of a career in finance and the experience of working at an internationally-renowned firm. Mrs Linden is a high profile figure in the finance industry and the founder and CEO of Linden Global Strategies, a wealth management advisory firm.

Lucinda applied for the inaugural internship because she was eager to gain financial experience before starting a graduate job as a corporate lawyer.

"My three months at Linden Global Strategies were fantastic and working with Josephine Linden was a great privilege and an extraordinary learning experience. Having just finished law school, I was keen to gain financial experience. I also wanted to explore the possibility of future job entry into the financial services industry and whether finance was a career path I would be interested to pursue," said Lucinda.

Quick to dispel any misconceptions about an internship in the finance industry being dull or lacking in purpose, Lucinda said the role was varied, challenging and that she had the freedom to pursue work that interested her.

"My roles were mixed and gave me a thorough and broad overview of the financial services industry. In particular, I reviewed the performance of investment funds and frequently attended meetings with hedge fund managers. These meetings were fascinating and I learnt a great deal from the team's discussions of different investment strategies. I also researched market trends, particularly in fixed income securities and prepared for and attended client meetings."

"On top of these rewarding experiences, living in New York was an added bonus," said Lucinda.



1. Lucinda Bradshaw '07 enjoyed her work experience in New York with Josephine Linden '69.

2. Claudia Yasukawa '07 has recently been announced as the 2016 internship recipient.



The annual internship reinforces Mrs Linden's close bonds to her education at Kambala and aligns with Kambala's strategic intent to foster a global perspective and nurture lifelong community ties. Lucinda believes she has been the beneficiary of the Kambala community, seeing it as an important source of shared knowledge.

"Working for Josephine has confirmed the impressive reach and strength of the Kambala community. As a recent graduate, I know how many younger ex-students are looking for advice or resources to help them refine their career ambitions. It is clear that many Old Girls are eager to share their career insights with other members of the community."

Claudia Yasukawa '07 has recently been announced as the recipient of the 2016 Kambala Old Girls' Internship.

Claudia has been working as an Associate in mergers and acquisitions at Norton Rose Fulbright in Sydney. She is thrilled to be returning to the United States, having worked there for six months last year and believes the mentoring aspect of the internship will be invaluable.

"So much of work is about interactions with other people and gaining experience in particular practices. I have seen how important it is to have strong mentors and I believe this is even more important at this stage in my career, as I try to transition from law to finance," said Claudia.

After the internship, Claudia will commence study for an MBA in the United Kingdom.

from the archives

Kathryn Hillier

As School Archivist, I have access to a wonderful treasure trove of material from Kambala's history. I feel privileged to have this role. In recognition of the special access I have to many inspiring and wonderful things, I am always looking for ways to share the collection with the community.

In the spirit of 'wonder', one of my favourite things to do is work with the School's photographic collection. The archives have prints and copies of prints from the 1880s to the 1990s. I often examine the old photographs of girls, teachers and buildings and ponder about their lives. I feel a sense of wonder thinking about the physical changes to our spaces here at Rose Bay.

I have engaged the Year 3 girls in a favourite game of mine, playing detective and recreating photos from the past. Recently, the girls were given a copy of a 1920s photograph of the Tivoli (Dumaresq) gates and were asked to take a modern photo from the same vantage point using their iPads. It made them realise that although much has changed over the last century, we can still see the past around us.

1. This photograph was taken from New South Head Road and was donated by a neighbour. Note the windmill situated in the space where the oval was later constructed. This occurred in 1928 when rock was blasted from the hillside to make the sports ground.

2. Boarders enjoying the view from the top dormitory in the 1930s. This photograph was taken before the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

3. Students marching to class in 1964. This beautiful pine tree has been a feature of our campus since the beginning and still offers a sense of security, peace and wonder.



imagine our future

Adele Walker

Did the girls standing on the balcony of the Tivoli building ever wonder what Kambala's current students would see from the same vantage point? Could those same girls have imagined Kambala as we know it today?

It is an exciting time to be a teacher, especially at Kambala. We live in a time of rapid change; modern learning environments, virtual and physical, are evolving to reflect the world that awaits today's graduates. Kambala has stayed at the forefront of this evolution as we begin to realise a vision for a transformed campus.

One of the first projects to be completed is the redesign of a number of classrooms in the Senior School. The result is an innovative space that is flexible and adaptable.

This is a good reflection of the changing nature of the relationship between the teacher and learners, knowledge and the enabling role of technology.

Amidst this change, there is a sense of sameness. Our buildings and classrooms may change around us and the way we interact with our students and design their learning will constantly evolve. However, as teachers, what remains constant is the enormous joy of caring for young women who are curious about the world around them. It is a wonderful job.

The gates of Tivoli will surely be standing in another century from now. I wonder what sort of device the Year 3 students of 2116 will use to photograph themselves and what will await them on the other side?



1. One of Kambala's transformed spaces, the Green Room.



2. Kambala's newest Senior School classroom, the 'Agile Learning Space'.

3. Year 11 student Grace McClintock's illustration of Kambala's harbour view today.



kambala music festival 2016

Peter Corkill

Kambala's Music Festival featured a number of impressive performances by Kambala's co-curricular ensembles. Our outstanding performers were led by Kambala music staff and were inspired by the opportunity to perform in the iconic Sydney Opera House.

The 2016 Music Festival included a number of firsts. It was the first time students from the Debating and Public Speaking programs acted as comperes and spoke about their own personal experiences of the Music Festival.

It was also the premiere performance of a new ensemble, the Symphonic Wind Orchestra, conducted by Ms Jenni Lewis. Mrs Elizabeth Spencer conducted the Chamber Orchestra and Mr Mike Kenny directed the Kambala Big Band – both making their Music Festival debuts. The Senior Orchestra, conducted by Mr Peter Corkill, opened the festival and the amazing Junior Choir, conducted by Mrs Sara Davy, closed the first portion of this unique event.

Congratulations to the Class of 2016 for the brilliant performances they prepared for the House Music Competition. The competition was intense as the standard was consistently high.

The House Instrumental Performances displayed the impressive talent and creativity of our students. Wentworth thrilled the audience with their precision choreography, Gurney gave an energetic performance and Roseby entertained all with their engaging stagecraft. Hawthorne's ensemble won the Best Instrumental Performance for their highly sophisticated performance of Ravel's *String Quartet*.

The House Choral pieces covered a wide range of styles, from the smouldering intensity of Hawthorne's Metallica song *Nothing Else Matters* to the uplifting Gurney performance of *Will The Circle Be Unbroken*. Each House produced an excellent vocal tone and their choral harmonies were beautiful. Both of Wentworth's songs were awarded equal Best Choral Item and brought ultimate success to Wentworth.



1. Wentworth House - the winners.
2. Year 12 House music leaders.
3. Part of Junior School Choir.
4. Hawthorne House – Best Instrumental.

Dar'ya Moskalenko conducted Roseby in an award-winning arrangement of *Let It Be* and demonstrated skills that secured the Best Conductor Award. Gurney was the deserving winner of the Progress Award and throughout the rehearsals Hawthorne displayed the focus and commitment that won them the House Spirit Award.

The Kambala Music Festival was an exciting and inspiring event that brought the whole school community together in a joyous celebration of Music.

omega ensemble and kambala

Peter Corkill

Omega Ensemble was established in 2005 by Artistic Director and Clarinettist, Mr David Rowden. Omega Ensemble's mission is to showcase outstanding artists who captivate and excite audiences through a revelatory program of chamber music.

With a dedication to engage the finest Australian musicians, as well as international guest artists, Omega Ensemble presents outstanding musicians in an intimate and stimulating chamber setting.

In 2015 Omega Ensemble created an educational partnership with Kambala. This partnership has enabled access for Kambala students and the wider school community to attend open rehearsals and compositional workshops with Australian composers. The Omega Ensemble has a strong commitment to supporting the work of contemporary Australian composers and to date has commissioned and premiered over 25 new Australian compositions. Omega is fortunate to utilise Kambala's Performance Theatre for its rehearsals.

This year, Kambala students will observe a professional-level chamber music rehearsal and will gain a deep understanding of the rehearsal process and the sophisticated communication skills exemplified by Omega Ensemble's outstanding musicians. The pertinence of this occurring at Kambala, with the unique Years 7 to 10 curricular chamber music program, cannot be overstated.

In Term 1, students participated in a workshop with esteemed local composer Mr Andrew Ford. Similarly, in Term 3 Omega will rehearse and workshop a new composition by Mr Mark Grandison, *Riffraction*.



1. Josephine White working on composition.
2. Elissa Comino working on composition with Mr Peter Corkill.
3. Helen Xiong engaged in composition activity in the classroom.
4. Isabella Campbell and Isabella Wang comparing notes.

journey of self-discovery begins at kambala

The academic achievements of the Class of 2015 exceeded all expectations and are a wonderful reflection of the girls' hard work and dedication to continuing Kambala's tradition of academic excellence. Kambala aspires to educate the 'whole girl', with academic achievement being just one aspect of an individual.

While the Higher School Certificate and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme represent the culmination of a Kambala girl's academic journey, Year 12 marks a milestone in a girl's journey of self-discovery, expression and maturity.

Verity Bligh, who graduated in 2015 with a 99.95 ATAR equivalent, credits Kambala's diversity of academic, co-curricular, extra curricular and sports programs for providing the launchpad to discovering where her true interests lie.

"When I commenced at Kambala in Year 7, I was very new to the Australian school system, having completed primary school in France. Suddenly, I was being encouraged to participate in all types of co-curricular and extra curricular activities. I made a decision to take up every opportunity, to try new things and work hard in a diverse range of activities," said Verity.

"Year 10 was a turning point where I really found my passion for social justice work through World Challenge and leading Kambala's 40 Hour Famine fundraiser. It started to become clear that my interests spanned three broad areas – academics, social justice and sport. Debating and Public Speaking taught me to stand up for those things I believe in. Through charity work I developed a sense of self and purpose, while Cross Country and Touch taught me to work towards goals."

Like Verity, Sarah Li, who also graduated in 2015 with a 99.95 ATAR, attributes her engagement in Kambala's extra curricular activities for enabling her to diversify her strengths and identify new passions.

"My journey through Kambala was more than just eight years of study. My experience involved a wide range of extra curricular activities, forming new friendships, expanding my personal and global awareness, and most importantly, discovering the person that I was meant to be," said Sarah.



Old Girls Sarah Li and Verity Bligh '15 reflect on their time at Kambala.

"I felt that this diversity of interests was best demonstrated in my final year at Kambala. Year 12 expanded greatly beyond merely the year of the HSC."

In addition to her House Prefect leadership role, Sarah participated in Water Polo, Basketball, music ensembles, Debating, Mock Trial and Future Problem Solving.

"I believe that success is all about balance. No one looks just for academic, physical or social achievement. It is about looking at the whole girl, and this is certainly manifested by the spirit of Kambala. I am forever grateful to the School for emphasising the importance of all aspects of life and allowing me to grow as an individual."

Ms Debra Kelliher believes Verity and Sarah epitomise the spirit of Kambala's vision to educate 'the whole girl'.

"We seek to educate outward-looking independent thinkers who are compassionate and resilient."

Verity and Sarah have sought out their own opportunities beyond academic success, have worked hard and created opportunities for themselves. Their potential is enormous," said Ms Kelliher.

Verity Bligh will commence joint Honours and Politics at Keble College in Oxford in October. Sarah Li is currently studying a combined Bachelor of Music Studies and Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Sydney.

Christiana Alexakis and Emma White who also gained perfect ATAR scores in the HSC and IB respectively, are both starting university this year. Emma will attend the Australian National University to study Medical Science with the aim of progressing to Postgraduate Medicine. Christiana is going to study Arts and Law at the University of Sydney.

wonder fuels inquiry based ib learning

Jennie Mickle

Wonder fuels the inquiry based learning of Kambala's International Baccalaureate (IB) students. With the independent research required for the Extended Essay, the unique Theory of Knowledge course, and the global focus of their six subjects, IB students learn with enthusiasm provoked by curiosity in a way that sustains a love of learning throughout their lives.

A core element of the IB Diploma Programme, the Extended Essay is a research assignment that involves exploring a topic of global significance through one or more disciplinary lenses. A relatively new Extended Essay option, World Studies, has proven popular with Kambala students. Within our 2015 cohort, three students chose the World Studies option and all earned maximum marks for their research and presentation efforts. Neesha Krishnan's essay examined the outbreak of the Ebola virus. Her investigation used the Kenyan village of Meliandou as a lens through which to analyse health, geographic, sociocultural and socioeconomic indicators in relation to the spread of the disease through Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

This year, Natalie Norman and Jasmine Rou have both chosen the World Studies option for their Extended Essays. Natalie is researching the implications of genetically modified canola for sustainable economic and environmental practices. Jasmine's research into sustainable fish farming began with knowledge of her family's business, and has expanded to a holistic awareness of sustainable food production and an evaluation of the conditions required for it to flourish.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) is a subject unique to IB. TOK engages students in critical thinking and inquiry into the process of knowing, as they reflect on the nature of knowledge and how



International Baccalaureate students, Jasmine Rou and Natalie Norman.

we know what we know. In her 2016 TOK oral presentation, Year 12 student Bronte Mendham analysed the global collapse of financial markets in the light of the knowledge question: 'To what extent does perception and imagination influence ethical decision making?' Such speculation and reflection also drives the production of the TOK essay.

Last year, Alanah Spillane's TOK essay considered the topic, 'Assess the advantages and disadvantages of using models to produce knowledge of the world,' while Emilie Daeron probed the question, 'Is explanation a prerequisite for prediction?' TOK principles underpin the methods of inquiry in each of the IB subjects, encouraging students to continually reflect on issues of global significance, differences in cultural perspectives and how to recognise potential flaws in thought processes.

A new subject, Global Politics, will be offered to IB students at Kambala in 2017. This exciting and dynamic subject will draw on a variety of disciplines in the Social Sciences and Humanities, reflecting the complex nature of many contemporary political issues. Students of Global Politics develop an understanding of the local, national and international dimensions of political activity and processes, as well as exploring political issues affecting their own lives.

The experience of IB students at Kambala is permeated with wonder as they critically engage with different and new perspectives in their exploration of knowledge and become aware of the possibilities of their role as active global citizens.

kambala student emma hamilton wins \$15,000 grant

Winning Nescafé's Headstart Grant of \$15,000 for her efforts in an anti-cyberbullying campaign for the REELise Film Festival confirmed that Year 12 student Emma Hamilton's pursuit of her passion has been worthwhile.

Emma leads the youth team supporting the REELise Film Festival, a movement encouraging zero tolerance for cyberbullying. With over 100 other applicants, Emma delivered a written and verbal presentation for Nescafé Headstart, a program designed to help Australians solve everyday challenges with a \$15,000 grant. Emma's commitment and passion towards the cause earned her a convincing win.

The REELise Film Festival is a short film festival based on smartphone filmmaking. It has an annual competition theme which encourages young filmmakers (12 - 18 years) to explore issues arising from today's digital world that impact youth mental health.

The festival seeks to eradicate cyberbullying by urging students to take a pledge to create a safer online world. By using the power of social media, Emma hopes to inspire students from schools around Australia to create films and join the campaign to spread awareness and support zero tolerance for cyberbullying.

"Kambala and my family have inspired me to hold certain values; including the importance of helping others, giving back to the community and working hard to deliver the best result. REELise offered the opportunity to be involved in a project which aims to safeguard youth mental health, an issue I am very passionate about. I have worked in various volunteer capacities providing



Emma Hamilton won a \$15,000 grant to support an anti-cyberbullying campaign for REELise Film Festival.

information about REELise, collecting anti-cyberbullying pledges, face painting and seeking funding support," Emma said.

So impressed by Emma's efforts, one of the judges of the Nescafé Headstart Grant offered to act as her personal mentor and asked her to join the Festival's Steering Committee. Emma has since chaired her first meeting of the REELise Youth Council, comprising over 30 students from different schools, to brainstorm ideas. The marketing team for Nescafé has also interviewed Emma to record her journey and that of the Youth Council to promote their 2016 Headstart Campaign and inspire others to take part and pitch their ideas.

"I have had the benefit of leadership training as a Kambala Prefect while my Business Studies classes were beneficial in developing my application for the Headstart Grant and gave me the confidence to approach one of the judges to sign on as my mentor following the win," Emma stated.

The Youth Council are developing a marketing plan and general budget to allocate the \$15,000, which will be spent on marketing and supporting core festival staging costs.

kambala says yes to 'you can sit with me'

YOU CAN SIT WITH ME is an anti-bullying initiative and kindness campaign founded by Kambala educator Sophie Whitehouse. The campaign features yellow wristbands that allow children to identify peers at school who are happy to sit with them. The concept behind the initiative is simple but the potential to improve childhood experiences is enormous.

Having spent 25 years working in schools around the world, Sophie has witnessed firsthand the devastating effects anxiety and bullying can have on children and the subsequent impact on their mental health.

“No child should feel alone and insecure. **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** aims to educate and inspire children at a grassroots level to overcome childhood anxiety, depression and loneliness. Education is evolving and our schools are filled with really great children who want to help others. This is such a simple message, and these five simple words, that I could not love more, can be so effective. Sometimes we all need someone to say, ‘you can sit with me’,” said Sophie.

Earlier this year, Kambala released its *Strategic Vision* and appointed former student Dr Tamara Lang as its Dean of Wellbeing. Dr Lang is leading Kambala’s reform to take a preventative approach in relation to the psychological wellbeing of its students.

Dr Lang believes **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** aligns with the School’s vision in relation to wellbeing and will, in response, launch a pilot program of the campaign.

“Creating connections for girls is so important in terms of preventative mental health. Friendships can be hard to navigate at times and having a symbol for openness to non-judgemental connection could provide hope to those who are struggling. We are really excited that **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** could be that symbol,” said Dr Lang.

Kambala recognises the potential for **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** to strengthen school communities but acknowledges its pilot needs to be handled carefully to ensure its meaning is not lost.

“We are being very intentional in rolling the program out slowly. In our pilot, the School has bought the wristbands and the girls will apply to wear them. The idea is that you really have to work for it. You do not just buy the band. You have to make an effort and



*Elizabeth Mojanovski and Ariana Wang, Year 7 students, pioneering the **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** program at Kambala.*

demonstrate a desire to forge those connections. You strive to want to be part of the initiative and wearing the wristband is the reward.”

“We are going to promote the idea of being non-judgemental. **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** is not about judging the person who is coming to sit with you; it is about being open to meeting someone new and letting anyone come and talk to you. And it is not just about recess and lunch – even though this is when it is likely to be used the most effectively. It is about other students noticing that there is someone being open to connecting with others,” said Dr Lang.

Dr Lang is confident **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** will be embraced as a whole school initiative at Kambala.

“I am really excited that this could become a symbol for Kambala and the connections that the girls can forge together.”

Proceeds from **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME** wristband sales will go directly towards literacy programs in marginalised communities across Australia. The charity’s first donation was made to the Numeracy and Literacy Foundation on 19 February this year.

For more information about **YOU CAN SIT WITH ME**, visit: www.youcansitwithme.org

from paddock to plate

Natalie Norman and Alexandra Wooller

As Kambala's Environment Prefects we were given the opportunity to introduce something exciting and different that illustrates the importance of environmental sustainability. With the invaluable advice and help from Mrs Stacey Taylor, Mr Kim Tsolakis and the Environment Committee we decided to create a sustainable vegetable garden.

After finding a location and designing the space, our dream soon became reality. During the Term 3 holidays of 2015, Kambala's wonderful maintenance team constructed Kambala's very own vegetable garden. It consists of four garden boxes made of renewable wood, a compost and a water tank. It is a place for vegetables, flowers and bees!

Ms Gooch's Year 3 class helped with the most important task – planting the garden. It is planned that they will continue to maintain the garden. It was incredibly rewarding for us, answering questions about plants and seeds, seeing the girls get their hands dirty and generally enjoying themselves. Kambala's gardener taught the girls how to plant – not too deep or too shallow – and to pat gently to make sure the plants have space to breathe. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to create a special and environmentally friendly space where all students can be involved.

After nervously waiting and hoping that the vegetables would grow, we were delighted to start Term 1 with the garden overflowing. We found parsley, tomatoes, eggplant, strawberries, beetroots, radishes, cucumber, mint and more. From little things, big things grow!

With the help of the now Year 4 students, the vegetables were harvested and sent to the kitchen. It was wonderful to see the girls genuinely interested in what we were collecting.

Kambala's kitchen prepared a 'from paddock to plate' lunch using the crops we had harvested. Five of the Year 4 students and Ms Kelliher joined us for the lunch. The delicious meal consisted of lamb with eggplant sauce, capsicum and chilli, pickled cucumber and strawberry brownies for dessert. Even the water was prepared beautifully with mint leaves in decorative glass jars. The food united everyone at the table. We talked about our favourite foods, hobbies, as well as the most sustainable ways to create a vegetable garden. Everyone was thrilled to have tasted the final product and the hard, but satisfying, work paid off.



1. Having a delicious meal in the boarders' dining room with Ms Debra Kelliher.

2. Sofia Calligeros and Georgia Bournas planting in the sustainable garden.

3. The produce from the vegetable garden ... looking good enough to eat!

4. Zara Kennedy harvesting carrots from the garden.

Since the success of this experience, the Environment Committee has banded together to develop the garden further and to increase its sustainability. We now have a roster and we take food waste from the canteen during lunchtime to be used in the garden as compost.

Building a local school garden teaches us all the invaluable skills of collaboration, patience, commitment, and wonder. We feel that it is important to teach other students to gain awareness of the environment and to sustain it for us and for the generations to come.

international women's day breakfast

Maja Andersen

Kambala's 2016 International Women's Day Breakfast celebrated the contribution to social, economic, cultural and political achievement of women worldwide. The event was attended by a representative from Kambala Council, mothers, Old Girls, staff and students, all uniting in the celebration of women on this special day.

Principal, Ms Debra Kelliher, warmly greeted the guests and spoke of the need to challenge a wide range of conventional wisdom and measures of success in order to identify what equality really means. In the workplace, this indicates a need to rethink everything from leadership styles to workplace structures.

Ms Kelliher concluded her speech with words of encouragement for the audience: "When you define your own success, that is one of the greatest acts of empowerment you can achieve."

In the spirit of the 2016 campaign theme, 'Pledge for Parity', Dr Nicky (Breuer) McWilliam '82 was invited to speak at the event. Dr McWilliam, mother of Sarah McWilliam '15, is a successful mediator with Sydney Mediator Partnership and practices as a lawyer in private practice, Linklaters and Allens.

Dr McWilliam spoke of barriers to career progression as a female and the current landscape where there are more men called Peter leading ASX 200 firms than there are women. Despite this, Dr McWilliam said that now is an exciting time to be a woman.

"There is a real commitment to gender bias - a debate run by people who can impact the outcome," she said.

Dr McWilliam posed a question to the audience, "What does this mean to Kambala girls?" She further explained, "It means that there is a real opportunity to create a new agenda."

1. Guest speaker Dr Nicky (Breuer) McWilliam '82 at Kambala's International Women's Day Breakfast 2016.

2. Mrs Lisa Zylstra and Dr Ying Morgan.

3. Mrs Maggie Bablis and daughter, Elizabeth.

4. Year 12 students — Molly Yeldon, Takara Suttie and Hannah Bablis.



the wonder of global consciousness

Stacey Taylor

The science fiction author, Ray Bradbury, once said “Stuff your eyes with wonder ... live as if you’d drop dead in ten seconds. See the world. It’s more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories.” Part of being truly ‘global’ means that we not only see all of the world but we also perceive what it means to be in another’s place — to walk in another man’s shoes.

It is a complex matter to understand the place of the ‘other’ and fully comprehend what it is to be human in our contemporary world. At Kambala we work hard to ensure that our students understand what life is like not just for the privileged few, but also what it is to be human in different parts of the world and even in our own backyard. What does it mean to live in a contemporary society and what does it mean to live out our Christian values? We have an obligation to understand and help others wherever they are. Our staff and students have taken up this challenge which can manifest itself in many ways in the day to day life of our school. Our students have been working with the big issues of injustice, economic sustainability, and intercultural understandings.

Taiwanese teachers’ visit

This year teachers from the Daegu National University of Education in South Korea came to observe Kambala’s exemplary Junior School. While they were here they also talked to our Junior students about life in a South Korean school, our students were most impressed by the slippers that students wore indoors and in the canteen — universal concerns for any student.

Student exchanges

We had two exchange programs in 2015, four girls went to Headington School in Oxford in December, while we hosted Headington girls at Kambala in August. The girls experienced everyday life in new and challenging environments.

Twenty students went on a Taiwanese tour to Taipei and Hsu Hsing, with Mrs Samantha Yang and Mrs Jacquelyn Hilmer, to a big city school and a small rural school. The relationships with these schools is continuing with them being hosted at Kambala in July and students working collaboratively from afar on a Year 9 Science unit on pollution in Taipei.



1. Students at Hsien-Hsi Junior High School, Taiwan.

2. Kambala girls preparing the ground for floorboards in Chari (World Challenge).

World Challenge

World Challenge continues to play a big part in our development of global consciousness. Girls go to locations all over the globe and engage in community development projects. We have had girls go to Africa in past years and this year they are going to Borneo and Sri Lanka. These expeditions provide the girls with a social immersion and help develop their sense of the other.

USA Music Tour

Our girls have been fortunate to take part in an extraordinary USA Music Tour, taking in the sights in New Orleans, New York and Los Angeles. They have played with, and for, musical greats in remarkable settings.

Twilight Conversations

We continue the series of Twilight Conversations with guests Ainslie Van Onselen and Michelle Guthrie '83, both leaders in their own fields, discussing ‘looking through the glass ceiling’. They brought their understanding of this complex issue to our school community.





KAMBALA OLD GIRLS
COMMUNICATE | CONNECT | CELEBRATE

Circa 1920, Kambala students Audrey Maple-Brown '21 (left) and Thelma McMaster '21. Photographed by Australian pictorialist photographer Harold Cazneaux. Thelma McMaster was one of three Head Girls in 1921 and Audrey Maple-Brown went on to become the President of the Kambala Union in 1927.

president's report: the wonder of kogs

Melinda (Thew) Hudson '80

The theme for this edition of *The Soubeiran* is 'wonder'. The submissions received for the magazine have inspired me to wonder; to think curiously, spark astonishment and be filled with admiration for all that being a KOG embodies. I hope they do the same for you.

2016 marks a very special year as we celebrate KOGU's 120th anniversary.

On 8 April 1896, a meeting of past pupils was convened by Principals, Miss Gurney and Mademoiselle Soubeiran. As a result of this meeting, KOGU was formed and 22 members enrolled.

Fast forward 120 years and the legacy of these trailblazing KOGs continues. Today, over 6,500 Old Girls are part of a strong and vibrant KOG community and its history.

Back in 1896, the purpose of the Union was to bring past pupils together to work for a good purpose. By 1934 the objectives had been defined as follows:

- ♦ To keep the Old Girls of Kambala in touch with the School and with one another.
- ♦ To work for educational and charitable objects.

Today, our objectives fundamentally remain the same.

Reflecting on our 120 years of history, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those Old Girls who, over the years, have graciously and generously continued to maintain and build on the legacy created in 1896. As KOGU custodians they have given so much to the Old Girls; ensuring life membership perpetuity, KOGU's viability and a strong constitution and platform on which we can continue to build.

A special day is being planned to celebrate our 120 Year Anniversary on Saturday 8 October at Kambala. We hope you will join us.

As always, the Committee openly invites and seeks your feedback. We are committed to providing every KOG with the best return on member experience they seek. So please help us by joining in the journey to Communicate, Connect and Celebrate.

2016 KOGU Committee

President

Melinda (Thew) Hudson '80
(Singapore based)

Vice Presidents

Julie (Kelly) Reid '77
Jane Poole '79

Treasurer

Philippa (Byrne) McGeoch '83

Secretary

Cassandra Smiles '94

Public Officer

Antonia Murphy '80

Committee Members

Luisa Gidaro '08
Sarah Grunstein '75
(New York based)
Anthea James '08
Carina Martin '97
Tracy Yaffa '79

Council Representatives

Patria (Harris) Mann '80
Emily Smith '96

Sub Committee Members

Amy Bryant '15
Anne Crooks '80
Annalise (Lewis) Scanlan '80



KOGU contact details

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Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/KambalaOldGirlsUnion



Join our LinkedIn Group
linkedin.com/groups/5118542



tangles and knots

Renee Marie Petropoulos '08

About me

I began my studies at Kambala in Transition in 1996, after moving back to Sydney from Adelaide with my family. I was a very awkward kid at school but excelled in the more creative classes – namely Art, Drama and English. I was always looking for ways to express myself creatively and have maintained this sense of wonder with storytelling and the potential of the visual medium.

I was very fortunate to be surrounded by peers, teachers and advisors at Kambala who supported my atypical goals and aspirations to study within this field.

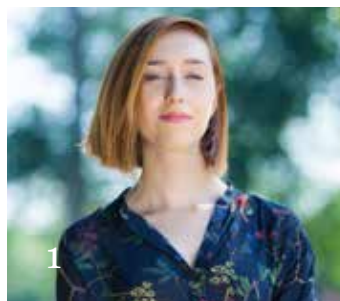
After completing my Bachelor of Communication at the University of Technology Sydney, I was adamant to immerse myself within the local film industry by interning for a slew of production companies. I learned invaluable lessons about production, set life and film marketing. It was at this point that I decided to broaden my horizons and seek out a Graduate Film degree outside of Australia. This led me to Columbia University in New York, where I received a partial scholarship to complete my Master of Fine Arts in Film Directing.

My time at Columbia has been exceptional. The approach to craft, storytelling and collaboration with peers is overwhelmingly positive. I have also had the chance to mentor younger students and teach undergraduate classes. And now as I am reaching the end of the program, it was certainly fitting for me to return to Sydney to shoot my final thesis film, *Tangles and Knots*.

The project

Tangles and Knots is a short film drama, set in the height of summer in Sydney. It is a film that explores a sticky, intimate bond between mother and teenage daughter who behave more like best friends. But when the mother tries to help her awkward daughter make new friends by hosting a party at their family home, their relationship becomes threatened and ultimately unravels throughout the night.

Tangles and Knots is a project shaped by themes that have consistently marked my work; women in film, sexuality, aging and unique family dynamics. But beyond these themes, the film is very personal, drawing from my own unique relationship with my mother. For this reason, it was crucial for me to return to my homeland to make this film.



1. Renee Petropoulos '08 is an award winning filmmaker based in New York.

2. Behind the scenes image from ***Tangles And Knots***.

3. Behind the scenes on set in Sydney filming ***Tangles And Knots***.

4. Renee on set in Sydney.

KOGU helping with locations

Since moving to New York, I only venture home once a year for Christmas. It is usually a relaxing reprieve but this time it was vastly different. Working in tandem with a local production company, Jars Productions, the project immediately began to take shape the moment I landed.

From the very start, I wanted to shoot the film where I grew up, the Eastern Suburbs, but this proved to be a tremendous challenge. The location is a character in itself and for the film to work we needed a very specific style of house; an overly spacious, classical styled house that was lavish but also a little run down in places and really lived in.

A number of initial location leads were beyond our budget or had multiple shooting restrictions. It became necessary to broaden our search. Naturally, I thought to reach out to KOG. I was overwhelmed by the amount of excitement and kindness offered by the KOG community and within a week we had a solid lead on our location through the help of fellow KOG, Tina Clark '87.

We shot four days with a stellar Australian team of an almost all-female cast and crew. The sheer excitement for the film, for my work and for Australian filmmakers was phenomenal.

Since returning to New York, I am still in awe of how warm and supportive the Kambala community and film industry have been. I am fortunate to be surrounded by a vast network that supports and celebrates each other's work and I would not be able to pursue this career without it.

agile learning donation

Melinda (Thew) Hudson '80

The School has engaged three Old Girls, Camilla Block '83, Hannah Tribe '93 and Antoinette (Berdoukas) Trimble '94 to collaborate to bring the campus vision to life. The creation of the Agile Learning Space is one of a number of exciting projects underway and was designed by Hannah Tribe.

KOGU was delighted to be able to present a cheque to the School for \$60,000 at the 2015 Speech Day. This donation helped to complete Hannah's design, in particular the 'pod' in the centre of the Agile Learning Space. The KOGU Pod is an area where Kambala students are able to communicate with students all over the world using the latest video conferencing technology.

Ms Debra Kelliher wrote in her thank you letter to KOGU: "The Old Girls are very much a part of our new spaces at Kambala. They have designed them, taken a passionate interest in them and in many cases, their daughters will be experiencing them as learners ... Our Old Girls are very respectful of tradition and also, very prepared to move into the future." Thank you to the KOGU custodians and KOGs, who over the last 120 years have made it possible for KOGU to continue to invest and contribute towards enhancing the school experience for future Old Girls.



1. KOGU President Melinda (Thew) Hudson '80 donates \$60,000 to Kambala on behalf of KOGU at the 2015 Speech Day.

2. Architect Hannah Tribe '93 designed Kambala's new Agile Learning Space.



Save the date Vintage Lunch

for Kambala Old Girls
from 1939 to 1965

to be held on
Wednesday 26 October
at Kambala

794 New South Head Road,
Rose Bay
11.00am to 3.00pm

Invitations will be distributed
closer to date.

For more information:
email kogu@kambala.nsw.edu.au or phone 02 9388 6888.

upcoming kogu events

Term 3

Thursday 21 July
Wednesday 27 July
Wednesday 10 August

9.30am Archibald Prize 2016 Tour
KOGU Committee Meeting
6.00pm KOG Networking Event
at Kambala with special guest
speaker Margaret Zhang '10
6.30pm Archibald Prize 2016 Tour
KOGU 120 Year Celebration

Wednesday 17 August
Saturday 8 October

Term 4

Wednesday 12 October
Wednesday 26 October
Wednesday 23 November

KOGU Committee Meeting
KOGU Vintage Lunch
KOGU Committee Meeting



1975 reunion

Melanie (Brodie) Vertoudakis '75

Some things never change. On Sunday 24 October 2015 a gaggle of girls came together at our 40 Year Reunion. It was like the return from the long summer holidays - we were unable to stop talking or follow instructions.

Our apologies to Mrs Sarah Gregory, Director of Development and Communications, who had the impossible task of conducting a school tour for over 30 women. We acted like school girls, wanting to catch up immediately, talking non-stop and refusing to stay in line. All that was missing was the school uniform, though some of us still had relics of it on the day and Suey Rosenberg brought her Massie House school case.

Thirty-three girls from the Class of 1975 met at the School for the tour, afternoon tea, champagne and lots of talking. We soberly remembered those who are no longer with us and celebrated each other's lives and achievements.

Girls came from far and wide. New York, the Gold Coast, Melbourne, Tasmania, Crookwell and Scone. Emails from those who were not able to attend entertained us, including a wonderful letter full of news from Angelika (Turk) Staib in Germany.

Principal Ms Debra Kelliher addressed us, demonstrating her vision for Kambala as well as reminding us of some of the events that shaped our schooling. As we listened to Ms Kelliher, the privilege we experienced during our school years was brought home to us when a sea plane came in to land on the beautiful harbour.

In the days following our reunion many commented on the longevity of our friendships and how easy it was to reconnect, even after 40 years.



The 40 Year Reunion for the Class of '75.

1985 reunion

Ursula (Zaoui) Choi '85

2015 celebrated the 30 Year Reunion of the 1985 Kambala girls. On 7 November 2015, an impressive 47 out of 92 Old Girls gathered at the Woollahra Hotel. Thank you to Sally (Lynch) Ryan for a fun evening of great food, cocktails and bubbly.

It was an evening where we were most concerned about making sure we had a chance to catch up and reconnect with our classmates. By the sounds of it, we have all had impressive journeys to date. The boarder/daygirl line seems much more blurred than in school years.

There were a few highlights to note. We shared a minute's silence in honour and memory of our dear classmate, Priscilla Hall, and noted that although our hearts are heavy at her passing, we are blessed to know that we have only lost one of us to date. Vicky Cheng must win the competition for most selfies, though Belinda (Marwedel) Starkey would have come in a close second. Though most of us remain in Sydney, Vicky flew in from Singapore and quite a few flew in from interstate or drove from the country to attend the reunion.

My daughter, Emma Choi (Class of 2017), is now enjoying her schooling at Kambala. I know that she too will celebrate her friendships in years to come. The ease in which 30 years melted away is heart-warming. After half an hour, it felt like we were back in the schoolyard, on the front lawn, swapping stories and laughing at how we have really not changed at all. I am thankful that Kambala is steadfast in keeping Old Girls connected.

We have decided not to wait another decade to catch up. A bi-yearly event is scheduled.



Sally (Lynch) Ryan, Vicky Cheng, Ursula (Zaoui) Choi and Nicky Parker.

1995 reunion

Vanessa Ferguson '95

The Class of 1995 Reunion was held at the School on 14 November 2015 and was attended by over 50 girls. With so many still living in London, there was talk of holding a simultaneous reunion there as well!

We created a Facebook group which helped us reconnect and this became a great forum for us to post hilarious photos from our school days.

We went on a tour of the School led by Mrs Sarah Gregory, Director of Development and Communications, followed by a lovely high tea in Hampshire House. There was a memorabilia table set up with photos and yearbooks from 1995. We then continued on to The Royal in Paddington where Mabelle Oag (Head Girl, 1995) gave an inspiring speech. We all agreed we will not leave the next reunion so long!

A special thanks goes to KOG Relations Manager Mrs Brooke Kathriner who did an amazing job liaising with us and making her time available to photograph the day. We would also like to thank Principal Ms Debra Kelliher for taking the time to welcome us to the School and give a talk about how we can give back to the school community.



1. The Class of 1995 enjoy their 20 Year Reunion.

2. Fiona Cameron spotted a piece of her artwork during the tour of the School.



2005 reunion

Anita Huynh '05

The Class of 2005 celebrated their 10 Year Reunion on Saturday 28 November 2015. It was attended by over 40 KOGs, some of whom had travelled from New York, London, China and Malaysia.

The event started with a tour of the School led by Mrs Judy Duffy, Director of Boarding. For many it was the first time they had been back at the School in 10 years. We walked through the Ann & John Lewis Wing of the new Music Centre, a special experience for one of our own, Alex Zsebik, whose grandparents are the namesake of the building.

Following the tour, the evening continued down at Hampshire House for drinks and canapés catered beautifully by Old Girl Ursula Zaoui '85. We enjoyed the view of the harbour as well as a slide show of all our class photos. It was a truly special night where we all shared memories of our time at Kambala and caught up on our achievements since leaving the School. We are a class full of accomplishments - designers, lawyers, doctors, midwives, accountants, advertising executives and many more! We celebrated marriages, new engagements, children (some of which will be starting at Kambala soon) and even a pregnancy announcement on the evening!



1. The Class of 2005 at their 10 Year Reunion.

2. Anita Huynh, Leah Conrad and Grace Mathew.



2000 reunion

Alexandra White '00

On Saturday 21 November 2015, 19 girls from the 2000 cohort met at the Amora Hotel on Jamison Street for our 15 Year Reunion. Some girls had travelled from California, Malaysia, Mudgee and Canberra for the reunion.

Alexandra White, the event organiser, set the scene for a delicious three course dinner, decorating the tables with tealight candles, individually-boxed chocolates wrapped in either Kambala blue or gold ribbon and white chair covers with black, red, blue or green satin sashes – the School House colours. Photo collages arranged by Olivia (Jones) Lowe were on display and added a special and personal touch to the event.



The Class of 2000 at their 15 Year Reunion.

It was such a great night and we all had a wonderful time sharing memories and catching up with one another.

kambala flag flying high

The new Kambala school flag is flying proudly on the oval.

A Kambala flag was originally and generously donated in 2002 by Kambala Old Girl Jan (Wilson) Lamens '54.

After a hiatus, a new Kambala flag was raised in January this year.

Kambala Old Girls' Union were delighted to invite three generations of Old Girls back to the School in March for a photograph with the new school flag – Jan (Wilson) Lamens '54, her daughter Eliza (Lamens) Grant '84 and granddaughter Grace Weston '15.



- 1. Three generations of Kambala Old Girls Eliza (Lamens) Grant '84, her mother Jan (Wilson) Lamens '54 and daughter Grace Weston '15 with the Kambala school flag.
- 2. The new Kambala school flag flying high on the oval.





save the date

KOGU 120 Year Celebration

Kambala Old Girls, family and friends of Old Girls

Please join us at Kambala for an afternoon of festivities and entertainment

Saturday 8 October 2016 | 1.00 - 5.00pm

*If you are organising your Class Reunion,
please join the other cohorts who are holding their reunions
on 8 October so that you can join the celebrations!*

For more information:

email kogu@kambala.nsw.edu.au or phone **02 9388 6888**

2011	5 Year Reunion	1996	20 Year Reunion	1981	35 Year Reunion	1961	55 Year Reunion
2006	10 Year Reunion	1991	25 Year Reunion	1976	40 Year Reunion	1956	60 Year Reunion
2001	15 Year Reunion	1986	30 Year Reunion	1971	45 Year Reunion		



breast cancer: how far we have come

Jane Beith '79

In 1979, the year I left Kambala, the first Medical Oncologist started working in Australia. Chemotherapy trials were just beginning in the treatment of breast cancer. I look back in wonder to see how far treatment has progressed, with only 72 percent of women surviving five years in the 1970s compared to almost 90 percent now. I feel privileged to have been part of this progress, in my role as an Oncologist at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) and Chris O'Brien Lifehouse over the last 20 years.

After completing my specialist examinations, I decided to have a break and travel and I ended up in London, where I completed my PhD in drug resistance in brain tumours. Brain tumours were very resistant to treatment with chemotherapy. I grew patients' brain tumours in petri dishes and would then treat them with different drugs and assess the response. In these experiments I showed that resistance to chemotherapy could be reversed by other agents. What was very satisfying was translating these results by trialling these combinations on patients and proving that what I had done in the laboratory actually worked on real patients.

My clinical practice and research changed to breast cancer 20 years ago with my appointment at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH). At this stage, management of cancer was very generic in giving certain chemotherapeutic regimens to patients that had a high risk of the cancer returning. Tumours were examined under microscopes, assessing risk by the size of the tumour and whether there was lymph node involvement. With improved diagnostic techniques, cancers are now being examined to the level of DNA, looking for changes in genes. This has led to treatments being designed to target gene abnormalities or overexpression. These new drugs are studied in large clinical trials that now recruit thousands of patients. Although having a small population and being incredibly vast, Australia has contributed significantly to recruiting patients to these large international clinical trials. It makes the day to day management of patients very exciting as we are able to offer the option of a clinical trial with a new drug and potentially improve their chances of survival.

As well as participating in clinical trials, we have established a tumour bank at RPAH where we collect patients' tumours and their clinical data. The tumours can be assessed for markers that may correlate with better or worse prognoses. This can lead to

giving those patients with a better prognosis less treatment and in those who have a worse prognosis, the potential to identify targets that could be used to design new treatments. Over the last year this has been expanded to growing patients' tumours in mice to enable assessment of responses to treatments. A very exciting prospect is being able to eventually test an individual patient's cancer for sensitivity to treatments. It is an era of personalised medicine. I foresee that within the next decade all cancers will be genotyped to design an individual treatment plan.

The stimulus of continual new treatments, all with potentially small incremental benefits for patients, keeps me functioning during the times when it is emotionally challenging to treat women with breast cancer. I am looking forward to completing a three-month sabbatical at Dana Farber Cancer Centre in Boston this year. Although Australia has one of the best health care systems in the world, the experience of working at a large American cancer centre will further fuel my passion in researching and treating women with breast cancer.



Jane Beith '79 is a Medical Oncologist at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

year 12 kogu morning tea

Tracy Yaffa '79

Guest Speaker Grace Franki '13 captivated the current Year 12 students at the Year 12 KOGU Morning Tea in March.

Grace was a Debating Prefect and is currently a Debating Coach for the Year 7 ISDA team. She was an active KOGU Committee Member from 2014 to 2015 and is currently studying Arts/Law at the University of Sydney.

Grace has also recently completed a 14-week internship with the 'Google Apps for Work' sales engineering team. Her major project was designing a new approach to immersive demos — teaching prospective clients how to get the most out of the Google Apps suite.

Grace offered some great insights and advice for the Year 12 girls, encouraging them to keep their options open, consider the fields of Science and Technology and to follow their dreams.

After her presentation, Grace fielded a number of questions from the girls — including whether the Google office has a slide!

The Year 12 girls devoured the delicious food supplied by Alliance Catering, mums and KOGs Christina Masselos, Annalise Scanlan and Suellen Thompson.



KOGU Committee Member Tracy Yaffa '79 and Grace Franki '13 at the Year 12 KOGU Morning Tea.

year 13 girls attend music festival



Philippa McGeoch and Antonia Murphy with the Class of 2015 at the 2016 Kambala Music Festival.

Antonia Murphy '80

Over 35 Year 13 girls gathered as part of the school community at the Kambala Music Festival on Sunday 13 March at the Sydney Opera House, as guests of Kambala Old Girls and Kambala.

Kambala Old Girls hosted drinks in the Concert Hall Northern Foyer, which provided a wonderful opportunity for the Year 13 girls to catch up with one another, a number of their former teachers, their Year Coordinator Mrs Kate Narev and Principal Ms Debra Kelliher.

The Class of 2015 were enthusiastic and supportive audience members and appeared to thoroughly enjoy the splendid annual event.

wonder and music

Sarah Grunstein '75

As a concert pianist living in New York and a Sydney-born 'Kambala girl' who began my schooling at Massie House on Coolong Road, I am honoured to join the KOGU Committee as a mentor for students in the arts.

The first task assigned to me – writing for *The Soubeiran* on music and the Kambala value, 'wonder' – has inspired me to ponder deeply the artistic process that has become my life journey. I write in the hope that something I say may prompt a Kambala girl to pursue her dream, in any field.

I believe that every child gifted in music experiences a profound attraction to music. There is an insatiable urge to pursue music, to improve one's ability to play music, to deepen one's understanding of music, as if one is drawn to music like a magnet, beyond any practical reasoning. That insatiable urge has remained with me for as long as I can remember.

That same passion exists for artists in all genres of art, just as the 20th century dancer-choreographer Martha Graham affirmed: "There is a vitality, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action, and because there is only one of you in all of time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and it will be lost. The world will not have it. It is not your business to determine how good it is nor how valuable nor how it compares with other expressions. It is your business to keep it yours clearly and directly, to keep the channel open. You do not even have to believe in yourself or your work. You have to keep yourself open and aware to the urges that motivate you."[^]

To perform music requires technique, body awareness, mental and physical fitness, repose while 'hard at work', daily practice for long hours, excellent training, and constant study of the score. It requires a pursuit of what lies more deeply in the music, how to become even closer to it – as if the music is one's close friend, how to communicate with the entire audience including the person in the furthest seat of the concert hall, and how to bring an audience into one's own intimate world.

How, as a pianist, do I proceed from 'inspiration' to 'interpretation' to 'performance'? As a performer, I ask questions. How will I communicate Schubert's sadness yet simultaneous sweetness? How will I depict Schubert's endless journey in a



piece that lasts three minutes? How, in late Beethoven, will I communicate his struggle with humanity? How will I communicate Schumann's passionate imagination in a fragment that has no beginning and no end? How then will I perform the beginning as if there is no beginning, the end as if there is no end?

The musical instrument does not lie. It is sensitive to the most miniscule touch and vibration. My interpretation is inspired by how I choose to play what is on the page, and not on the page. As an artist I must play with interpretative conviction, and present a coherent dramatic statement from beginning to end.

The piano becomes my voice – that thing inside of me that expresses what I have to say and, at a deeper level, who I am. In performance, my 'self' is both present and absent, all at the same time.

As a newly appointed member and mentor on the KOGU Committee, I would be delighted to hear from any who wish to reach me. Kambala has been a fundamental basis in my education, life, and career. May I add that I feel blessed to be in touch with many of my school friends, among whom I have the strongest friendships and bonds. And I feel blessed to remain connected with Kambala.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sarah Grunstein © 2016
www.sarahgrunstein.com

1. Sarah Grunstein '75 is an internationally acclaimed concert pianist living in New York and a member of the 2016 KOGU Committee.

2. Sarah Grunstein and her next door neighbour, Mishy (Wilcsek) Dalah '77, in their Massie House uniforms. Mrs Hania Grunstein is watching over them.

[^]Agnes de Mille, *The Life and Work of Martha Graham* (1991), 264.

births, engagements, marriages and deaths

births

Victoria (Ho) Conde '02 and her husband Caspar welcomed their first child, Christopher Conde, on 1 October 2015.

Kirsty (Sharpe) Skinner '00, her husband Troy and son William welcomed a baby boy, Blake Harry Skinner, in February 2015.

engagements

Congratulations to **Sarah Wakefield '09** and Bennet Schwartz on their engagement. Sarah is currently based in Brisbane working as a paediatric nurse at Lady Cilento Children's Hospital. They are enjoying the engagement glow and plan to get married in October 2016.

deaths

Beatrice Leonora (Peel) Watts '41 died peacefully on 2 March 2016.

Beatrice commenced at Kambala in the Senior School in 1937. She was one of 43 girls who moved from Shirley School after the headmistress retired and the school closed. Beatrice was Captain of Gurney House and Head Prefect in 1941, her final year. She represented the School and was Captain of the Kambala 1941 B Tennis Team and also played in the Senior A Basketball Competition.

On leaving Kambala, Beatrice studied at the Sydney Kindergarten and Preparatory Teachers' College, obtaining her Diploma to teach young children. Her first position was teaching young boys at Cranbrook School, Rose Bay, where she remained for her whole teaching life, until retirement. It is amazing how many Cranbrook Old Boys still remember 'Ms Peel'.

Beatrice had a long association with Kambala and a great love for the community at Kambala. She gave generously of her time, wisdom and talents to the School. She filled many positions in the Old Girls' Union, including Secretary/Treasurer and was a Trustee of the KOGU School Benefit Fund for a considerable period. She loyally supported the School fundraising activities and served as a member of the School Council for some time.

Later in life, Beatrice married Frank Watts. They took up residence at Alan Walker Village, Carlingford and enjoyed many happy years together, making several wonderful trips abroad to visit friends. Frank passed away in 1994.

All through her life, Beatrice maintained her interest in Kambala, regularly attending the Vintage Luncheons and other Old Girls' functions. She had many friends and was respected and loved by all who knew her.

Margaret (Cox) Christie '53 died suddenly on 23 December 2015 aged 79 years. The much loved wife of David (deceased), mother to Bruce, Stuart and John and a devoted and involved grandmother to their children.

After the death of her father, Margie left school before completing her final year. She later returned to study, completed her degree in Psychology – leading to many years of counselling sufferers of mental illness.

Margie began her education in the Junior School at Kambala as a day girl. Circumstances caused her to move away in Year 5 and to return as a boarder in 1950. She was an excellent student and represented the School in Athletics and Tennis. As a loyal and valued friend she will be missed greatly by her many friends across Australia and the United Kingdom. She will be especially missed by those who shared her years as a Kambala boarder.



1. Baby Christopher Conde.
2. Baby Blake Harry Skinner.
3. Bennet Schwartz and Sarah Wakefield '09.
4. Margaret (Cox) Christie '53 at the 2015 Vintage Lunch.
5. Beatrice Watts (far left), 1941 leaving class.



“The natural world, new ideas, spirituality and creativity all provide inspiration and provoke wonder.”



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