Key moments in Perth College history were re-enacted in a celebration of the School’s centenary in Mount Lawley when more than 100 guests toured the campus on the evening of Thursday 2 June, stopping at significant buildings to watch performances by girls from both the Junior and Senior Schools.

A scene from My Fair Lady was performed near the Art department, which was originally the site of the assembly hall.

Students acting as boarders brought to life a two-storey brick house – the last building finished before the Great Depression – with a scene on the grand staircase. This building formerly housed boarding students as well as the Sisters who ran Perth College.

A Junior School choir highlighted the magnificence of the Chapel, for which the foundation stone was laid in 1926, while students performed a synchronised swimming routine near the swimming pool.

Among the attendees was Anne Hairsine, who graduated from Perth College in 1956 and later taught from 1982 until 2002. The School’s Drama Studio is named in her honour. Also in attendance was Dorothy Martin, who boarded at Perth College from a farm in Bencubbin and had not returned to the School since leaving in 1941.

Many of the Old Girls who attended added their own personal touches to the tour, sharing special memories and telling fellow guests about the founding Sisters, original facilities and school rules.

Principal, Jenny Ethell, said while the School had evolved during its 100 years in Mount Lawley, the values instilled in the students of hard work and humility had remained the same.
Dear friends,

This has been a particularly sentimental year at Perth College as we celebrate 100 years of educating girls in Mount Lawley.

2016 began with a special assembly to recognise those families in which generations – in some cases, four or five – have attended Perth College.

In June, an evening School tour prompted many of our former students to recall stories of their school days. One said she often crept down Beaufort Street for fish and chips every Friday afternoon!

By the time you read this, we would have held a long table dinner, bringing together 200 people for a three-course meal with a medieval theme and roving entertainers.

In August, we will celebrate our foundation by the Community of the Sisters of the Church with a concert. Additionally, the contribution to education and the Anglican Church of the Sisters will be recognised in unique stained glass windows to be erected within St George’s Cathedral in Perth later this year.

I am grateful to the Mount Lawley community for its support of our School over the past 100 years and I hope you continue to engage with our school via the various events and activities on offer.

Warm regards,
Jenny Ethell

A Note from the Principal

Community Service

Perth College girls are making a difference in the lives of less fortunate children.

More than 30 students – and one teacher – volunteered to cut their hair for charity on Thursday 2 June.

In front of a large audience, they donated up to 30cm of their hair for Variety’s Princess Charlotte Alopecia Foundation, which creates wigs made from human hair to instil confidence and self-esteem in children affected by the condition.

“Hair is something we take for granted and donating our clippings will return some normality to these kids’ lives,” Head Girl, Claire Bowen, said.

The initiative raised more than $4,000 for the Foundation.

Year 10 students who volunteered at the orphanage during April, as part of Perth College’s annual immersion experience. The School is now in its 12th year of partnering with Awareness Cambodia.

Principal, Jenny Ethell, said the School’s service ethos stemmed from it’s founding Sisters, who saw the potential for women to make a significant contribution to the community.

“With privilege comes responsibility, and so we continue to instil in the girls the importance of making a difference,” she said.

To Cambodia with love. Dolls made for Cambodian orphans.
Development Update

Anticipation is growing as Perth College prepares for construction of its new Senior Learning and Leadership Centre.

The School expects to appoint a builder soon and works are scheduled to begin in September.

Principal, Jenny Ethell, said the recent centenary celebrations had shown how the School had evolved throughout its history.

“Our new facility will ensure that legacy continues for the next generation of Perth College girls,” she said.

The Centre will incorporate flexible spaces that mirror universities and modern workplaces. Eleven classrooms across two levels will have retractable walls to allow for collaborative learning, exam spaces and lectures and workshops by guest speakers.

Mrs Ethell said common areas would be of a flexible design for small group work or individual study.

“This will enable students to take responsibility for their own learning, to exercise self-leadership and independence in the way they choose to study,” she said.

Perth College will continue to keep neighbours informed of progress on the development of the Centre.

Road to Rio

The School community will be cheering loudly for two former students when the 2016 Olympic Games begin in August.

Brianna Throssell, who graduated in 2013, will compete in the 200m butterfly while Heidi Gan, a 2005 Leaver, will represent Malaysia in the 10km open water marathon.

Both are coached by Matt Magee through the Perth City Swimming Club, which trains in the Perth College pool.

“It takes a tremendous amount of work from a number of dedicated people for any athlete to prepare and then qualify for an Olympic Games,” Mr Magee said.

He said Brianna and Heidi were familiar with the rigours and requirements of elite international events, having competed around the world, and preparing for the Olympics would entail a similar approach.

Ms Gan said she would maintain her training routine, focusing on fitness and strength as well as injury management and rehabilitation.

“I remain confident in the training plan Matt and I put together which includes nine swimming sessions, two strength and conditioning sessions, and two physiotherapy/ massage treatments each week,” she said.
An Inspiring Leader

The Perth College community was thrilled when former student Rishelle Hume was named the 2016 Western Australian of the Year in the Aboriginal award category in June.

The 1992 Leaver returned to the School to make an inspiring speech at a NAIDOC Week dinner and spoke about being recognised for more than 20 years of work in advancing her culture in the areas of employment, education, justice and health, and for being a role model to young aboriginal athletes.

“It is so rewarding to be able to give back to the community and make a difference and impact for the better,” Ms Hume said.

As the Senior Human Resources Aboriginal Employment Consultant at Chevron, Ms Hume is eager to improve aboriginal leadership capabilities.

She dedicated her award to her grandparents, Patrick and Lorna Hume, who tirelessly promoted aboriginal rights and culture in the 1970s and 1980s and taught Ms Hume to help others be heard.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MUSIC FESTIVAL OF THE SISTERS OF THE CHURCH SCHOOLS
Judith Cottier Theatre, Perth College
Saturday 20 August 2016, 7.00 pm

A night of music-making by students of schools from around Australia and New Zealand that were founded by the Community of the Sisters of the Church.

SPRING CRAFTY MARKETS
Chapel Quad, Perth College
Thursday 16 September 2016, 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm

Year 10 students will run a pop-up market for the School and local communities as part of their Careers course, with profits donated to two-year-old meningococcal disease survivor, Robbie Buchan.

Visit our website www.perthcollege.wa.edu.au

WE INVITE OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY TO GET INVOLVED

POSITIVE EDUCATION CONFERENCE
Perth College campus
Friday 7 October 2016, 8.00 am to 5.00 pm

 Educators and allied health professionals from across Australia discuss strategies to boost student and staff wellbeing, with key speakers including The Positivity Institute founder, Dr Suzy Green. Register via www.trybooking.com/HLSA before Friday 30 September.

INFORMATION SESSION AND COMMUNITY TOUR
Perth College campus
Thursday 3 November 2016, 5.00 pm

See how Perth College inspires learning; meet the Principal and tour the campus.

CHRISTMAS FAIR AND CAROLS
Perth College Oval (Beaufort Street)
Sunday 27 November 2016
Fair from 3.00 pm to 6.30 pm
Carols from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm

Enjoy a variety of stalls including craft, activities, food and rides all coordinated by the School community, and stay for an evening of carols and festive entertainment.

A SHOW CASE OF MUSIC
Perth College campus
Friday 21 October 2016, 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm

Our intermediate ensembles perform. Admission is free.

THE PC CHALLENGE
Perth College campus
27 to 29 January 2017

Regional students in Years 5 and 6 are invited to experience life in our Boarding House during the Australia Day long weekend before moving away from home for their secondary schooling. The event is free – the only cost is transport to and from the School.

For enquiries or more details on these events, please email development@pc.wa.edu.au or contact the Perth College Development Office on 9471 2146.