

OLD STUDENTS' UNION
Newsletter [No. 24] 1974

President: Mrs. B. Marsden, 41 Calga Street, East Roseville, 2069.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. C. Bell, 32 Gore Street, Greenwich, 2065.
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. C. Evatt, 51 Finlay Road, Warrawee, 2074.
Committee: Mrs. J. Evans, 47 Bundarra Road, Bellevue Hill, 2023.
Mrs. L. Mackie, 28 McHatton Street, North Sydney, 2060.
Mrs. H. Ralston, 19 Tennyson Avenue, Turramurra, 2074.

EDITORIAL

The relatively few who attended our 1973 Annual General Meeting will be aware that we have submitted our constitution to the critical scrutiny of our honorary legal advisor, with the intention of bringing the whole thing up to date for 1975. It has been agreed that 1974 will be allowed to pass without an Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner and any essential business will be attended to by resolution of our executive members.

As you know, Miss Langley will retire this year and we have prevailed upon her to accept on your behalf a gift to the value of \$200. I believe she has chosen a desk which seems an appropriate symbol expressive of a resolve towards further industry and communication! I am confident that you will all endorse the idea of thus enabling Miss Langley to choose herself the "something special" betokening our regard for her immense contribution to the Women's College during her years as Principal. This gift is accompanied by our affectionate good wishes for the future.

Sadly, we have learnt of the death of some of our cherished members. In memory of two remarkable Old Students, Mrs. Bensusan (de Lissa) who died in October, 1973, and Miss Margaret Telfer who died more recently, in May 1974, we wish to make a special gift of \$50 to the College Library which is in need of support.

As yet, no further action has been taken on the long term project of bringing up to date **The History of the Women's College**. However, it is our intention that a sum should be set aside annually after other expenses have been met and that this money should be used in future to further this important project. As a number of you have expressed interest in the idea, it would be a pity if we did not honour our obligation to College to help preserve an exceptional record of achievement in the tertiary education of Australian woman.

If the news of our members this year appears meagre or unrepresentative then we all stand accused! Though our numbers increase annually, this increase is not reflected in a commensurate rise in the level of interest in the Old Students' Union! Judging by the difficulty we have had in mustering numbers for our Annual General Meeting and Dinner, it seems that enthusiasm has been waning with each passing year.

As this is my final year of office, I wish once again to express warm thanks to Faith Evans (Tillyard) and Freda Burrell who have been solely responsible for keeping the College Rolls, and also to our Treasurer just retired, Yvonne Campbell (Robin). I thank also most sincerely our Honorary Secretary, Dorothy Bell (Painter) and our new Honorary Treasurer, Sue Evatt (Hepburn), who will continue in office.

Our English Branch did not meet in 1973 but will meet this year in October and continue their support for a Book Fund for the College Library. This is welcome news.

At our 1973 Reunion Dinner, after the Annual General Meeting which was attended by only thirty members, we entertained ten of the College graduands. It seemed a good idea to try in this way to establish more dialogue between our older and newer members, an idea at which we might look in future.

My best wishes to all members.

Robin Marsden (BROWN)
President.

NEWS OF PAST MEMBERS

Ruth DOBSON has the distinction to be the first appointment of a woman career diplomat as an Australian Ambassador, as well as being Australia's first Ambassador to Denmark.

Naomi Wing (HARDY) recently retired as medical director of the Rehabilitation Service of the Royal South Sydney Hospital. She established the service as a pilot project in 1954 after seeing the work of the Centre Rehabilitation Medicine in New York. The clinic opened its doors in 1956 in a fibro hut; today a new building costing over a million dollars is planned to be known as the Marie Naomi Wing Rehabilitation Centre.

Susan BRITTON who gained distinction in the Diploma of Hospital Administration course at the University of New South Wales is Deputy Director of Medical Services at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Kathryn McCOY is in Munich on a German Government Scholarship. Pranee KULPRAPHA is studying environmental engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Ann Bowdler (STUCKEY) is teaching Ancient History at Granville Technical College. Barbara Lord (STICPEWICH) gained first class honours in psychology from Newcastle University and is proceeding to her Ph.D. She is also a member of the University Council. Elspeth McLACHLAN gained a Ph.D. in Physiology and Ros Strong (DEER) an M.Ed. from Sydney University. Julie FEATHERSTONE returned from Italy last year and stood for the N.S.W. government elections. Joan Kirsop (LINDBLAD) and her husband have produced a bibliography of Australia and are overseas for 1974. Sandy Webb (VON DER BORCH) and John and 2 daughters are now in Canberra where Sandy is Education and Publicity Officer with the Family Planning Association. Anne Green (BARWICK) and Harvey have travelled extensively in Europe and visited United States observatories before Anne returned to Bonn. Mary BESLY is at London University on sabbatical leave from the Zoology Department. She is looking at training programs for senior academic and administrative staff, hopefully to help them understand each other's problems, and at small teaching as well as Field Centres.

DEATHS

Ethel M. Bensusan (DE LISSA) died 15th October, 1973—in College 1895-97.

Mrs. Bensusan was the oldest of our past students, and from 1959 one of our most active supporters. She left Australia shortly after her marriage in 1898 and spent many years living in South America, finally moving permanently to London. Some of her reminiscences about the College appeared in College Newsletters from 1962 onwards when she was a central figure for London reunions of past students. She always regretted that she was unable to visit College to see the Ethel de Lissa Room donated by the Old Students in the U.K. Her daughter who had been her great friend and support, visited the College for the first time in March this year.

Margaret Alison (TELFER) died 24th May—in College 1922-24, member of Council 1940-59; 1963-74.

Margaret Telfer's association with College appears on pages 5 & 6 of this Calendar. Probably many of the past students will remember the intriguing account of "Peggy" Telfer's visit to the I.F.U.W. Conference at Cracow which appeared in the 1937 Newsletter. The Chancellor, Mr. H. D. Black, who had known her well both at College and the University said—"She filled her office with dignity, served the university with efficiency and evoked the tribute of a predominantly male Professorial Board as being 'their favourite member!'".

Nessie Margaret Gledhill (THOMAS) died August, 1973—in College 1940-42.

Rose Marie HALES died January, 1974—in College 1928-28.

Katharine Margaret MACCALLUM died August, 1973—in College 1934-37.

Winifred Roby MANKIN died 1972—in College 1930-32.

Ether Lilian TUCKEY died 1973—in College 1919.