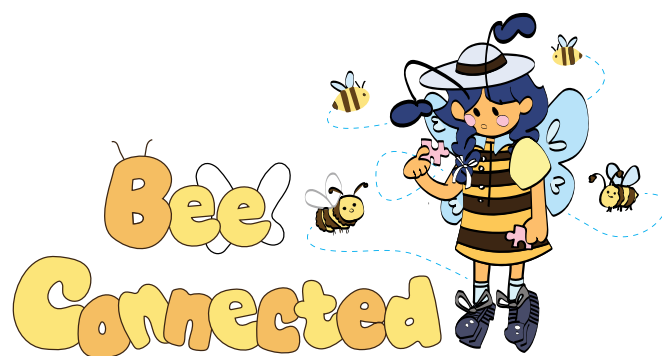


The Shuttle

Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.



Night of a Thousand Stars

Our Abbotsleigh community connects and celebrates 140 years of music and amazing girls at the Sydney Opera House

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

'Wow what a night!'

'I have goosebumps!'

'I haven't stopped crying – it was so beautiful and so moving'

'Such variety, so many genres'

'Such talent – these girls are of a world class standard'

'It was unforgettable ... We were blown away!'

'This was belonging'



These are but a few comments made by parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers and special guests, as well as musicians and Sydney Opera House staff who worked with our girls on Tuesday and saw them perform at 'Night of a Thousand Stars' concerts both in the afternoon and the evening.

The girls' performances were absolutely sublime. Indeed, our girls, our music staff and musicians, led so beautifully by Mrs Lynette Clarke, were nothing short of sensational. It was a great delight and privilege for all those who attended to be in the audience and celebrate Abbotsleigh's 140th Birthday and the superb talents of our girls in Years 5-12, our 'stars', at the beautiful Sydney Opera House.

From the first moment when our First Nations girls delivered their poignant Acknowledgement of Country through voice and dance, through to the final crescendo of celebration in the 'Hallelujah Chorus' performed by every girl, the audience was both mesmerised and awestruck as they were wowed by the marvellous performances of our ensembles – jazz, brass, our vocalists, percussionists, symphonic winds, rock band, the Junior School, Senior School and chamber choirs, camerata, our symphony orchestra, and the whole school choir, to name but a few.

We were honoured to welcome world-renowned didgeridoo player and composer William Barton as our special guest, who played the didgeridoo for our whole school performance of 'The Arafura' by Dan Walker. We also were

incredibly grateful to our special guest artist, Little Green, (Amy Nelson, AOG 2017), whose performance with our singers, dancers and musicians were excellent.

We also were honoured to welcome and acknowledge special guest, Mrs Robyn Claydon, at our matinée performance. Mrs Claydon was a much-loved former Deputy Headmistress (1973-1990) and Acting Chaplain (2014), who wrote the lyrics to the School Song, 'To Abbotsleigh', in 1975 for the School's 90th Birthday celebrations. The genuine and spontaneous applause, appreciation and respect given to Mrs Claydon by all our girls, staff and the audience was incredibly moving.

Another highlight of many, and showcasing our prefect theme, 'Bee Connected', was the world premiere performance of our Composer-in-Residence, Dr Harry Sdraulig's, unique composition and gift to the School, 'The Hive's Caper', which reflects the intricacies and activities of a beehive. Further highlights included the performance of Piano Concerto in A minor, 1st Movement by virtuosa pianist, Scarlet Li, and the performance of Verano Proteño by virtuosa violinist, Jessica Ma.

The title of our 140th Anniversary Concert, 'Night of a Thousand Stars' was indeed most apt as we celebrated the thousands of young women, 'stars', who have loved music and who have passed through the hallways of Abbotsleigh throughout our school's rich tapestry woven over the last 140 years. It was an outstanding once in a lifetime event



that the girls and staff will remember and treasure forever; it certainly showed us all that we are part of something so much bigger than just ourselves, and, as we know from research, that is just so beneficial for our girls' wellbeing.

There are so many people who deserve huge thanks for this magnificent concert – our talented, dedicated and highly professional music staff – Lynette Clarke, Penina Stafford, Louise Keller, Ingrid Little, Susannah Pinter, Sally Lucas, Libby Cuza, Jiae Mun, Harry Sdraulig, Gina Hetherington and Melissa Ryan, our Instrumental and Vocal staff, our Dance Coordinators, Anna McCulla and Jasmine Cook, and our First Nations Coordinator, Shane Hamilton.

Huge thanks also must go to Mrs Victoria Rennie and Mr Steve Bultitude for their superb organisation of the event and to every member of our Senior and Junior School staff, our Development team and our Senior Leadership team, who have supported the girls and staff over many months as they prepared for, and gave, the performance of their lives. Mere words are insufficient to express the girls and my gratitude to all.

To read more and see a wonderful selection of photos of the event, please [click here](#).



Chaplain

Rejoice and sing

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

The call or encouragement to sing is woven throughout Scripture, reminding us that joyful worship is central role to the Christian life. From Miriam and David, to Mary in the New Testament, God's people have responded to his faithfulness with song. Psalm 100 reminds us that singing is more than a tradition, it's

a heartfelt response to God's faithfulness. It was a joy to witness our community lift their voices at Abbotsleigh's 140th Anniversary Concert, especially during the 'Hallelujah Chorus'. We give thanks for God's goodness throughout these years of Abbotsleigh, and continue to praise him, knowing



our joy is rooted in the unchanging love of God. We also give thanks to God for our magnificent music staff and students, whose skills and talents were gloriously displayed in a way that brought joy to all.

Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;

come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.



Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Ku-ring-gai Local Artists exhibition	Thursday 22 May to Wednesday 11 June	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
Abbotsleigh Christian Fellowship prayer meeting	Tuesday 27 May 7.45-8.30 pm	Via Zoom
AOGU Speakers Breakfast	Friday 30 May 8-9.30 am	Via Zoom
APA Social Event – Trivia Night	Saturday 31 May 7-11 pm	Gymnasium, Senior School
SchoolTV program – student wellbeing resources	Available to all parents on the Parent Portal	Click here to watch
GLOW Festival	Monday 16 June	Senior School campus

JUNIOR SCHOOL

IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 24 May 8 am-12 noon	See team sheets for times and venues
JS Production Rehearsal	Saturday 24 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
Transition excursion to Sydney Harbour Bridge	Monday 26 May 8.30 am-2.30 pm	Sydney Harbour Bridge



30 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures incursion	Monday 26 May 10-11 am	JS Auditorium
3L Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures incursion	Monday 26 May 11.30 am-12.30 pm	JS Auditorium
10 UR STRONG friendology session	Wednesday 28 May 1.40-2 pm	
K, 3 and 5 Grandparents' Day	Thursday 29 May 10.50 am-1.30 pm	Library Plaza
Year 4 Reconciliation incursion	Friday 30 May 9-10 am	JS Auditorium
Year 5 IPSHA Debating Round 3 vs Tara (home)	Friday 30 May 12.45-2.45 pm	Junior School
3G Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures incursion	Friday 30 May 11.30 am-12.30 pm	JS Auditorium
1G UR STRONG friendology session	Friday 30 May 1.40-2 pm	
Competition chess	Friday 30 May 3-4.30 pm	
JS Production Rehearsal	Friday 30 May 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
ISDA Debating semi finals	Friday 30 May 4-9 pm	
IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 31 May 8 am-12 noon	See team sheets for times and venues
JS Production Rehearsal	Saturday 31 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
APA Social – Trivia Night	Saturday 31 May 7-11 pm	Gymnasium, Senior School
Year 3 eye screenings	Monday 2 June 9.30 am-12.30 pm	AbbSchool East/West
10 UR STRONG friendology session	Wednesday 4 June 1.40-2 pm	
1G UR STRONG friendology session	Friday 6 June 1.40-2 pm	
Competition chess	Friday 6 June 3-4.30 pm	
JS Production Rehearsal	Friday 6 June 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
No IPSHA Saturday sport (Long weekend)	Saturday 7 June	

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 24 May 8 am-12 noon	Click here for times and venues
Year 10 Work Experience Week	Monday 26 to Friday 30 May	
Years 8 and 9 Challenge Week	Monday 26 to Thursday 29 May	



Lunchtime Futures: Monash University	Monday 26 May 1.20-2.10 pm	Careers Office (U5)
Senior Drama Production rehearsal	Tuesday 27 May 3.30-6 pm	Drama Studio
Senior Drama Production rehearsal	Thursday 29 May 3.30-6 pm	Drama Studio
Abbotsleigh Boarder Parents' Association (ABPA) Term 2 meeting	Thursday 29 May 7-9 pm	Via Zoom
NSW All School Swimming and Diving Championships	Friday 30 May 8 am-4 pm	SOPAC
NorthWest Equestrian Expo	Friday 30 May to Tuesday 3 June	Coonabarabran
ISDA Debating semi finals	Friday 30 May 4-9 pm	
Saturday sport	Saturday 31 May 8 am-12 noon	Times and venues TBC

