Important Dates for 2015

TERM 1 (8.5 WEEKS)
Friday 30 January Term 1
commences for students
Monday 9 March Labour Day
Friday 27 March End of Term 1
Friday 3 April Good Friday
Sunday 5 April Easter Sunday
Monday 6 April Easter Monday

TERM 2 (11 WEEKS)
Tuesday 14 April Term 2
commences for students
Monday 8 June Queen’s Birthday
Friday 26 June End of Term 2

TERM 3 (9 WEEKS)
Tuesday 14 July Term 3
commences for students
Friday 11 September End of Term 3

TERM 4 (10 WEEKS)
Tuesday 6 October Term 4
commences for students
Mon/Tue 2 & 3 November Mid-term break/
Melbourne Cup Day
Wednesday 9 December Students finish

TOUR AND SCHOLARSHIP DATES
Tour Mornings 9.15am to 11.00am
Thursday 26 February
Wednesday 18 March
Tuesday 5 May
Friday 19 June
Thursday 13 August

OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 21 October 6.30pm to 8.30pm

SCHOLARSHIPS
Closing Date for Applications
Friday 20 February
Scholarship Testing Day
Saturday 28 February
For more information on our Tours
or Scholarships, contact our Registrar, Kathy
Byrne on 9830 1388 or visit our website at
www.fintona.vic.edu.au

Contents
This year, Claire Levi, an Old Fintonian and a member of the group, HistorySmiths, has been on campus as she has been commissioned to write the School history in preparation for our 120th year in 2016. On completion, the history will then be launched amidst a range of celebrations of that milestone.

Despite the world being further plunged into chaos, courtesy of environmental, political, economic and religious issues, we should remind ourselves that those who were responsible for the establishment of Fintona and nearly one hundred and twenty years of its life over three centuries, saw it through two world wars and various minor ones, a depression, epidemics, and political, social and economic upheavals. We have that example before us to support our own endeavours and to imbue what we do with a sense of optimism to face the future with courage.

So, as we move towards another period of the School’s existence, we need to ensure that we maintain that sense of optimism and also the mechanisms not just to see the School through many more years but to safeguard it as much as possible against whatever lies ahead.

Fintona has put in place a number of things to help us shape our future directions and preserve the best of the past, while also taking on new ideas. We have completed a new Strategic Plan for 2015 to 2020 and embarked on a Master Plan for 2015 to 2025. The Master Plan sets out a footprint for campus developments and involves having local council endorsement. A Business Plan has been prepared by the School’s Business Manager, up to and including 2018, to help us with these developments and assist us in meeting our current and anticipated staff salaries, resource needs and maintenance and refurbishment needs. We have purchased the property at 9 Cherry Road, Balwyn, with a view to accommodating the future needs of the School long after we have passed it on to the next generation of teachers and students. Currently, the School community is very much looking forward to the completion of the Art Precinct in 2015, which will provide exceptional learning experiences for our girls.

As you read about Fintona students’ engagement in a vast array of co and extra curricula activities, I think you get a sense of our young people from ELC to Year 12 taking advantage of their opportunities and not only enjoying themselves but preparing for their futures.

Two bright young women who took advantage of their opportunities at Fintona were last year’s VCE students, Esther Le Couteur and Lauren Bleakley, who both won an Australian Student Prize for their outstanding VCE results. We congratulate them and know that their time at Fintona will be the foundation for their future success.

Suzy Chandler
Principal

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**Tribute to Malcolm Ashbolt**

Malcolm Ashbolt, who was a distinguished member of the School Board for nearly ten years and a Fintona parent for even longer, recently lost his battle with cancer. When Malcolm was diagnosed 18 months ago, he chose to focus his time on the important things in his life, his family, Deb, Maddy and Katie and fortunately for us the School.

For the majority of my time as Chair, Mal was my Deputy as well as Finance Convenor, roles he undertook with professionalism and diplomacy, while providing timely and wise counsel. He was instrumental in streamlining Board practices and reporting and as a result the School benefited from cohesive and informed governance. Mal had recently taken over as the Board representative on our Building Subcommittee, which has overseen the construction of the new Art Precinct and had been an active Board Member until only a couple of weeks ago.

The Board intends to find a way to commemorate Malcolm’s contribution as part of the Strategic Building Master Plan, so his legacy will always be remembered.

I will miss Mal, as will all the Board, along with members of the School community who were touched by his generosity and kindness and our love and condolences go to Deb and the girls.

Amanda McMahon
Fintona Board Chair

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Suzy Chandler with the Australian Student Prize recipients Esther Le Couteur and Lauren Bleakley along with the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP who hosted an afternoon tea to acknowledge their outstanding VCE results
In the ELC, through our PYP Units of Inquiry, we endeavour to explore many elements of Australian history and modern life and create opportunities for children to make connections between themselves and their country. Furthermore, the ELC teachers are always looking for meaningful and authentic opportunities to incorporate indigenous perspectives into our programs.

In Term Two, the K3 Unit of Inquiry, Sharing the Planet, was complemented by a Drama Toolbox incursion that was based on the Dreamtime story of ‘Tiddalick the Frog’. The workshop allowed the children to explore the story through costumes, action and music. It was a joy to see the children participate so enthusiastically and the important environmental message woven into the story remained with them as the term continued.

The K4 Unit of Inquiry in Term Two was How We Express Ourselves and as part of this inquiry each class was visited by Annette Sax from Yarn Strong Sista. Annette is a Taunguarg woman who came to share stories of her indigenous culture. Annette explained to the children the significance of the colours of the Aboriginal Flag. She then encouraged some hands on experiences such as ochre painting and traditional face painting, through which the children learned about different indigenous symbols and their meaning in stories and art.

Both of these incursions were important learning opportunities for the K3 and K4 groups and served as tools to expose the children to aspects of Australian indigenous culture in a respectful way.

Cara Mearns
Head of Early Learning Centre
In August, we welcomed performer Bernard Mangakahia and his show ‘Mana–The Spirit of Polynesia’, to the Junior School to launch our celebration of Book Week. The girls in Years P-6 were treated to some wonderful dancing and storytelling, originating from the islands of Polynesia and were invited by Bernard to join with him in performing dances including the Haka (especially entertaining when done to the words of ‘Humpty Dumpty’!).

‘Mana– The Spirit of Polynesia’, included dance, music, multicultural themes, history, geography, the importance of learning about heritage and the power of self-belief and respect.

A highlight of the performance was a hoop dance, originating from the Native American Indians, where Bernard used as many as seven hoops to create a story involving the significant animals of this culture. He captivated the girls with clever symbolic images, incredible transitions and amazing footwork. The girls enjoyed hearing about Bernard’s personal journey of discovery as he traced his own family history over many years and shared his feelings on the importance of learning about and valuing the stories that belong to your culture. He encouraged the girls to use their own family histories and traditions to discover their own ‘Mana’, the inner strength and confidence that comes from a strong sense of identity.

Robyn Sundberg
Teacher/Librarian
Junior School
The Cooking Club has been a resounding success in the Middle School since it began last year. Once a week, the Middle School girls have been excitedly venturing into the kitchen of Moss House, eager to learn new and delicious recipes.

**Mrs Margaret Rossborough**, our Art Assistant and talented home cook, has been wonderful in her role as ‘Fintona Chef’, imparting her vast knowledge about eating fresh and healthy food. Amongst the dishes our young chefs have created so far have been delectable fruit smoothies, the famous Italian appetizer bruschetta, scones served with cream and homemade jam and fresh herbed scones, vegetable fritters and rice paper rolls using ingredients from our newly established kitchen garden.

The girls thoroughly enjoy the Cooking Club classes and some, armed with their newly acquired skills, have enthusiastically cooked for their families, proudly showing what they learnt in these popular classes.

**Trish Leigh**  
Head of Middle School

1. Year 5 students (left to right) Catherine Zheng, Lauren Smith, Aleen Dhaliwal, Gabrielle Walker and Natalie Lim learning all about how to make delicious scones
2. Isabelle Moss, Mia Pope and Hannah Smit preparing the scones for baking
Students experience a life-changing trip to Madagascar

During the Term 3 holidays, while everyone was relaxing and enjoying springtime festivities, 18 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 jetted off to Madagascar with Mr Colton and two World Challenge leaders to explore and learn about the exotic and unique culture and landscape of this beautiful country.

At the beginning of the trip, we had our first encounters with the rare Golden Bamboo, Greater Bamboo, Brown and Mouse Lemurs and even met the lady who discovered some of these rare species. The rainforest was a lovely place to camp and trek, as well as to meet some local soccer players and experience the famous natural hot springs.

Our next phase was our main trek in Andringitra, where we scaled the highest climbable peak in Madagascar, Pic Imarivolanitra (Pic Boby) and learnt some of the fascinating stories of the land. The ten hour long day of climbing the peak was demanding to say the least, but immensely rewarding. Even camping higher than Mount Kosciuszko was rewarding, and the elation felt on reaching the peak of 2658 metres was a highlight of the expedition.

At the Isalo National Park, where the landscape was an extreme contrast to our previous treks, we explored the Maki and Rat canyons and swam in the Blue and Black natural swimming pools, all while learning more about the traditions of the Malagasy people and the native flora and fauna.

After a brief but relaxing stay in the coastal town of Ifaty, where we snorkeled, swam and relived the wonderful memories we had made so far, we flew back to the capital to begin our project phase at Akany Avoko, an organisation devoted to changing the lives of young children from broken families and disadvantaged backgrounds. During our stay, we managed to not only dig foundations for a new water system, but also buy school supplies with the money we had raised and, best of all, get to know the children and students of Akany Avoko.

The whole trip was a thoroughly rewarding and life-changing experience, filled with new friendships and a different understanding of the world around us.

Sarah Burger (Year 10) and Charlotte Crawford-Shires (Year 9)
With adjectives such as engaging, personally relevant, inspiring, awesome, really entertaining and passionate, girls described the immensely successful Fintona Writers’ Festival. This is not surprising given the sheer range of speakers who visited the School, including linguist Lyn Stone, who opened the event in Assembly.

Mrs Stone spoke at length about the magic of vowels and consonants, enthraling students with details of how the English language is constructed. Among her ‘millions’ of favourite words, she nominated consider due to its old French and Latin origins of ‘with’ (con) and ‘stars’ (sidus). In other words, when we are in the act of considering, we are among the stars.

The week swung into action with authors James Maloney, Michael Gerard Bauer, Glenda Millard, Gabrielle Wang and Carole Wilkinson, as well as poet and playwright Tom Petsinis.

We were privileged to hear from three journalists including Walkley-award winning James Button, Ann Rennie, and film reviewer Giles Hardie. Interviewed at length by Giles Hardie, Mr McInnes shared stories and anecdotes from his career, even performing re-enactments that had the audience crying with laughter. Among so many reflections, the actor acknowledged that while life is indeed serious, there is almost always a place for comedy, and always a place for writing.

The week finished on Friday with a treat, when the actor and author, William McInnes, arrived for a session with the senior students, teachers and parents. Interviewed at length by Giles Hardie, Mr McInnes shared stories and anecdotes from his career, even performing re-enactments that had the audience crying with laughter. Among so many reflections, the actor acknowledged that while life is indeed serious, there is almost always a place for comedy, and always a place for writing.

Jennifer Johnstone
English Co-ordinator

1. Asphyxia at work with her puppets
2. Author Glenda Millard enthraling her audience with one of her books
3. L-R: Fiona Longfield, Maree Gilbert, William McInnes, Giles Hardie, Emily Belyea, Robyn Sundberg and in front Jennifer Johnstone and Amanda Tehan
The Annual Music Concert, held in August, was a wonderful night of music-making and the girls performed so beautifully with a sense of spirit and fun. With a range of ages spanning from the Junior School to the Senior School, our talented musicians demonstrated just how strong the Music program is at Fintona.

Sam Seabrook
Music Co-ordinator
In late May, Mount Scopus Memorial College hosted the 2014 Rostrum competition. The following students competed across both the Junior and Senior Divisions:

Gayatri Chaturvedi: ‘Climb Every Mountain’

Lauren Miles: ‘We Hear What We Want to Hear’

Zara Wotherspoon: ‘We Hear What We Want to Hear’

Estelle Hanney: ‘Freedom or Licence’

Jemimah Hamilton: ‘Freedom or Licence’

Whilst all our girls are commended for their fabulous efforts, Jemimah Hamilton is especially to be congratulated for winning the semi-finals. Year 11 student, Smita Bhattacharjee, cup winner of the Elizabeth M Butt Public Speaking Award for 2014. Smita was one of six finalists in the Senior Section who were required to interpret the quotation by famous fashion designer, Coco Chanel, who quipped, ‘There are people who have money and people who are rich’. The Great Balloon Debate was won by Year 9 student, Meredyth Lee, who, as Charles Darwin, argued convincingly and sincerely why ‘he’ deserved to stay afloat.

The Junior section was won by Year 7 student, Aahana Dudani, who explained to the audience her reasons for wanting to possess an ‘undo’ button for life.

Suzan Davies
Public Speaking Co-ordinator

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Salvation Army’s Red Shield Appeal doorknock and on Sunday 25 May, a group of 27 Year 10 -12 Fintona girls, accompanied by Ms Ackermann and Ms Goldsworthy, participated in a fundraising effort where they door knocked houses in the Hawthorn area. The major part of the money raised on this vital weekend is used to address the problems of poverty, addiction and abuse. An impressive $3,267 was raised on the day and consequently Fintona was placed as runner up in the Salvos’ Schools Competition. Well done to all of those who were involved and we are looking forward to next year’s effort.

Christa Ackermann
Community Service Co-ordinator

Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon and showed the world what an amazing athlete she really is. She competed in both the 800m and 4x400m relay. Over 170 countries participated in the championships to determine the best Under 20 athletes in the world. In the 800m, she ran a strong race to come fourth. She backed up a day later to win a place in the finals of the 4x400m relay. Her new personal best time made Georgia the fifth fastest U20 Australian 800m runner ever. Georgia’s school friends and teaching staff watched her race live and cheered her on knowing that she would perform well.

INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY SCHOLARSHIP

Year 12 student, Weiann Tan, was one of the recipients of the Indonesian Independence Day Scholarship 2014 awarded by the Victorian Indonesian Language Teachers’ Association (VILTA). As part of her scholarship, she spent a weekend in Canberra in August, to celebrate the 69th Indonesian Independence Day with the Indonesian Embassy. This trip enriched Weiann’s understanding and
knowledge of Indonesian culture and language, so much so that she considers the experience one of the highlights of her school life. A special thank you to Ibu (Mrs Yvette Soedarsono) for her unwavering support and encouragement.

**GSV ATHLETICS FINALS EVENING**

Amy Atkinson, Sophie Schwerkolt, Shona Li and Georgia Griffith represented Fintona at the GSV Finals Evening in August where 23 girls’ schools participated. All four girls performed extremely well and produced some amazing results; Amy ran an outstanding 800m to come home in second place in the first track event of the night. Sophie was terrific in her 400m race and came home in third place from lane 1, which is a fantastic effort! She also came fourth in her high jump event. Georgia was amazing again with a first place in 400m, 800m and 1500m, making it look effortless. She also broke two records for the night, one in the 400m and the other in the 800m which she broke by five seconds. Shona was fourth in her hurdles, completing a very good race. Well done girls.

Clare Sanders
Art Teacher

**Melbourne Spring Fashion Week in September.**

The Year 10 student showcased her dress at the Fintona fashion parade which caught the eye of a keen fashion aficionado who wanted it as part of the Artz runway at Melbourne Spring Fashion Week.

**CLARE SANDERS**
Art Teacher

**SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH (STS)**

This year’s Science Talent Search theme was ‘Food for our Future’. As is the case every year, Fintona girls performed extremely well with 41 students receiving bursaries.

The following girls received Major Bursaries – the highest award possible in the competition.

**Primary Division (Years 5 & 6):**

- Aileen Dhaliwal, Emily Kha, Mietta Morris, Georgia Georgarakis, Dasheille Reid, Sophia Zavros, Jaqueline Xavier and Emily Muniratna

**Junior Secondary Division (Years 7 & 8):**

- Piper Besley, Venus Yu, Xenia Zubenko, Esther Hamilton and Freya Solnordal

A special word of congratulations to the following students whose projects have been selected for entry into the prestigious BHP Billiton Science and Engineering 2015 Awards:

- Jemimah Hamilton, Year 10
- L-R: Meredyth Lee, Smita Bhattacharjee, Miss Elizabeth Butt OAM and Aahana Dudani
- Emily Demeris, Year 12, Community Service Captain
- Georgia Griffith, second from left, competing in the World Junior Athletics Championships in July
- Weiann Tan with the Indonesian Ambassador to Australia
- L-R: Carly Atkinson, Dasheille Reid, Georgia Georgarakis, Mietta Morris, Ashley Tan, Emily Muniratna and Anya Latti with their congratulatory cupcake after performing so well in Chess.
- Adél Móra Borbély with her Art Teacher, Clare Sanders and the dress featured in this year’s Melbourne Spring Fashion Week
- The Major Bursary winners in the Primary and Junior Secondary Divisions

**JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONS**

In August, a group of Year 6 girls took part in the Zonal Qualifiers for Chess Victoria. All the girls performed extremely well with Fintona being placed third overall. This was particularly pleasing as most of the other schools had more competitors than us. Of particular note, Carly Atkinson came third receiving a High Distinction and the Girls Gold Medal and Anya Latti came tenth receiving a Distinction and the Girls Bronze Medal. Both of these girls have qualified for the Chess Victoria State Finals to be held in Term 4. The other girls in the team were Georgia Georgarakis, Emily Muniratna, (who both received Credits), Ashley Tan, Dasheille Reid and Mietta Morris.

Trish Leigh
Head of Junior School

**ADÉL’S DRESS FEATURED IN MELBOURNE SPRING FASHION WEEK**

When Adél Móra Borbély created her first ever garment, she did not imagine it would be featured in this year’s Melbourne Spring Fashion Week in September.

The Year 10 student showcased her dress at the Fintona fashion parade which caught the eye of a keen fashion aficionado who wanted it as part of the Artz runway at Melbourne Spring Fashion Week.

Clare Sanders
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Trish Leigh
Head of Junior School
Brittany Creek

Brittany has been at Fintona since 2003 teaching in the Junior School. She is a very experienced teacher, having taught mainly Prep to Year 2 classes throughout her 16 year career. This year, for the first time at Fintona, she is teaching Prep and loving it.

What have you found to be your most rewarding experience so far this year teaching Prep?

I have been hoping for 11 years to teach Prep, at Fintona and this year I finally got my chance. My passion is teaching Prep, so I would have to say the most rewarding experience is being able to do something that I love. There is never a dull moment when teaching five year olds and they are always coming up with new ways to make me laugh. Watching the girls blossom this year and seeing how far they have come in such a short space of time is very rewarding.

After 11 years at Fintona what do you still find exciting to teach?

Teaching children to love learning and to always ask questions is still something that I find exciting. I know that I will never be able to teach them everything they need to know, but if I can teach them how to love learning then they will forever be able to find the answers to the questions that they ask.

Kasey Stanaway

Kasey Stanaway began teaching at Fintona in 2012 and is the Co-ordinator of Physical Education. Being active is a very large part of Kasey’s personality and she is working diligently with her students to instil in them the values of team work, leadership and confidence through physical activity. She is also a very talented sportswoman who played netball at a professional level with the Melbourne Vixens. Kasey’s love for sport extends to other members of her family including brother Clint who can be seen on Channel 9 presenting the Sports Report.

What do you consider to be your special talents and passion in life apart from teaching, of course?

When I was at school, I learnt five instruments and was the music captain in Year 12. It has been a long time since I have been able to use this talent except if you include singing to my children to get them to sleep!

What do you like to do in your spare time?

If I think about my passion in life, I would have to say that it is being a mum to my two beautiful girls, Phoebe 7 and Eliza 5.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

When I’m not thinking about school, I love spending time with my family. We are lucky enough to have parents with houses at the beach and on the farm, so my spare time is spent escaping Melbourne and going to Sorrento and Heathcote. They are totally different experiences. One we go to, to relax and catch up on the family happenings and the other is to completely return to nature and with it, all the jobs related to working on the farm. Feeding the alpacas and tending to the olive grove. All in all, a well rounded life I think!
When did you develop your love for sport and physical activity?

My love for sport developed many years ago. Growing up with two older brothers, I was exposed to many sports such as cricket and football and all I desperately wanted to do was play with them. My eldest brother spent many hours teaching me how to catch, throw and kick a football, and by the time I reached primary school, I could do all these things better than most of the boys (and girls) in my class. In grade three, I started playing netball and reluctantly agreed to play in the grade four netball team, instead of with my friends. Unbeknown to me, this would pave the way for me to start a netball career.

You are an accomplished sportswoman having played netball at a professional level with the Melbourne Vixens. Tell us about that experience and what impact it had on your life.

Apart from playing for the Melbourne Vixens, what other sporting achievements can you claim.

I spent two years at the Australian Institute of Sport on a netball scholarship, yet another highlight of my life so far. During this time I also represented Australia in the U/21 team and went on many overseas tours playing netball.

I have represented Victoria for 12 years and have been a captain on numerous occasions. Representing Victoria when I was 17 was incredible and over the years netball has provided me with the opportunity to travel around Australia and make lots of great friends who I will hopefully have for many years to come.

Then there is of course, the backyard cricket title, which to this day, I still hold over my very competitive brothers.

What is it about being a PE teacher at Fintona that gives you the most satisfaction. The girls are a delight to teach and always make the most of every opportunity presented to them and this is no different in Physical Education and Sport. I also love how well you get to know the girls due to the intimate environment of the School, as well as the rapport and relationships that you can form.

I’m very proud of our girls when we’re out competing against other schools. They’re always so enthusiastic and determined. They uphold sportsmanship at all times and exude leadership.

What other interests, besides sport, do you like?

I love drinking coffee and discovering new cafes. I thoroughly enjoy cooking, particularly when my whole family comes together and I have developed a passion for travel. Recently, I went abroad to Europe and cannot wait to explore more countries to experience different cultures and eat amazing food.
Our Amazing Art Show 2014

This year’s Art Show displayed the amazing creativity and imagination of our very talented students from ELC to Year 12. The exhibition of wonderful artworks vibrantly filled the Margaret Cunningham Hall, showcasing a wide variety of work from textiles, to photography to fineliner drawings.

Brit Biviano
Art Co-ordinator

1. Ayla Edwards, Year 9, Digital print
2. Maiysha Moin, Year 7, Mixed media on paper
3. Prep, Peg dolls
4. Mia Pope, Year 5, Cut paper on card
5. ELC, Sunflower drawings
6. Candy Zeng, Year 8, Ink on paper
7. Briannah McKernan, Year 10, Fineliner drawing
8. Joanne So, Year 10, Cotton ink on acetate
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM

In August, our Senior School students presented their interpretation of Shakespeare’s magical comedy, A Midsummer Night’s Dream. The all-girl cast brilliantly brought to life the world of the confused lovers, meddling fairies and befuddled actors. As usual, our students skilfully filled all of the stagecraft roles, such as lighting, sound and costume. Audiences were amazed by the students’ acting and comic skills and their ability to make Shakespeare’s language so easily understandable.

John Thomson
Director and Drama Co-ordinator

1. Demetrius (Gemion Court) and Lysander (Emma Schwerkolt) prevent Hermia (Ella DuVé) from attacking her rival in love, Helena.

2. Helena (Victoria Accadia) experiences the pain of unrequited love.

3. Oberon (Morgan Hamilton) orders his servant Puck (Tamara Ruggiero) to fetch him a magical flower.

4. The ‘rude mechanicals’ (Georgia Ward, Eliza Truscott, Lucy Seale, Eva Lewis-Col and Brydie Parker) perform an improvised dance for the assembled wedding guests (Ella DuVé, Emma Schwerkolt, Victoria Accadia, Gemion Court, Hannah Evans, Shimene Phelan and Rana El-Bay).

5. Quince (Brydie Parker) introduces two characters from his play – Pyramus (Eliza Truscott) and Wall (Eva Lewis-Col). Egeus (Rana El-Bay) watches on.
JAPAN TOUR 2014

A group of Years 10 and 11 Japanese students, accompanied by Mrs Hawker, Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Kirkman, embarked on the long awaited tour of Japan during the first two weeks of the September holidays. Blessed by the magnificent early autumn weather, a great time was had by all in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Kyoto and Nara, with the last five days spent at our sister school, Yokohama Eiwa Girls School, bringing the tour to an unforgettable finale.

Yoko Kirkman
Japanese Teacher

This year, Fintona invited Dr Craig Hassed to provide mindfulness sessions with staff to assist the integration of mindfulness into our classrooms. Craig is a senior lecturer and mindfulness consultant at Monash University. He is an internationally recognised expert on mindfulness and his holistic approach builds connections between the mind and body.

Mindfulness involves learning to pay attention to the present moment, which can be much easier said than done. It is completely normal for our minds to wander, whether it’s worrying about future events that may or may not happen, dwelling in the past or just daydreaming. Mindfulness is essentially attention training that uses cognitive strategies to disengage from unproductive thought patterns and behaviours. By focusing on the ‘here and now’, an open and non-judgmental attitude can develop towards the self and others.

There are many benefits of practising mindfulness, from reducing stress, anxiety and depression symptoms to improving relationships, sleep quality and school or work performance. It also has a significant effect on shaping the brain, thus increasing cognitive performance, in particular, enhancing memory, concentration and processing speed.

Mindfulness can have such a positive impact on our health, emotional intelligence, communication, learning and performance; hence, Fintona’s initiative of incorporating mindfulness into our school life.

Fiona Williams
School Counsellor

“There is nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it so”
William Shakespeare

Craig Hassed with School Counsellor Fiona Williams
Fintona High Tea

On Saturday 24 May, the Fintona Parents’ Association hosted its first High Tea. The Margaret Cunningham Hall was transformed with tables dressed in white, laden with tiered cake stands filled with delicious scones, sweet and savoury tarts, sandwiches, biscuits, sausage rolls and other delectable delights. Around 65 lovely ladies enjoyed the afternoon which was another great opportunity to mingle with Fintona mums, grandmas and students over tea, coffee and pink lemonade. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and came along. 😊

1. Lauren Smith with her mum Bernadette Roach
2. L-R: Students Emma Goodieson, Noor Tal, Antonietta Di Censo with their mums Rola, Lisa and Rose

Dads’ Beef and Burgundy Night

The second annual Fintona Dads’ Beef and Burgundy Night was held on Friday 25 July 2014 in the Margaret Cunningham Hall. This night provides a wonderful opportunity for dads both past and present to come together in a casual social environment. Approximately 50 dads attended and enjoyed a great social night, a sensational BBQ with meat supplied by Tip Top Butchers (thank you Renata Jenkins), delicious salads from Miss Peppercorn before finishing the night with a cheese and fruit platter. 😊

Anne-Maree McKernan
President FPA

Fintona dads enjoying a chat at the Beef and Burgundy Night
The Board and Management acknowledge with sincere appreciation the philanthropic gifts made by all members of our community: parents, grandparents, alumni, staff and friends. Please accept our thanks for your support. In 2013/14, the following families have kindly given to the Building Fund through their voluntary contribution on their fee statement.

Note: Building Fund donations from 1/7/13 – 30/6/14
Acknowledgements

Mr S Manolaros & Ms E Argyrou
Mr E Mantinaos & Mrs A Meek
Mrs D Marco
Mr B L Masters & Ms D P Fleming
Dr B & Mrs B Mayall
Mr K & Mrs J McGuigan
Prof P McIntyre & Dr S Hood
Mr R Mifsud & Ms W Rossi
Mr D & Mrs K Miles
Mr J & Mrs H Mitchell
Dr K Moiuddin & Mrs T Islam
Ms C E Monoghan
Mr D J Montague & Ms M J Ferguson
Mr M R Morris & Ms J C Brett-Morris
Dr M Mukhif & Dr S Abdullah
Ms J Mulhauser & Mr J Kiellerup

N
Mr S & Mrs L Nania
Mr G Neave & Ms C Ang
Dr P R & Dr J Neil
Mr P & Mrs H Nguyen
Mr T A & Mrs T Nguyen
Mr M M Nihalsingha & Mrs A R De Silva

O
Mrs D M O’Brien
Dr A Opat & Ms F Symons
Dr R Orme & Dr M McCann
Mr M & Mrs C Oxnam

P
Mr J R & Mrs J L Pace
Mr X Pan & Mrs Z Zhou
Mr B Pandey & Mrs R Arora
Mr S & Mrs A Papadopoulos
Mr J & Mrs R Parker
Mr S H & Ms E K Parmenter
Miss J Pearce
Mr & Mrs S Pelusi
Mr M & Dr I Pete
Mr K & Mrs R Phulwani
Mr C R Pike & Ms G Meyer
Mr D Pisker
Mr M & Mrs J Plymin
Mr H Poon & Ms S Tang
Dr A S & Mrs A B Powles
Mr D Puglia & Mrs N Robinson

R
Mr M Rahimi & Dr M Jalilian
Mr T Rayson-Hill
Mr S A & Mrs F Reid
Mr B R & Mrs J Roberts
Mr M & Mrs C J Roche
Mr R H Rose & Ms K L Metz
Mr D & Mrs N Rowson

S
Dr S Salimi & Dr M Horriat
Mr S D & Mrs N Santharajah
Mr P T & Mrs D J Schroeder
Mr S Shen & Mrs E Fan
Mr J Shi & Mrs Y Hu
Mr J D Shirley & Mrs J Wu
Mr K Shu & Mrs N Zhou
Dr A Singh & Dr P Bordbar
Mr A & Mrs S Smith
Mr C W & Mrs B Smith
Mr G J Smith & Ms B D Roach
Mr K K So & Ms P W Tam

Dr C Solnordal & Dr A Dennis
Mr G & Mrs J Stanley
Dr G & Mrs A Stefanou
Mr A I Stevenson & Dr R A MacBeth
Mr D & Mrs R Sticca

T
Mr B & Mrs M Tan
Mr E & Mrs E Tan
Mr D Tang & Mrs S Li
Mr Z Tang & Mrs Y Yu
Mr H A & Mrs Y Taouk
Mr G W Thomas & Mrs J Pavri-Thomas
Mr M M Thompson & Ms K M Parker
Dr C M Trambas & Dr J Mol
Dr A S Thavarasah
Dr D Tran & Mrs C Huynh
Dr H Tran & Dr J Huynh
Mr T H Tran & Dr T T T Cao
Mr H & Mrs C Truong
Mr C & Mrs S Tsigaridis
Mr L Tsiros & Ms S Lee
Mr J Tu & Ms R Yang
Mr H Turner

V
Dr O D & Dr F Valianatos
Mr M & Mrs A Van Der Arend
Mr E & Mrs C J Vasilas
Dr A & Ms K Velakoulis
Mr S & Ms M Verrocchi

W
Mr R & Mrs J Wainer
Mr C Wang & Mrs L Zhou
Ms E Wang & Mr J Luo
Mr H H T Wang & Ms A Chui

Dr J Wang & Ms L Liu
Mr J Wang & Ms D Qiu
Mr L Wang & Ms C Liu
Mr X Wang & Mrs Y Shao
Mr Z Wang & Ms P Wu
Mr P & Dr L Waring
Mr M D & Mrs S Weedon
Mr T & Mrs C L Wells
Mr H Williams & Dr L P Pellegrini
Mr R S Wotherspoon & Ms T S Penovic
Mr S X Q Wu & Ms X Lu

X
Dr D & Mrs P Xu

Y
Mr E F Yakop & Mrs L Dwijayanti
Mr Y Yan & Ms J Qin
Mr B Yang & Ms Y Wang
Mr Z Yang & Mrs H Shan
Mr Y Ye & Ms Y Sheng
Mr T Yeoh & Ms S Wong
Ms S Yu
Mr Q Yuan & Ms J Zheng
Mr M Yung & Ms L Jap

Z
Mr J & Mrs D Zaicos
Mr S Zamani & Mrs F Abbasi
Mr C P & Mrs G Zapis
Mr W Zhang & Mrs H Deng
Mr Y Zhang & Mrs F Lin
Mr H X Zheng & Ms L Lin
Mr C Zhou & Ms Y Shen
Mr V Zubenko & Mrs T Derevyanko
Dr R & Dr Y Zwar
We are very grateful for the generosity of the Fintona Community and thank you for your support of the 2014 Annual Giving Appeal towards the Library, Scholarship and Art Precinct funds.

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Deaths

The Fintona community is saddened to learn of the deaths of:

Jane Burgess (Woodard ‘49)  
21/10/13

Barbara Mitchell Kurtz  
(Bellair ’30)  
24/4/14

Jillian Bartold (Tanner ‘53)  
8/5/14

Joyce Hinchliffe (Wait ‘49)  
22/7/14

Sandra Bedggood (‘57)  
17/8/14

Elizabeth Chisholm (Box ’52)  
21/8/14

Shirley Sleigh (Stuart ’44)  
29/8/14

Cherie Powell (Overell ’62)  
23/9/14

Elizabeth Margaret Clarke  
(Wood ’36) 16/10/14

Obituaries

Jane Burgess  
(Woodard ’49)  
26/8/31 – 21/10/13

Jane was an all-round student at Fintona. She was a Prefect in 1949 and represented Fintona in a number of sporting teams. Upon leaving School, Jane trained to become a Kindergarten Teacher and as a mature aged student received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from University of Melbourne. Jane was much loved and is sadly missed by all who knew her.

Joyce Hinchliffe (Wait ’49)  
9/9/31 – 22/7/14

Joy spent all of her school years at Fintona from Prep to Year 12. She was outstanding in the sports arena, a School Prefect and a highly respected student and friend. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Elizabeth Chisholm (Box ’52)  
27/8/35 – 21/8/14

Libby attended Fintona from 1941 to 1953 and was an enthusiastic participant in all School activities including sport, drama, music as well as being Editor of the School magazine. After leaving Fintona, Libby spent a year at the University of Melbourne then transferred to a Secretarial course before working for ASIO. Libby went overseas in 1957 and in London met and married Ross Chisholm, a Perth architect, and returned to Perth to live. She maintained close ties with her group of Fintona friends, coming to Melbourne each year to spend a few days away with this group: Anne Randall (Montgomery), Andree Peter (Joubert), Biffy Robertson (Bedggood), Jocie Davies (Camm), Anne Hawkins (Williams) and Gillian Johnson (Hickman). Libby became very involved in the wide network of Ross’ friends in Perth and enjoyed supporting the interests of their two children, Craig and Katrina. In the 1960s, with Kate Collin (Dorothy McIlwraith Smith), Libby started the West Australian Branch of the Old Fintonians’ Association. She was the Hon. Secretary for many years, keeping meticulous records of their activities. Libby was a widow for over 15 years and suffered a gradual decline in memory and mental acuity in recent years. Her daughter Katrina maintained a high level of support and also organised a great team of carers so Libby could remain in the home that Ross designed for her 60th birthday. Libby enjoyed listening to music and loved joining in singing with a tape recording of Fintona songs. As Katrina wrote in the Eulogy, Libby’s carers would probably be a welcome addition to a Fintona choir, knowing the School song particularly well! The Eulogy, written by Craig and Katrina, was read at the funeral by Libby’s cousin, Nancy Hillier, a former Vice Principal of Fintona. The Eulogy finished with the following words - “Age Quod Agis forever”. ✿
OLIVIA HITS THE HIGH NOTES

Only four years into performing professionally, and already Olivia Cranwell ('05) is making headlines as an up and coming opera singer. After completing Year 12 in 2005, Olivia studied a double degree of Bachelor of Arts (Music) at the Victorian College of the Arts and a Bachelor of Arts at Melbourne University. In 2012, she was selected as one of only eight singers out of 45 who auditioned for a scholarship to Melbourne University’s inaugural Master of Music (Opera Performance). Whilst undertaking her Masters, Olivia was accepted to the position of Developing Artist with the Victorian Opera where she performed in her first professional opera, ‘The Magic Pudding’, followed by a role in ‘Puss in Boots’. After many years performing with the Youth Opera, Olivia is now singing with the Victorian Opera, Opera Australia, and as a soloist in the Victorian Opera Gala. Her budding opera career has already seen her perform in Germany and England.

Olivia is now singing with the Victorian Opera, Opera Australia, and as a soloist in the Victorian Opera Gala.

Recently, Olivia was chosen as one of six emerging Australian singers to contest the 90th anniversary 2014 Herald Sun Aria. Next year, Olivia will be covering the main stage roles of Butterfly in Puccini’s ‘Madame Butterfly’ and Countess in Mozart’s ‘The Marriage of Figaro’ for Opera Australia.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOUISA ROSE ('87) WHO WAS VOTED BEST WINEMAKER IN AUSTRALIA

Recently, The Age newspaper asked 100 wine experts to decide the country’s top 10 wine producers and voted Louisa Rose number 1. This is a great acknowledgement from her peers who consider her to be one of the most influential winemakers in Australia. Louisa is currently the Head of Winemaking at Yalumba winery and the Hill-Smith Family Vineyards in South Australia. She is acknowledged as Australia’s top Riesling maker under Yalumba’s Pewsey Vale label and is also well known for her Viognier.

INTERNATIONAL ITUNES SUCCESS FOR VICTORIA

After a recent trip to the Apple Headquarters in Sydney to learn about iTunes U platform, Victoria Spicer-Stuart (Spicer '01), has created an iTunes U Year 8 history course called Shogun Japan which has been picked up by teachers all around the world including in China and the US. Victoria is Head of Middle School Learning at Beaconsbills College and aims to create more courses in the future.
ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AWARDED TO DR CAROLINE HOFFMAN OAM (DOYLE ’73)

Congratulations to Dr Caroline Hoffman OAM who was honoured to receive the Medal of the Order of Australia in June for service to community health through breast cancer support organisations. Caroline began her career as a social worker at The Children’s Protection Society but following a switch to nursing, worked at Prince Henry’s Hospital Intensive Care Unit prior to leaving for the UK in 1985. She worked in intensive care for a total of nine years where she also practised, taught and researched the impact of complementary approaches in this setting. In 1993, she changed direction to provide integrative support for people with cancer at the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine. She currently works as Clinical and Research Director at The Haven, a registered UK national charity with centres in England providing free psychological support and complementary therapies to people with breast cancer. Her doctoral work evaluated mindfulness-based stress reduction in breast cancer and was published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology in April 2012. Her small research team evaluates cutting edge integrative approaches. Caroline has spent over 25 years in the field of integrative healthcare in practice, education and research. She was Deputy Editor of the Elsevier Journal Complementary Therapies in Clinical Practice for 10 years and has published widely.

Class of 1994 20 Year Reunion
FRIDAY 16 MAY, 2014

1. Class of 1994
2. L – R: Kirsten Bailey, Emma Beaurepaire
3. L – R: Georgia Wilson (Warwick), Melissa Pandeli, Kate McElwain

Reunions
Class of 2004
10 Year Reunion
FRIDAY
20 JUNE, 2014

1. L – R: Kate Dehnert, Georgie Whiting and Lizzie Gleadow
2. L – R: Kate Cummings, Mythili Rudra, Jessie Chen, Stacey Harris, Julie Goldsworthy, Amy Hinkins
3. Class of 2004

Class of 1984
30 Year Reunion
FRIDAY
25 JULY, 2014

1. Class of 1984
2. L- R: Suzy Sutherland (Wintle), Miss Butt, Debbie Boothroyd (Wilshire), Philippa Molnar (Duxbury)
3. L–R: Mary Jane Glasson, Fiona Glen, Sam Wilson (Rogers)
NSW/ACT
Reunion
THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2014

Front to back L – R: Suzy Chandler, Principal, Liz (Squeak) Parsons (Bennett ’58), Jeannie Mee (Heggie ’61), Heather Landers (Knox ’55), Rose Wellington (’85), Barbara Jaccaud (Hayton ’51), Marg Bailey (Clarke ’71)

Art Show Tour and Afternoon Tea
FRIDAY 8 AUGUST, 2014

Back Row L - R: Margaret Bruns (Loughnan ’44), Rebecca Vercoe (Johnson ’82), Anna Clapin (Wood ’48), Sarah O’Sullivan (Harold ’83), Suzanne Fairlie (’50)

Front Row L - R: Jennifer Mathews (’77), Lynette Clayton (Handley ’52), Kate Collin (McIlwraith-Smith ’53), Elizabeth Chisholm (Box ’52)

Inaugural UK Europe Reunion in London
SATURDAY 12 JULY, 2014

Front to back L – R: Margaret Morgan, Marian Paynter, Barbara Shaw, Amanda Gordon, Nan Barnes, Judy Moyes, Margaret Hams, Jenny Della Torre, Ruby Kirwan, Dorothy Marsh

NSW/ACT
Reunion
THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2014
## Reunion Dates 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Reunion Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>40 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 13 March</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>Monday 10 August Glenferrie Hotel, Hawthorn</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>20 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 15 May</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>Monday 9 November Kirks on the Esplanade, Mornington</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>10 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 24 July</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Mel Marsh (Merilyn Seward ‘58) Phone: 5984 4436 0407 855 538</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>30 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 24 July</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>UK/Europe Reunion Saturday 11 July Lunch at a central London restaurant</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>5 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 23 October</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>INTERSTATE/ COUNTRY REUNIONS Benalla Benalla Art Gallery Wednesday 22 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>50 Year Reunion</td>
<td>Friday 13 November</td>
<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>WA Saturday 9 May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Art Show Tour &amp; Afternoon Tea</td>
<td>Thursday 13 August</td>
<td>2pm – 4pm</td>
<td>NSW/ACT Thursday 10 September (50th year reunion)</td>
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### Fintona Girls’ School Company Membership and the Fintona Board

Fintona Girls’ School is overseen by a Board of Directors. Upon her retirement, Miss Margaret Cunningham bequeathed the School to the Fintona community in the form of a Company (limited by Guarantee). As such, the actions of Board of Directors of the Company are governed by the Corporations Act 2001. The Board of Directors is elected by and accountable to the Company's members (like shareholders) and an AGM is held annually for the Board to report to the members of the Company.

Membership of the Board is primarily drawn from the Fintona Girls’ School Company, and we would encourage anyone wanting to put themselves forward as a possible Board Member to join the Company. To become a Company member you must be a past student or current/former staff member.

The role of the Board is to ensure Fintona’s viability and that its values are continually upheld especially as the School adapts to the changing needs of

### Join the OFA Facebook Group

The Old Fintonians’ Alumni are excited to announce the launch of the official Old Fintonians’ Alumni Facebook Group. Please join the group to keep up to date with Alumni news including reunion dates and photos, past students’ achievements, and School community events and news.

The group is also a great way to reconnect with old school friends. If your contact details change, feel free to private message the School via the page too.

Old Fintonians’ Alumni (Official) www.facebook.com/groups/ofafintona ♫
its students and the broader community. The Board sets the strategic direction of the School and also sets and oversees the budget. It is also an important role of the Board to actively manage succession planning and renewal. The Board does not, however, have a role in the day to day management of the school.

Further information and an application form is available on the website but you may also contact the Company Secretary, Hirian Hinson at Hhinson@fintona.vic.edu.au for further information.

Amanda McMahon, Board Chair

Dana Fleming, Board Chair from 2015

History Project Survey – Can you help us?

HistorySmiths Pty Ltd has been commissioned by Fintona Girls’ School to write a history of the School to be published in 2016, coinciding with the School’s 120th anniversary. Claire Levi (Buckner 1972-1982; Old Fintonian) from HistorySmiths is undertaking this work. We would very much appreciate it if you could complete the survey. For students who left before 1960, a paper survey is enclosed. For those who left after 1960, an electronic survey has been created and can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/FGSHistoryProject

Anecdotes about teachers, memorable classroom activities or general school activities are particularly helpful.

The answers will assist in the research for this project. If anyone has any additional information about the School or any material written by girls when they were actually at School, for example letters or diaries, or would like to discuss the project, please contact Claire at claire.levi@bigpond.com

The survey closes on November 30, 2014.

Claire Levi
Historian
OPEN DAY

FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL 2014

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER

79 Balwyn Road, Balwyn
Open Day 10am - 12pm. Visit our website to book.
Food & Wine Festival 11am - 4pm

Gourmet food and wine stalls + Boutique beers + Children’s amusements
For more information, visit our website or call 9830 1388. ALL WELCOME

www.fintona.vic.edu.au