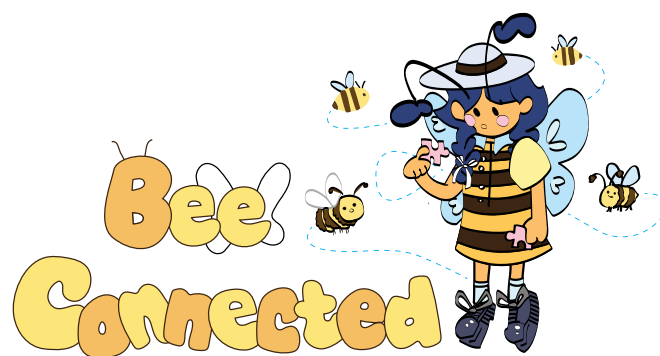


The Shuttle

Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.



Being Connected to our past – the 60th anniversary of the dedication of Abbotsleigh's Chapel

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

As I wrote in *The Shuttle* last week, our Chapel, officially named the Abbotsleigh War Memorial Chapel, was opened and dedicated 60 years ago on 24 April 1965. Returning from our Easter break, our community celebrated this significant milestone last Thursday 1 May in a very dignified and poignant chapel service led by our Senior Chaplain, Rev Sarah Hobba. During the service, Old Girl Mrs Margaret Sachs (Coburn, 1965) spoke about her memories of the opening of the Chapel in 1965. Mrs Sachs also spoke about the beautiful stained glass windows donated by members of our community and designed by Old Girl Jane Garrett (Maynard, 1983) as well as her leadership of the organ fundraising committee and the subsequent installation of our magnificent organ, which involved the shutting down of the Pacific Highway, in 1992! You can read the history of the Chapel prepared by our Archivist, Dr Jennifer McLaren, following.

During the service, Mrs Robyn Claydon (Deputy Headmistress 1973-1990 and Chaplain 2014) delivered an outstanding address. Arising from our School Lesson, Philippians 4:4-9, and based on our stunning 'Prayer' window, Mrs Claydon told a wonderful story about her friend Elizabeth's visit to the magnificent St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow, a number of years ago. The story about Elizabeth clearly demonstrated that prayer in its essence is 'chatting to God' and that God loves us, cares for us and really listens to our prayers. Mrs

Claydon's address was inspirational and her message will remain as a treasured memory for all those present for many years to come.

I would like to thank Mrs Sachs and Mrs Claydon for speaking so superbly at our service. I also would like to thank Rev Ross McDonald, former Chaplain (1981-1998) and Divinity Teacher (1972-1998) for his beautiful benediction at the conclusion of the service. Huge thanks also must go to all the girls and staff who were involved – our wonderful Senior Chaplain, Rev Sarah Hobba, who led the service magnificently, our exceptional organist, Mr Kurt Ison; our excellent Year 9 Elective Music musicians conducted with such expertise by Mrs Ingrid Little, Head Prefect Jazarah Tambyrajah, who read the Bible so eloquently, and our Chapel Prefect, Eloise Lo and Junior School CRU Captain, Emily Asher, who both prayed so meaningfully.

In addition to Mrs Claydon, Mrs Sachs and Rev McDonald, the Chapel Service was a great opportunity for us to welcome former Headmistresses Miss Kathleen McCredie, Mrs Judith Wheeldon and Mrs Judith Poole, as well as former Chaplain, Rev Andrew Alexander, back to Abbotsleigh. Other special guests included Ms Linda Ellis, our Chair of Council; School Council members, Ms Belinda McGuinness (Wilson, 1986) Rev Dr Roger Chilton, and Mr James Ward; and Ms Sarah Franks (1991) Honorary President of the Abbotsleigh Old Girls' Union.



We are very grateful to Dr Jennifer McLaren for her research, and to Rev Sarah Hobba and all members of the Chaplaincy, Music, Development and Property Departments as well as many others who were involved in the organisation of the very moving service that commemorated the 60th anniversary of the opening and dedication of Abbotsleigh's Chapel. Thank you all so much.

Mother's Day

As we look forward to our very special inaugural Mother/Daughter Dinner this evening, I would like to wish every mother in our community a very Happy Mother's Day. I hope that you have a wonderful day – may your child/children spoil you thoroughly!



The Abbotsleigh Chapel – A short history

Dr Jennifer McLaren
Archivist

60 years ago, on 24 April 1965, Abbotsleigh was originally a parochial school of St Paul's Church at Pearce's Corner, but there was a desire in some parts of the school community for a Chapel onsite. [In fact, the idea had first originated with our third Headmistress, Mrs Dorothea Poole, in the 1920s]. Donated funds gradually accumulated in the Chapel Fund, but the project was delayed for different reasons over many years. Momentum gathered in the 1960s and the buildings works began to a design by local architects Laurie & Heath.

The Chapel was dedicated as a memorial to those who served in the Great Wars of the 20th century – its official name is the War Memorial Chapel. The generosity of the school community in 1965 is evident from the pages of donations of Chapel furniture and furnishings listed in *The Weaver*. The first wedding of an Old Girl in the Chapel was in May 1965 when Aldyth Beale (1946) married Alan Jones.

A beautiful West Pemmer Organ was installed in 1992. It was designed and built in Germany and installed in the Chapel gallery. Seven years later, Abbotsleigh Old Girl Eve Meagher (1997) was commissioned by the School Council to create a commemoration of service to the School by retired Chaplain Ross McDonald. Eve's triptych for the narthex of the Chapel is entitled *Towards the Light*.

Stained glass windows were installed in the 2010s, designed by another Abbotsleigh Old Girl, Jane Garrett (Maynard, 1983) – drawing from the School Lesson, Philippians 4:4-9. Together, the windows form a reflective journey of spiritual contemplation reinforcing the importance of the School Lesson. In time for the Chapel's 50th anniversary, two additional windows were installed to the east and west of the communion table to celebrate the Lord Jesus on whom the School Lesson centres.



Chaplain

Chaplain

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

Over the holidays, our Chapel celebrated its 60th anniversary. Dedicated on April 24, 1965, as a War Memorial Chapel, it honours those who served in World War I and II. A plaque near the doors donated by the Abbotsleigh Old Girls' Union recognises those who served both at home and abroad. At our 60th Chapel celebration on 1st May, we were blessed with the presence of many former Heads and Chaplains.

Over the past 60 years, the Chapel has undergone many physical changes, including the addition of the organ, stained-glass windows, and, very recently, glass front doors and air conditioning. Despite these updates, it has remained a place for the community to gather, reflect on God's word, pray and sing together,

as Colossians 3:16 reflects. The service included a mixture of readings and hymns from the first service in 1965, as well as our traditional School Lesson and Hymn. As verse 17, continues, we give thanks to God for the great generosity of our community over generations in His provision of the Chapel.

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Hornsby Local Artist exhibition	Thursday 1 to Saturday 17 May Opening 1 May, 6-7.30 pm	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
APR Term 2 meeting	Thursday 15 May 8.30-10 am	JS Auditorium
National Walk Safely to School Day	Friday 16 May	
Community Event – Dubbo	Saturday 17 May 3-5.30 pm	Private home, Dubbo
140th Birthday Concert (matinée performance)	Tuesday 20 May 3-5.20 pm	Sydney Opera House

140th Birthday Concert (evening performance)	Tuesday 20 May 7.30-9.50 pm	Sydney Opera House
GLOW Festival	Monday 16 June	Senior School campus
SchoolTV program – student wellbeing resources	Available to all parents on the Parent Portal	Click here to watch

JUNIOR SCHOOL

IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 10 May 8 am-12 noon	See team sheets for times and venues
JS Production Rehearsal	Saturday 10 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
Years 1-3 Gateways excursion (selected students)	Monday 12 May 8.30 am-3 pm	Oxford Falls Grammar School
Year 3 Pylon Lookout and Museum excursion	Tuesday 13 May 8.30 am-3 pm	Sydney Harbour Bridge
Years 4-6 Gateways excursion (selected students)	Tuesday 13 May 8.30 am-3 pm	Oxford Falls Grammar School
Year 1 Light Up Lives filming (selected students)	Tuesday 13 May 8.30 am-10.30 am	Knox Grammar School
Kids' Lit Quiz	Tuesday 13 May 10 am-1 pm	Wahroonga Adventist School
Year 4 Judith Krause Parent Information Evening	Tuesday 13 May 7-8.30 pm	JS Auditorium
10 UR STRONG friendology session	Wednesday 14 May 1.40-2 pm	
Year 1 Vaucluse House excursion	Thursday 15 May 8.30 am-2.30 pm	Vaucluse House
Years 5 and 6 Birthday Concert rehearsal	Friday 16 May 11.45 am-12.45 pm	Sports Hall, Senior School
Year 5 IPSHA Debating Round 2 vs Knox Grammar School	Friday 16 May 12.45-2.45 pm	Abbotsleigh
1G UR STRONG friendology session	Wednesday 14 May 1.40-2 pm	
JS Production Rehearsal	Friday 16 May 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
ISDA Debating Round 2: Octo 2	Friday 16 May 4-9 pm	
IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 17 May 8 am-12 noon	See time sheets for times and venues
JS Production Rehearsal	Saturday 17 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
ELC and T-3 Life Education	Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 May	Life Education Van, Junior School

National Simultaneous Storytime (T-K)	Wednesday 21 May	Junior School Library
10 UR STRONG friendology session	Wednesday 21 May 1.40-2 pm	
da Vinci Decathlon State Championships (Years 5-6)	Thursday 22 May	Knox Grammar School
ELC and T-3 Life Education	Thursday 22 and Friday 23 May	Life Education Van, Junior School
Year 2 Creator Academy WeDo incursion	Friday 23 May 8.30-10.30 am	Year 2 Classrooms
1G UR STRONG friendology session	Friday 23 May 1.40-2 pm	
JS Production Rehearsal	Friday 23 May 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
ISDA Debating quarter finals	Friday 23 May 4-9 pm	
JS Production Rehearsal	Saturday 23 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 10 May 8 am-12 noon	Click here for times and venues
AFL NSW Junior Schools Cup	Tuesday 13 May 8 am-4 pm	ELS Hall Park, North Ryde
IGSA Archdale Debating vs Kambala	Tuesday 13 May 3.30-8 pm	Kambala
Senior Drama Production rehearsal	Tuesday 13 May 3.30-6 pm	Drama Studio
Years 9-11 da Vinci Decathlon	Wednesday 14 May 3.30-6 pm	Knox Grammar School
Yrs 9-12 Drama excursion	Wednesday 14 May 9.30 am-3.30 pm	<i>The Wrong Gods</i> , Belvoir St Theatre
Year 12 PC Concert	Wednesday 14 May 12.45-1.15 pm	Peter Duly Concert Hall
Lunchtime Futures: Studying interstate	Wednesday 14 May 1.20-2.10 pm	Careers Office (U5)
Service Council Bunda fundraising stall	Wednesday 14 May 1.20-2.05 pm	Marian Clarke Plaza
Year 11 Parent/Teacher interviews	Wednesday 14 May 3.30-8.30 pm	Via Zoom
Year 8 Geography field trip	Thursday 15 May 8.25 am-3.25 pm	Bobbin Head
Senior Drama Production rehearsal	Thursday 15 May 3.30-6 pm	Drama Studio
IGSA Cross Country	Friday 16 May 6 am-4 pm	Frensham, Mittagong
ISDA Debating Round 2: Octo 2	Friday 16 May 4-9 pm	
Saturday sport	Saturday 17 May 8 am-12 noon	Time and venues TBA

Lunchtime Futures: CSU	Monday 19 May 1.20-2.10 pm	Careers Office (U5)
da Vinci Decathlon State Championships (Years 7-8)	Tuesday 20 May	Knox Grammar School
da Vinci Decathlon State Championships (Years 9-11)	Wednesday 21 May	Knox Grammar School
Year 11 EES excursion to the Glade	Wednesday 21 May 11 am-1.45 pm	The Glade, Wahroonga
Rising Minds Academy launch	Wednesday 21 May 12.45-2.05 pm	PDCH
Dame Enid Lyons Oratory Finals	Wednesday 21 May 6-8 pm	Sydney Opera House
Year 11 Drama excursion – <i>The Lover/The Dumb Waiter</i>	Thursday 22 May 9.30 am-3.25 pm	The Ensemble Theatre, Kirribilli
Senior Drama Production rehearsal	Thursday 22 May 3.30-6 pm	Drama Studio
ISDA Debating quarter finals	Friday 23 May 4-9 pm	
InterCRU	Friday 23 May 4-5.30 pm	Ravenswood School for Girls