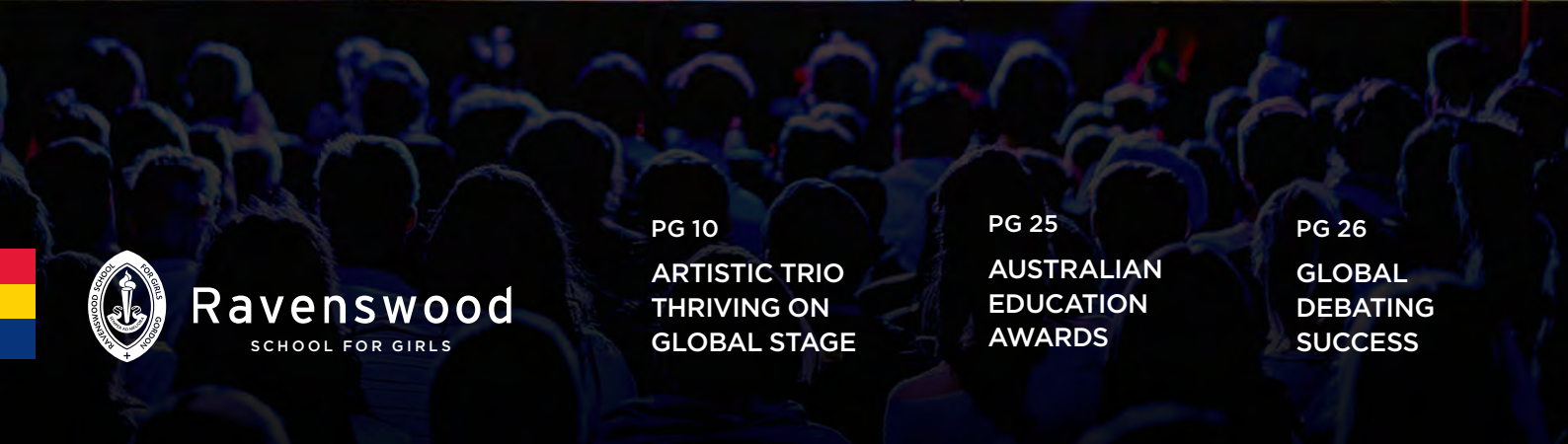


RAVENSWOOD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | WINTER 2024

Semper



Ravenswood
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

PG 10
ARTISTIC TRIO
THRIVING ON
GLOBAL STAGE

PG 25
AUSTRALIAN
EDUCATION
AWARDS

PG 26
GLOBAL
DEBATING
SUCCESS

Love RAVO Day Poem

by Poet Laureate Billie Fedden (Year 11)

4 letters standing rigid,

L O V E

A statue. An idea depicted,

For a day of celebration,

As we walk,

The path into the future

One hand linked in another,

Generosity, friendship

Two pieces of a puzzle,

Pieced together, connected

Following the idea of togetherness,

A sense of community,

Teamwork

Because as a tree grows taller,

Its roots firmly planted,

Its branches reaching out,

Connection can be made

Enriching our minds, our brains

To learn and to grow

Like the seed of a plant

Flourishing

Into something so bright

And Glowing

R A V O

A statue. An idea, decided.



Semper, the Ravenswood School for Girls' magazine.

Established in 1901, Ravenswood is a leading Uniting Church School for girls from Prep to Year 12, with boarding from Year 7. As a Visible Wellbeing and Positive Education school, we focus on the whole student to build academic and co-curricular achievements while boosting confidence, resilience and physical health.

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Ravenswood School for Girls

10 Henry Street,
Gordon NSW 2072
+61 2 9498 9898
admin@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au

ravenswood.nsw.edu.au

A Ravenswood Marketing, Communications and Engagement publication

Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone

Executive Editor
Lindsay Crump

Design and layout
Digital Hero

Photography
Skipping Stone Photography

Contributors
Lindsay Crump
Cameron Childs
Warwick Green
Ashleigh Wheeler
Rosannah Girdlestone

Front cover
The Little Mermaid Musical



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From the Archives: Winter Fun Fact

On 4 July 1938, a group of Ravenswood students set off on an exciting winter adventure. Laced up in leather boots and with wooden skis, the girls, led by the much-loved Deputy Headmistress Miss Doris 'Big Steve' Stephen, slid down the slopes at Mount Buffalo, Victoria and then walked back up with only the help of skins over the tips of their skis. In recollections from Alumni, Dr Verne Caradus (1941), the trip was 'hard work but great fun'.

Snow Sports is now a popular extracurricular offering for Ravenswood students with opportunities for all competent skiers and snowboarders from Kindergarten to Year 12. Each year, Ravenswood enters teams in the Sydney Regional Championships, a representative pathway to the State and National Interschool Championships.





Principal's Message

What a joy it has been to commence our 123rd academic year so strongly. We have seen outstanding scholarly achievements, wonderful examples of collaboration and contribution and widespread, meaningful participation in an array of opportunities and endeavours. I've also been delighted to see the record levels of community engagement our School has inspired.

Building on last year's powerful motivating word, *Inspire*, our focus this year is to support students to *Actualise*. That is, to bring their inspirational ideas to fruition by purposefully taking steps towards their academic and personal development goals and aspirations.

Although each student's journey to *actualising* their potential is as unique as they are, students will draw on common strategies in the process. They will activate their skills and talents through effort, passion, grit and resilience, and achieve their best by deploying their character strengths.

Most powerfully, *actualising* can occur through working together in community. By supporting each other along the way, students are not only strengthening the deep bonds of our treasured community, they are also actively building their own sense of agency. This is described by Professor Martin Seligman – widely considered the founder of

positive psychology – as a combination of creativity, self-efficacy and optimism. Student agency can be exercised in a multiplicity of ways at Ravenswood – from academic, creative and sporting endeavours to social justice pursuits. Agency is a powerful intrinsic motivator that can help our students to actively define their objectives and overcome adversity and challenges on their educational journey.

Progress towards *actualising* a goal can be non-linear – and it may at times feel demanding, particularly in the face of setbacks. This is when the power of our Positive Education program is particularly evident, as it gives students the tools and skills to work through challenges with a *semper ad meliora* mindset.

I am also so proud to see how, every day in a myriad of ways, our wonderful teaching and non-teaching staff actively support the girls to develop their sense of agency by encouraging the development of their skills, tenacity and prosocial character strengths as they strive for personal excellence and to make a positive contribution to one another and the world beyond our gates.

While the goal is for our students to advance in the many aspects of life, it's also important to encourage them to reflect on how far they have come. As organisational psychologist and best-selling author Adam Grant says, 'Potential is not only a matter of where

you start, but of how far you travel'. Our Class of 2023 is a brilliant collective example of this: they applied themselves with courage and determination, *actualising* remarkable HSC and International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma results. This included one perfect score of 45 in the IB Diploma (equivalent to the top ATAR of 99.95), which placed the student in the top 1% of IB students in the world. The median ATAR (HSC and IB Diploma combined) was 90.4 – an exceptional achievement for a proudly non-selective school. We were thrilled that 52% of students achieved an ATAR above 90 and 30% an ATAR over 95.

We are also proud to have had 15 students nominated for 21 HSC Subject Showcases, and then three students selected – an historically high achievement. As a School community, we are truly inspired by the efforts and accomplishments of these outstanding young women, who drew on their resilience and passion for learning to achieve personal excellence.

Of course, we know students are more than their ATAR, and that they will need more than their ATAR to truly thrive in today's rapidly changing world. It is in this context that we continue to develop and implement our innovative and award-winning Positive Education and Visible Wellbeing program. I am excited to see that the Wellbeing Path is being utilised for a range of class lessons – from English and Mathematics to Visual Arts and PDHPE lessons – as well as for creativity 'Spark' sessions, study breaks and wellbeing sessions.

In a great demonstration of student agency, many of our Senior students were actively engaged in wellbeing leadership as Ravenswood once again partnered with Knox Grammar School to deliver a brilliant student-led wellbeing conference in June – hosted this year by Ravenswood. Seventy students from Ravenswood and Knox designed powerful and purposeful workshops to equip over 300 students visiting from 31 schools from Sydney and other parts of NSW – from Newcastle, the Central Coast, Singleton, Bowral, Strathfield, Rose Bay, Hunters Hill, Normanhurst, Wahroonga and the Northern Beaches. Students, who came from the state, Catholic and independent sectors, left the annual event with skills to ignite positive change within their own school communities.

I am thrilled to report that Ravenswood has once again been recognised with four Excellence Awards in the Australian Education Awards 2024. In recognition of the exceptional work, commitment, expertise and passion of our Ravenswood staff, the School has been awarded Best Student Wellbeing Program, Best Use of Technology, Boarding School of the Year, and Principal of the Year (Non-Government).



I am especially encouraged by the impact of our work in the area of Positive Education. As Principal, I look forward to further enriching our contributions in this space on a global scale through my recent appointment as the Global Chair of the International Positive Education Network.

As our Class of 2024 would no doubt agree, we have sensed a multitude of examples of their theme, *You Glow, We Grow*, across the semester, from incredible Performing Arts evenings to the zeal on the sidelines at carnivals and sporting events.

We marvelled at our students' collective creativity, brilliance, zest and teamwork at the House Performing Arts Festival in February (page 32). Senior School students *actualised* their self-devised drama, dance and choral items, supported by tech and media, and costume design. Together, they just about raised the roof off the Sydney Town Hall: the cheers and support students gave one another sent spirits soaring and set a venue record for decibel levels in the process!

We also delighted in RAVO Presents' captivating evening of Taylor Swift-inspired performances in our Auditorium (page 34), and in our Senior School

students' spectacular production of *The Little Mermaid* (page 33).

Our young Music Scholars (page 34) also showcased their journey of excellence, inspiring us with performances on their string and wind instruments at the Ravenswood Music Scholars Concert.

We relish the opportunity to encourage our students to pursue their passions and apply their academic strengths and creativity in areas of extension and enrichment. Our Ravenswood students have excelled in their endeavours at both national and international level (page 25-31) - from shortlisted winners in the 2024 National Somerset Storyfest writing competition to competing in Re:Solved (a global debating competition in Toronto) and the 37th World Debating and Public Speaking Championships.

We were also delighted to host students from across the state for the Australian Speech Communication Association Awards in March and to see students from Years 5 to 11 put their intellectual gifts to the test at the annual da Vinci Decathlon, a challenging three-day competition run in the spirit of an Olympic decathlon that spans the breadth of science and art. Importantly, the team challenges encourage collaborative effort and the rigorous application of grit and determination in working towards a unified goal.

There have been so many opportunities for both the Junior and Senior School to reflect on inclusion and diversity this term, including during Harmony Week and National Reconciliation Week. Our RAVO spirit shone brightly in March for the United Nations International Day of Happiness and for International Women's Day. At the latter, students explored the theme of *Inspire Inclusion*, sparking rich discussion on who inspires them and what they themselves aspire to be.

Our Social Justice students set about *actualising* their goals to support other women, raising funds to help the meaningful work undertaken at the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter. Further meaningful social justice initiatives were supported on our joyous annual celebration of Love RAVO Day (page 12). This year every student from Prep to Year 12 gathered in Houses to *actualise* their support for a variety of charities in a tangible way and it was incredibly uplifting to see Junior and Senior Students actively connecting with such joy. The buzz on campus was palpable, despite the inclement weather ushering the Houses indoors to knit for Wrap With Love or to write letters of encouragement and care for the Starlight Foundation Charity who support children in hospital, along with the Pyjama Foundation for children in foster care. By *actualising* their altruistic goals together and expressing compassion and empathy

for those beyond our School gates, the students not only shared a common sense of purpose and camaraderie, they also embraced the opportunity to cultivate further the culture of kindness in our treasured School.

The positive collective impact of the students' cumulative fundraising efforts is commendable with over \$10,000 in value raised. Windsor House donated 570 pairs of ladies underwear for Days For Girls and 213 activity books and craft supplies for The Pyjama Foundation. Stuart House donated 684 arts and craft supply items for the Starlight Children's Foundation, while Tudor donated 883 balls of wool and 276 pairs of knitting needles for Wrap With Love and York raised \$1540.95 for Coins for Compassion, a Christian children's charity.

Our students also continue to inspire us in the way they *actualise* our Guiding Principles to make a positive difference to others. One outstanding example this year was Saskia Rundle Trowbridge. Year 11 student volunteer surf lifesaver Saskia bravely rescued three teenage boys who were trapped in a cave at Warriewood Beach blowhole in wild swells. We are so proud of Saskia, who by *actualising* her skills and strengths, made a heroic and profound difference.

There has been much to celebrate in the sporting realm as well, and this issue of *Semper* showcases notable individual achievements at elite levels, as well as admirable team spirit.

Our inspiring Cadet unit also demonstrated the power of team spirit as they collaborated on and off the field, showing endurance and courage while actively supporting each other in the spirit of RAVO sisterhood.

This year has already offered a myriad of uplifting community events and forums, from the Parent Welcome Cocktail Reception to the Recent Leavers Reunion, Easter Hat Parades and Commemorative Paver Program reveal event. A touching highlight was watching mothers and daughters come together to pay a tribute to their mothers, grandmothers and mother figures at our annual Mother-Daughter Chapel Services.

We deeply value our bond with Alumni and were thrilled to welcome back the Class of 2022 and members of the Alumni Committee for a special Recent Leavers reunion event on campus (page 36). It was a wonderful opportunity to hear about their achievements and adventures since graduating, and to share updates on exciting developments, such as the Wellbeing Path and our plans for the new Wellbeing and Sport Centre.



We were thrilled to have four of our wonderful Ravenswood Alumni as judges this year for the 2024 Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize. The Opening Night and Exhibition of Finalists (page 20) continues to grow, and the many community members who attended on both the Opening Night and across the exhibition were mesmerised by the awe-inspiring artistic works of the 117 talented finalists from across the country. These were carefully selected from 1616 entries – almost double the typical number of entries for other major national art prizes, including the Archibald Prize!

The Ravenswood Old Girls' Union (also known as Ravenswood Alumni) voted unanimously to reconstitute as an Advisory Committee under the auspices of the School, allowing the Alumni to pursue its vision of greater connection with the School Community and in support of the School. Thank you to the Ravenswood Alumni Committee and all Alumni community members for their ongoing dedication to and support of our incredible school.

I would like to pay tribute to a very special member of our community: our brilliant, inspirational and highly supportive Chair of School Council, Dr Gail Kelly, who for over three years has contributed her vast

expertise, experience and wise counsel so generously. Gail has recently been appointed to the global board of UBS, which will see her already busy portfolio of commitments and global leadership further expand. It has been a great honour, privilege and joy to work with Gail, who is now concluding her time as Chair of Council.

In reflecting on Ravenswood, Gail shared the following comments:

“ My relationship with Ravenswood School for Girls extends over more than a quarter of a century, including as a mother, a grandmother and as Chair of its Council. Each of those roles has been wonderfully rewarding and I am delighted that, through my granddaughters, my connection with the School will continue for many years to come. I am immensely proud of Ravenswood and extend my gratitude to my fellow Council members for their support, and to Anne for her inspiring and irreplaceable leadership. ”

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a very heartfelt thank you to Gail for her exceptional



contribution to Ravenswood. We look forward to Gail's continued involvement with the Ravenswood community, both personally, as a grandparent of two Ravenswood girls in our Junior School and as sponsor of the Gail Kelly Making a Difference Leadership Prize, which each year empowers a Year 11 student to support a worthy charitable cause of their choice with a significant donation of funds. Gail and her husband Allan also continue to support the School philanthropically by supporting our scholarship and bursary programs.

As we bid farewell to Gail, we are delighted to welcome our Deputy Chair of Council, Mr Peter Roach, to the role of Chair of Council. Peter has a wealth of experience and expertise in the not-for-profit sector generally and in school governance, including as former Chair of our brother school, Knox Grammar. He is also Non-Executive Chairman or Director of the investment and trustee boards of various well-known Australian families. Peter has a family connection to Ravenswood, with his sister having graduated from Ravenswood in 1975.

We welcome one of our treasured Alumni, Ms Christine Morgan (Class of 1978), to the role of Deputy Chair of Council. With extensive experience in corporate

law and governance in corporate Australia, Christine followed her passion into the not-for-profit sector, including as CEO of the Butterfly Foundation for ten years. Her work in youth mental health and wellbeing includes five years as CEO and Commissioner of the National Mental Health Commission.

We are incredibly grateful to both Peter and Christine for their immense ongoing commitment to leading the governance of our wonderful School.

Indeed, we deeply value the support, enthusiasm and commitment of all members of our Ravenswood community. There has been so much to celebrate this semester and as you read through the pages of this winter edition of *Semper*, I hope you feel inspired and encouraged by the great endeavours and achievements of our students and staff, along with those of our Alumni. Most especially, I hope you feel a sense of the warmth of our Ravenswood culture, which is so meaningful and special to our community. This strong sense of belonging and sisterly support encourages the students to have a go and keep going, give of their best and strive, *semper ad meliora!*

Mrs Anne Johnstone
Principal



Year 9 Camp students writing Actualise on the beach





Artistic Trio Thriving on Global Stage

Hannah Kim (Year 12)

For Hannah, it is the ability to explore her emotions and express herself. For Mia, the magic that comes from evoking a flowing river. For Audrey, the smooth, graceful strength that streams through her body.

These three Ravenswood musicians and performing artists are each excelling on the national and global stage.

Among her impressive achievements, Year 12 student and music scholar Hannah Kim performed a stunning interpretation of Bruch's *Violin Concerto No.1* to place third at the prestigious Italy-based ArsClassica Junior International Competition in February.

Flautist Mia Wang (Year 5) recently placed first in various sections of international competitions: at the Gold International Classical Music Competition, the International Children and Youth Winds Competition, the World Master Open Music Competition, and the Four Seasons Vienna International Musician Competition.

Dancer Audrey Baker (Year 7) has received invitations to engage with three esteemed ballet schools this year: the Queensland Ballet Guest Academy Program, the Royal Ballet Summer School in Hong Kong, and the Paris Opera Ballet Summer School.

Ravenswood's Director of Music and Performing Arts Mrs Heather Aird praises the trio for exceptional achievements in their chosen fields.

'What is quite notable about these particular girls is that they are quiet achievers,' says Mrs Aird. 'They are all very heavily involved in the life of the School, which I think is wonderful when you consider how much time they devote to their individual disciplines.'

'It is great for our other girls - who would look up to them - to also be working alongside them. They can appreciate how hard this trio works. They can be inspired and see what sort of steps are needed to get to these sorts of levels.'

Hannah, who is Ravenswood's Performing Arts Prefect and the School's Concertmaster, began playing the violin aged five, to help one of her mother's friends, who was starting up a music studio. 'I ended up discovering my love and passion for music,' she says.

'For me, music is my form of expression. I've found that sometimes there are certain emotions or feelings that are hard to put into words - so through my music, I can express myself not just as a musician, but also as an individual.'

'I have the freedom to express myself with no boundaries. I believe that performing is about sharing and I love that performing gives me a chance to share my passion for music.'

Among other achievements, Hannah has participated at masterclasses for the Violin Pedagogy Conference with professors from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and regularly performed at Open Performance Classes led by Sydney Conservatorium Associate Professor Dr Goetz Richter. She has won second prize at the ENKOR International Music Competition and in 2022 was awarded the Edna Wilde Instrumental Award in the Ryde Eisteddfod.

'My favourite part of music-making at Ravenswood is the bonds that are formed between the girls, and although we might not all be in the same age groups, we become united to create music and our same passion,' Hannah says. 'Ravenswood has helped me grow not only as a student, but as an aspiring violinist.'

Mrs Aird describes Hannah as 'a beautiful performer' with a bright future and commended her as a genuine student leader, who is also growing into a mentoring role.

Like Hannah, Mia first played her chosen instrument at age five. 'It began when I was very little because my grandpa, a professional flute player, played the Chinese bamboo flute at home all the time,' Mia says.

'The best thing about flute is its sound - it makes me think of flowing rivers. To me, flutes are my magic wands - they ignite emotions. Ravenswood's music program is sophisticated, interactive and engaging. I also love composing in the Music Lab and singing in the choir.'

Mia says her favourite moment as a flautist was when she was accepted into the prestigious Rising Stars program at the Sydney Conservatorium. That may change soon, however, as she is due to perform at the Four Seasons Concert and Awards Ceremony in the breathtakingly beautiful Mozarthaus in the heart of Vienna.

Mrs Aird says that Mia is 'humble about the success she has had', and that it was Mia's proud mother who updated the School about her daughter's achievements.

It is a similar story with Audrey, who was recently singled out from 900 applicants to dance with the Paris Opera Ballet Summer School.

Many in the Ravenswood community would be familiar with another aspect of Audrey's talent on

stage: she put in a memorable turn as Miss Honey in last year's Junior School performance of *Matilda the Musical Jr.*

However, dance - whether it be ballet, contemporary or jazz - is her real passion.

'I have been dancing since I was three and I joined Ravenswood dance in Year 5 when I came to the school,' Audrey says. 'I am so appreciative of the support of Ravenswood in helping me achieve my dreams of being a ballerina.'

Mrs Aird says Audrey 'is hard working and diligent. And to be at the level she is at her age is extraordinary in itself.'



Mia Wang (Year 5)



Audrey Baker (Year 7)



Actualise at Ravenswood

This year's Love RAVO Day highlighted the importance of Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone's word of the year, *actualise*, as every student from Prep to Year 12 gathered with staff in their school Houses to *actualise* social justice initiatives to support a range of special causes.

Talented Year 11 Poets Laureate Dixie Pan and Billie Fedden inspired Ravenswood students with rousing poetry throughout the afternoon of festivities. Celebrating sisterhood, community and the *semper ad meliora* RAVO spirit, the afternoon was dedicated to supporting charities that help make a difference.

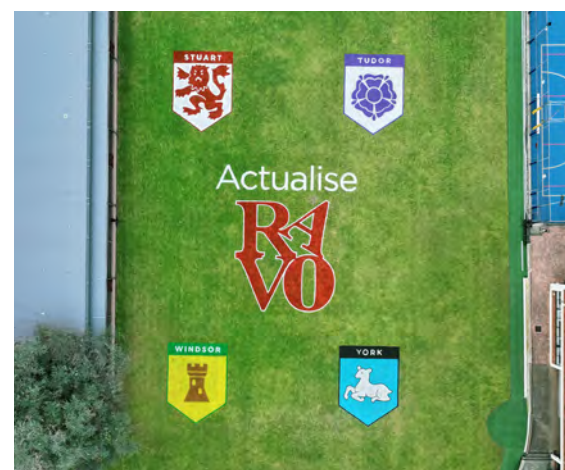
York House students donated over \$1500 in coins to support children currently waiting for a sponsor family, and wrote letters of care and encouragement to children who are supported by the Christian Compassion kids charity.

Tudor House students donated 883 balls of wool and 276 pairs of knitting needles, and collectively made wool pom-poms to be added to the beanies that the Wrap with Love social justice students create throughout the year, providing love and warmth to people in areas of trauma and need.

Stuart House girls wrote colourful 'thinking of you' cards to sick children in hospital and donated 684 art and craft supplies to the Starlight Foundation's Starlight Express Rooms.

Students from Windsor House donated 612 pairs of new women's underwear for Days for Girls charity packs, and 213 activity books for The Pyjama Foundation, which provides children in care with early intervention programs, support and mentoring.

The Prefect and Student Representative Council Spirit Week, held during the week in the lead-up to Love RAVO Day, further showcased students' collegiality and endless RAVO spirit. It featured a variety of student-led daily activities to boost House spirit and foster connectedness among Ravenswood students.



2024 Student-Led Wellbeing Conference



Hosted for the first time at Ravenswood, the fourth Ravenswood School for Girls and Knox Grammar School Student-Led Wellbeing Conference brought together over 300 students from 31 schools from across New South Wales.

The annual student-led conference, designed and created by students from Ravenswood and Knox, offers emerging student leaders the opportunity to participate in a student-led workshop series, exploring wellbeing strategies underpinned by the science of Positive Education (wellbeing science) that can be applied to both individual and collective wellbeing.

The 2024 conference workshop themes included the power of agency, the impact of sleep on concentration and cognition, unpacking the impact of 'busyness' on productivity, and the power of self-talk in unlocking motivation.

The keynote presentation was led by David Bott, best-selling author, consultant and Director of The Wellbeing Distillery, and Matthew Johnstone, author

and illustrator of *I Had a Black Dog*. It impressed on students the power of imagery, empathy and conversation in bolstering the wellbeing of young people.

The student-led conference continues to be a powerful initiative that embeds positive psychology and education theory, offering students practical applications to action on the evidence-based approach to wellbeing through their own schools.

'The student-led wellbeing conference is not only a pathway for students to come together to talk about the importance of wellbeing, but it has the capacity to equip young people with the tools for wellbeing - how it influences teenagers' lives and the effect it has on us day to day,' says Abbey Taylor (Year 11). 'We have been able to discover the power of mindset, self-talk and the effects of gratitude through student-led workshops and activities exploring these ideas. The conference has now empowered other schools across NSW to replicate their own wellbeing conferences to help spread the awareness of wellbeing in schools.'





Celebrating Families in the Ravenswood Residential College

The Ravenswood Residential College (RRC) is a boutique, nurturing, home away from home, where strangers become sisters and Boarders join an 89-year-old tight-knit boarding community.

For South Korean sisters Olivia Cho (Year 9) and Whitney Cho (Year 8), the sisterhood isn't figurative. They started boarding at Ravenswood together in 2022.

'Having a sister in the boarding house is a unique experience,' Olivia says. 'I always have someone to share my experiences with, discuss my day and support me in challenging times. It's like having a piece of home with me.'

Whether it's having afternoon tea together in the kitchen, playing games and laughing in the lounge room, or taking part in special experiences and weekend adventures across Sydney as part of the Excite program, the RRC offers the sisters and all Ravenswood Boarders opportunities to create memories of a lifetime together.

'We are thrilled to have five sets of sisters in the RRC – it really speaks to the family and community-style living,' says Ms Bri Cormio, Director of Boarding. 'Just like your sister will come and say goodnight to you at home, she will visit you at bedtime and tuck you in. Historically, we have had many sisters in boarding, which adds to the genuine connections in the RRC.'

There is a deep sense of the family-oriented approach to boarding at Ravenswood. From the weekly visits from the School therapy dogs, Daisy and Penny, to the girls baking each other birthday cakes and gathering to sing after dinner, there is an inherent culture of support, respect, connection and sisterhood.

For some mothers of current Ravenswood Boarders, visiting their daughters in the boarding house and exploring the School campus brings back their own fond memories.

Sophia 'Sophie' Barber (1989) from Orange, NSW was a Year 12 Boarder, and her daughter Matilda (Tilly) Fabar is now a Boarder in Year 11.

'I always wanted one of my daughters to attend RAVO,' Sophie says. 'When I reflect on my own school life, I feel contentment, accomplishment and gratitude for the opportunity my parents and the school provided.'

While the spirit of sisterhood and the values of independence, empowerment and belonging remain, some experiences in the RRC today are a far cry from those of previous generations.

'Boarding has changed since I was a Boarder,' Sophie says. 'When I was boarding, the biggest adjustment was not being able to speak to my parents. Communicating with them meant a telephone call using the one and only 'Gold Phone'. Talk time was limited and often meant a queue of girls behind you waiting to use the phone.'

'I must say, communicating with Tilly and all of the staff in the boarding house today is much easier!'

Deputy Principal of Boarding and Community Ms Lucy Cumming says it's always exciting when an

Alumni boarding mother enrolls her daughter at Ravenswood and settles her into the RRC. 'It serves as a powerful endorsement of the unique learning opportunity and meaningful experiences our Boarders have as they "live and learn" in community,' she says.

Tilly reflects on how special it is to share a unique Ravenswood boarding connection with her mother: 'Mum and I connect about going to the same school and when I walk into class, sometimes I have these realisations that my mum also walked around here on campus.'

RRC was recently recognised for the second time in three years, with an Excellence Award from *The Educator* Australian Education Awards for Boarding School of the Year 2024 - acknowledging its high levels of engagement and family-oriented approach to boarding.

Boarding at Ravenswood offers students first-class learning and a home-away-from-home living experience. Academic and award-winning wellbeing support and programs and a vast choice of activities allow its 50 Boarders to thrive academically and personally in a supportive environment.



Olivia Cho (Year 9) and Whitney Cho (Year 8)



A brain break for Junior School students on the Wellbeing Path, Year 9 English students (inset)



Wellbeing Path 12 Months On

For Science students, it might mean conducting botanical investigations first-hand, instead of on a screen. For Mathematics students, it could involve exploring numbers, patterns and ratio data while exercising – instead of entering numbers into a calculator. For others, it might simply be a way to recharge their batteries and clear their minds by taking in fresh air and the beauty of nature.

Twelve months on from its launch, the Ravenswood Wellbeing Path means many different things to many different members of the Ravenswood community.

The Path, the first of its kind, is a physical representation of Ravenswood's reputation as an innovator and trailblazer in the field of Positive Education.

The 800-metre Path loops around the inside perimeter of the campus, and features inspirational quotes embedded in copper, art sculptures made from sustainable materials, and carefully designed learning spaces.

Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone, who three years ago conceived the idea for the Path, says it is meeting its brief of enhancing physical activity, mindfulness and overall wellbeing for students and staff.

'Following our Visible Wellbeing approach, the Path was created to support our students and staff with

their academic, emotional, social and physical development,' Mrs Johnstone says.

'Research confirms the benefits of exercise for both the body and the mind. The Path creates opportunities for our students to further foster a sense of connection as they traverse the Path together, experiencing curiosity and wonder, engaging in creativity and enjoying the opportunity for mindfulness.

'I am delighted to see the multifaceted use of the Path – from bringing to life rich learning experiences from a broad range of subject areas to providing an opportunity for stress relief and preparing the brain for learning and optimisation of cognitive performance before exams.'

The Path has become a new outdoor learning environment that provides accessible and immersive learning experiences for all students and supports opportunities for diverse learning activities and instructional methodologies.

Since it opened in June 2023, a range of engaging and innovative lesson plans have been delivered to students across Junior and Senior Schools by Ravenswood staff in English, Science, Religious Education, Mathematics, Visual Arts, PDHPE, Languages and Positive Education – to name but a few subject areas.

Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning Mrs Jennifer Richardson provides some examples: ‘Year 8 Science students have studied leaf epidermis (skin) and collected leaf samples, including agapanthus and succulents, as they were on a walk on the Wellbeing Path. They then took them back to the Science labs and prepared microscope slide samples to view.

‘The Ravenswood Mathematics department has delivered a range of mathematics lessons, such as investigating heart rates as part of the Rates and Ratios curriculum topic, exploring numbers, patterns and classification by students talking together, collecting natural objects and comparing, sorting and classifying, and measuring.’

Mrs Johnstone adds: ‘Walking and talking enables staff to break down the more formal rigours of the classroom and discuss topics more freely. Connection matters, and finding ways to connect together, to talk together, and maybe even walk and talk together, is very important.’

Staff have reported that they experience deeper engagement and depth of discussion when using the Wellbeing Path to deliver curriculum outcomes, allowing for richer, student-driven learning.

In Junior School, more than 50% of classes had already used the Path by early March 2024 as a resource to support teaching of the curriculum.

‘The Path is a tribute to the entire School community’s devotion to creating the best possible environment for students to ignite potential and to flourish,’ Mrs Johnstone says. ‘It’s about having opportunities to get into nature – to have fruitful discussions as we loop the School, to plan, to create, to design and to problem solve.’

Funding for the Path was generated through the inaugural Ravenswood Giving Day in 2021. ‘We would not have been able to fund the Path without the generosity of our community,’ Mrs Johnstone says. ‘I think what it tells us is that our Alumni, our past and current parents and our staff all share the vision of the importance of wellbeing in our RAVO community.’

Mrs Kate Barbat, Head of Positive Education K-12 and Year 7 Coordinator, says: ‘This Path is the most wonderful way to bring our campus to life and to bring our girls together. Mrs Johnstone’s knowledge of the science about why exercise is important and how it can enhance learning came about as a way for students to have a designated visible experience where they could gather, reflect, be purposeful, be forward-thinking. The Wellbeing Path offers everything that we value here at Ravenswood.’

The Path is also being used by students informally – before and after school, during recess and lunch, and as a place for a refreshing study break during assessment blocks.

Students have said they are using the Path to help fuel their creativity when developing ideas for projects. Staff have also enjoyed walking and talking with others, including catching up with students and chatting about wellbeing matters.

The Wellbeing Path links existing established gardens, pathways, paved areas and newly built sitting spaces. The circuit takes about 10 minutes to complete at a steady walking pace. The Path intertwines nature and art and also aims to connect to Country, creating a holistic experience for the Ravenswood community.

Many students have found the pictogram artworks and inspirational quotes particularly affirming.

‘I love the Wellbeing Path, as it allows a structured walkway for important conversations with friends,’ says Year 11 student Madeline Lappin. ‘The quotes and artwork on the Path help our chats to grow and build our conversations. My friends and I have walked the Wellbeing Path to chat and walk, instead of just sitting at lunch or recess. It also is a great study break opportunity when you are feeling stressed about an assignment or an assessment task coming up, allowing you to re-centre yourself and boosting your mood before going back to your studies.’

Grace Denney in Year 5 further reflects, ‘I love the Wellbeing Path because it’s calming and has quotes from famous people about wellbeing. The Path acknowledges that RAVO is a wellbeing school and reminds us of how fortunate we are to be a part of this wonderful school community.

‘The Wellbeing Path goes around our School like warm arms giving us a big hug! It’s surrounded by plants and flowers, making it an even more enjoyable Path to wander along.’



Students on the inaugural Lingua Loop of the Wellbeing Path



Inclusion in Action: Celebrating International Women's Day

The origins of International Women's Day can be traced back to 1911, when thousands of women marched through the bustling streets of New York City, fervently campaigning for equal rights, improved working conditions and fair pay. This pivotal moment in history laid the foundation for what would become a global movement, resonating across continents and generations.

Today, International Women's Day stands as a beacon of hope and empowerment, celebrated worldwide to shed light on the vast array of challenges perpetuating gender inequality. The day reminds the Ravenswood community of the progress made and the work yet to be done in ensuring women's full and fair participation in every facet of society - from the economy and politics to the broader community.

Abby Boulden (Year 11) expresses her sentiments on the significance of International Women's Day: 'I think

that International Women's Day is still very important in our day and age. It's a celebration, but it also raises awareness around how important women's roles are in society, and encourages each and every woman to step up and follow their dreams.'

International Women's Day holds special significance at Ravenswood, as an all-girls' school. Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone explained how the School's ethos reflects the meaning of the day at a special Senior School Assembly. 'It is a day that really highlights the power of unity and community,' she said, 'something we are so aware of in our amazing School as we strive every day, in true RAVO spirit, to strengthen the sisterhood and make a difference to each other and the world around us.'

During the special Assembly, students were delighted to welcome Ravenswood Alumni Eloise Sohier (2012) as a guest speaker. Eloise recounted

her journey from being a Ravenswood student to a prominent Fox Sports media presenter, captivating students and staff. Reflecting on her transformative years at Ravenswood, she encouraged students to seize every opportunity.

‘What empowered me at Ravenswood was the ability to embrace my uniqueness, my own voice, and to take it from inside the school gates out into the world,’ Eloise said. ‘I was nurtured by some amazing teachers, and I have incredible memories of them being mother figures to us. It’s the relationships we have built here that allowed me to be shown the path of what it is to be a woman.’

Collaborating with the Office of the Hon Paul Fletcher, Ravenswood also hosted a special event with Australia’s longest-serving female Senator and former Defence and Foreign Affairs Minister, the Hon Marise Payne.

Schools from the Bradfield electorate were invited, and students from nine local schools attended and enjoyed breakfast before participating in a highly engaging address from Ms Payne. Her impassioned speech on women in leadership inspired the students, and their eagerness to ask questions demonstrated their high interest in the matter.

Ms Payne’s words resonated deeply with the students as she underscored the significance of resilience and determination in surmounting challenges. She emphasised that character strengths are crucial for advancing towards goals and aspirations and provided the students with a renewed sense of purpose and empowerment.

On International Women’s Day, Ravenswood buzzed with a flurry of vibrant activities and discussions, all centred on empowerment and inclusivity. Upon arriving through the School gates, students were greeted by uplifting music and International Women’s Day gifts from Mrs Anne Johnstone and Deputy Principal – Head of Junior School Ms Sarah Guy.

From taking part in fundraising social justice initiatives for the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women’s Shelter to uplifting Mentor ‘Inclusion Circles’ and ‘Primer Statement Photo Booth’ activities, the Senior School united in celebrating women’s achievements and contributions to society.

Junior School students also participated throughout the day in engaging activities centred around women who inspire them – and how they can promote inclusion to forge a better world.





Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize

The 2024 Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize Opening Night was filled with excitement as more than 300 attendees, including finalists, parents, Alumni, staff, Art Prize partners and members of the Ravenswood community, came together to celebrate.

Since its inception in 2017, the annual Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize has drawn over 11,100 entries, solidifying its pivotal role in shining a spotlight on women artists across Australia. Further underscoring the Prize's significance in Australian arts, Emerging and Indigenous artists have accounted for 63% of submissions over these eight years. It is also a testament to the School's commitment to championing emerging Indigenous women artists and amplifying their creative voices on a national stage.

Representatives from Federal and Local government graced the occasion, with the Federal Member for Bradfield and Shadow Minister for the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, officially opening the 2024 Art Prize. Also present were Ku-ring-gai Council Councillors Simon Lennon and Barbara Ward.

The Exhibition of Finalists ran for two weeks after Opening Night, allowing students and the community the chance to immerse themselves in the abundance of rich artistic talent on display.

The Art Prize offers the highest-value professional artist prize for women in Australia: the Professional Artist Prize, valued at \$35,000. The Emerging Artist Prize and the Indigenous Emerging Artist Prize are both worth \$5000. There is also a People's Choice Award of \$2000 and a \$500 Derivan art pack prize.

The 2024 Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize once again attracted a remarkable number of entries, totalling 1616 - about double that of the Archibald Prize. The judges selected 117 finalists, including 62

Professional artists, 47 Emerging artists and eight Indigenous Emerging artists.

Northeast Arnhem Land artist Gaypalani Wanambi claimed the coveted Professional Artist Prize with her captivating artwork, *Dawurr*. Sydney-based artist Chris Gleisner secured the Emerging Artist Prize, sponsored by the Reed Family Foundation, for her remarkable piece, *Sculpted Triangles*. The Indigenous Emerging Artist Prize, supported by the Tritton Family, went to sisters Nancy and Rene Long Nungarrayi for their inspiring creation, *Pereltye*. The People's Choice Award, supported by Edwina Palmer, hailed Zara Collins as the winner for her outstanding artwork, *Sensing Lost Memories*.

'The Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize continues to be our nation's highest-value prize for women artists,' says Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize Founder and Principal of Ravenswood School For Girls, Mrs Anne Johnstone. 'It honours and showcases their exceptional artistic talents, supporting current and future artists in their important creative endeavours, and helps give them further opportunities to express their artistic skills and immense potential, and to flourish.'

The Art Prize would not be possible without the generous support of its corporate and media partners. Ravenswood is extremely grateful to its Gold Community Partners (The Marshall Group and Trippas White Group), its Gold Media Partners (R.M. Williams *OUTBACK* magazine and Active Networks), its Silver Partners (The Art Scene, Buildcorp, Clarke Murphy Print and the Greengate Hotel) and Bronze Partners (Derivan, EPM Projects, Kelvin Hall Floral Designs and Optus). The Prize is also proudly supported by the Reed Family Foundation, the Tritton Family and Edwina Palmer.



Our War Effort: From the Archives

Dorothy (Dottie) Greenwell (Pierce, 1938) -
Ambulance Driver World War II

At just 19, Dorothy (Dottie) Greenwell (Pierce, 1938) enlisted in the Australian Women's Army Service in June 1941, three years after completing her studies at Ravenswood. She went on to complete courses in mechanics, gas production and first aid.

During the Second World War, Australian women contributed greatly to the war effort, serving in groups including the Voluntary Aid Detachment, Australian Army Medical Women's Service, Australian Women's Army Service, Women's Auxiliary Australia Air Force, Australian Red Cross Letters Association, Women's Air Training Corps, Women's Emergency Signallers, and the Australian Comforts Fund.

While women worked in traditional roles such as clerks, typists and cooks, they were also employed as drivers, signallers and provosts in areas such as intelligence, chemical trials, electrical and chemical engineering, and ordnance.

After completing a course at the School of Artillery in Randwick, Dottie was assigned to the 2nd Australian

Ambulance Car Company in Kingsford with a daily wage of 3s/6p (35 cents).

Together with other female ambulance drivers, she was responsible for unloading Australian and American Army and Navy wounded from planes and hospital ships. This included helping to transport wounded soldiers who had been prisoners of war in Japan to the Goulburn Army Base Hospital. After 685 days of service, Dottie was discharged in April 1944.

The Ravenswood Archives holds the inspiring stories of 21 Alumni who served during the Second World War, and Ravenswood continues to acknowledge their contributions. Their efforts were strongly supported by the School at the time, with updates printed in the Old Girls' News throughout the 1940s.

Of course, the contribution of Ravenswood Alumni is not restricted to the Second World War: former students from every decade have served in the Armed Forces over the past century.

Two of our earliest Alumni, Harold Willoughby Fry (1904) and Frank Sunderland Hall (1908) served in the Australian Army during the First World War.



2024 ANZAC Assembly special guests

Harold was one of the first boys to commence at Ravenswood on 28 January 1901, when Miss Fidler's School opened, and Frank enrolled five days later.

Harold enlisted in 1914 as a Lance Corporal with the 1st Field Company Engineers, Reinforcement 5, and served in Gallipoli, Fromelles, the second Battle of Bullecourt, and the Battle of Polygon Wood. He returned to Australia in 1919, having gained the rank of Lieutenant, and was awarded the Military Cross, the 1914 - 1915 Star, British War Medal, and Victory Medal.

Frank Sunderland Hall enlisted in 1916 as a Lieutenant with the 20th Battalion, 9th Reinforcement, with the rank of Lieutenant, seeing action primarily on the Western Front in France. Frank returned to Australia in 1918 with the rank of Captain and was awarded the Military Cross, British War Medal, and Victory Medal. Frank's great granddaughter Jessica Hall graduated from Ravenswood in 2022.

In later conflicts, our Alumni continued to make a difference, taking on many roles within the Australian Defence Force. Valmai Cameron (Kennedy, 1952) served as a singer for the troops during the Vietnam War.

Two Alumni served as Chaplains. Reverend Wendy Snook (Parker, 1973), the first female Chaplain in the Australian Defence Force, served in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) from 1991 to 1996. Reverend Melissa Baker (1987), served as the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) only female padre from 2011 to 2015.

We also proudly acknowledge the 36-year career of Rear Admiral Katherine Richards (1988), who was

the first woman to serve as an Engineer Officer at sea. Today, she heads the design of the new regulatory system for the AUKUS Nuclear Powered Submarine.

Many of our Alumni have continued their inspirational careers post-service in other areas. After 14 years as an Air Traffic Controller in the RAAF (1981 to 1995), Glenda Stevens (1979) is now CEO of Fearless Women, an organisation that offers free education, mentoring and counselling programs for girls and young women about the importance of wellbeing, self-empowerment and self-value. In 2024, Glenda was recognised as the ACT Senior Woman of the Year.

Sarah Hoff (Giles, 1995) served in the Armed Forces for both the Navy and the Air Force in a squadron of F/A-18 Fighter pilots, as Aide-de-Camp to the Chief of Air Force, and as the Intelligence Flight Commander at RAAF Richmond, responsible for all intelligence support to Australian airlift operations. Sarah went on to study law and is now Senior Advisor to the Independent Police Conduct Authority in New Zealand.

In 2011, Ravenswood was the first girls' school on the North Shore to offer Cadets, with 40 female recruits welcomed into the newly created E Company of the Knox Grammar School Cadet Unit. Today, more than 340 Ravenswood students are involved in the 1300-strong unit.

The program encourages service, camaraderie and teamwork, giving students the confidence to make decisions, be self-sufficient, participate in mentally and physically challenging activities and take on leadership positions.

In April, our cadets attended the Annual Field Exercise Camp in Lithgow. Over six days, they pushed themselves out of their comfort zone, forged new friendships and experienced life in the bush.

Jessica Hunter (2014), one of Ravenswood's earliest cadet recruits, followed a path into the Armed Forces. 'This interest in the Army largely stemmed from being from a military family, but also from doing Cadets while at RAVO,' Jessica reflects.

After graduating from the University of Sydney, Jessica moved to London in 2018 later joining the British Army Reserves. In 2020 she served on Operation RESCRIPT, the Armed Forces support to the British Government throughout the pandemic. In 2023, Jessica was deployed on a tour to Kosovo, where she earned her first operational medal.

'I did not expect to join the British Army, nor did I really consider a full-time Army career to be something that RAVO girls would do,' she says. 'However, I'm so glad I did, and I think more young women should be encouraged to consider careers that were historically streamlined for men.'

Over the years, Ravenswood has placed importance on providing community spaces for remembrance and reflection to honour and acknowledge those who have served our country and continue to do so today. These spaces include the Lone Pine Tree (planted in 1998), the Peace Lawn (opened in 2003) and the War Memorial (unveiled in 2015).

The Ravenswood community gathered in May for our annual ANZAC Day Commemorative Service. The atmosphere was sombre and filled with reflective moments as students, staff, Alumni and community members filled the Joan Goff Hall Gymnasium. Cadet Prefect, CUO Hannah McCutcheon, gave a moving address, and students from Kindergarten and Year 12, together with members of the Alumni Committee, laid wreaths. Ku-rin-gai Mayor Sam Ngai and representatives from Knox Grammar School also attended.

Thank you, Ravenswood Alumni and Ravenswood community members for your courage and ultimate sacrifice to serve.



Rev Melissa Baker



Lieutenant Jessica Hunter



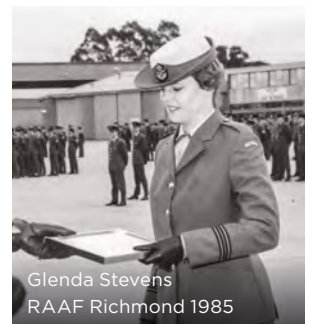
Rear Admiral Katherine Richards



Sarah Hoff (Giles)



First group of Ravenswood Cadets on camp in 2012 with Knox Grammar School



Glenda Stevens
RAAF Richmond 1985



Harold Willoughby Fry

School Achievements and Awards



Global Influence

Ravenswood is thrilled to announce that Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone has been appointed Global Chair of the International Positive Education Network (IPEN), the peak global body of well-being science-in-education. Having previously held the role of Chair of the Positive Education Schools Association (PESA) and serving for many years as founding director of this national association, Anne is now leading positive education globally.

‘Anne is an internationally recognised educational leader renowned for her pioneering work in the field of Positive Education and the wellbeing of young people,’ say IPEN Co-Founders Professor Martin Seligman and Sir Anthony Seldon. ‘We look forward to Anne working with our outstanding IPEN Board as we continue to strive to support all educational stakeholders so that individuals, communities and societies flourish.’

IPEN brings together eminent Positive Education and wellbeing researchers and practitioners from around the world. ‘I am so honoured to help lead the collaboration and development of Positive Education globally,’ says Mrs Johnstone. ‘As we have found here at Ravenswood, empowering educators and students with Positive Education strategies not only enables individuals to optimise their learning and wellbeing, it also supports whole school communities to thrive.’



Double Delight as Two Archibald Prize Finalists Announced

One member of the Ravenswood community making the final cut for Australia’s premier portrait prize is a significant achievement - but two in the same year?

Ravenswood Visual Arts teacher Mr Tim Owers and Ravenswood Alumni Whitney Duan (2012) have been announced as finalists in the 2024 Archibald Prize.

Mr Ower’s portrait, *On the bench and on the cusp* (portrait of Cortnee Vine), captures Cortnee Vine, who plays for Australian women’s football team the Matildas, and for Sydney FC in Australia’s top-division women’s competition.

‘I feel incredibly honoured to be selected as a finalist in the 2024 Archibald Prize and to be hung in the Art Gallery of NSW alongside many of my art heroes,’ says Mr Owers. ‘My sitter Cortnee Vine is a humble, generous and talented woman whom I admire greatly, and it was an enormous privilege to be entrusted by her to paint this portrait. She has contributed greatly to Women’s sport on a national and international level and deserves to be celebrated.’

Whitney was an art student at Ravenswood and has continued her work through her Bachelor of Arts

(Art History) course at the University of Sydney. Her portrait *Fluffy* (Jordan Gogos) depicts Jordan Gogos, a multidisciplinary artist and Australian runway designer best known for his locally made fashion label, Iordanes Spyridon Gogos.

The artworks of the Archibald Prize finalists can be viewed at the Art Gallery of New South Wales until 8 September 2024.



On the bench and on the cusp
(portrait of Cortnee Vine) Tim Owers



Fluffy (Jordan Gogos)
Whitney Duan



Four Excellence Awards: Australian Education Awards 2024

Ravenswood has been awarded four Excellence Awards in the Australian Education Awards 2024.

Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone has received an Excellence Award for Principal of the Year (Non-Government) for her visionary and inspirational leadership.

Mrs Johnstone, who was also recognised in 2022, has been honoured for her leadership in developing innovative academic and wellbeing curriculum and learning experiences at Ravenswood, as well as her commitment to supporting students to fulfill their potential and flourish as young people. The award further acknowledges the outstanding achievements of the School under Mrs Johnstone's leadership. These include students achieving some of the highest HSC and IB Diploma results in recent years and the School's historically high demand for enrolments, with waiting lists across many year groups.

Mrs Johnstone is also noted for her pioneering national and global leadership in the area of Positive Education. In addition, the award recognises her achievements in advancing staff professional development opportunities and more broadly for supporting a vibrant, warm, collegial culture at Ravenswood.

Ravenswood also received an Excellence Award for Best Use of Technology for its use of sixth-generation class virtual-reality technology, which allows educators to implement state-of-the-art, immersive, engaging learning and assessment experiences.

In addition, Ravenswood received an Excellence Award for Best Student Wellbeing Program - an honour also bestowed in 2022. Ravenswood was the first school in NSW to embed a Visible Wellbeing program, and in 2023 launched several new, innovative wellbeing initiatives, including a Junior School Wellbeing program (IGNITE), and the Wellbeing Path, which loops around the campus and provides dynamic wellbeing, learning and curriculum benefits for staff and students.

Ravenswood has also been honoured with an Excellence Award for Boarding School of the Year (an award also won in 2022). With high levels of engagement and a family-oriented approach to boarding, the Ravenswood Residential College (RRC) provides a first-class living experience, with academic and award-winning wellbeing support and programs, and a broad choice of activities for its Boarders.

Duke of Edinburgh Honours

A Ravenswood teacher was honoured at a recent ceremony attended by His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh.

PDHPE teacher Mrs Deanna Paraska received her Medal of Recognition for Long Service at the ceremony at Government House, Sydney.

The medal recognised her 'Outstanding commitment and contribution promoting non-formal education and learning and the development of young Australians since 2009' in her unwavering dedication and commitment to supporting the growth and development of students through The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.



Student Showcase



Laura Parker, Phoenix Lay-Yee and Shirley Ding



Catherine Swemmer

Global Debating Success

In April, Catherine Swemmer (Year 12) won Re:Solved, a global debating and public speaking competition held in Toronto, Canada.

Speakers aged 13 to 18 from around the world debated the topic, 'The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has lost its relevance'. After an initial persuasive round, the top 32 competitors were selected to compete in debating rounds, with the top two speakers from each making it through to the next, until just four remained – including Catherine.

'Winning Re:Solved was a life-changing experience,' Catherine says. 'Highlights of the competition were meeting debate partners from all over the world, making lifelong friendships and, of course, being flown to Toronto to compete.'

'It was a wonderful culmination of my high school public speaking career and I encourage all RAVO students to consider giving it a go next year!'

School Vice Captain Shirley Ding (Year 12), Phoenix Lay-Yee (Year 12) and School Captain Laura Parker (Year 12) also represented Ravenswood in a global speaking competition recently. The trio travelled to Canberra Girls Grammar School in April for the 37th World Debating and Public Speaking Championships, where top high school public speakers and debaters compete as individuals.

Our students competed in the four events: Debating, Impromptu Speaking, Interpretive Reading and a Prepared Speech (either Persuasive Speaking or After-Dinner Speaking), with Laura reaching the finals in After-Dinner Speaking.

da Vinci Decathlon

Ravenswood students in Years 5 to 11 have excelled once again in the da Vinci Decathlon, competing against more than 80 schools from across NSW, and achieving several top-three places. These included a first place in Cartography for the Year 11 team of Daniela Bazouni, Anna Cai, Tanya Chi, Charlotte Ooi, Dixie Pan, Abigail Percy, Mary Xie and Bonnie Zhang.

The decathlon promotes and celebrates students' academic gifts through a stimulating and challenging competition, run in the spirit of an Olympic decathlon. Over a day, students work in teams of eight on stimulating tasks in 10 disciplines: English, Mathematics and Chess, Art and Poetry, Science, Engineering, Ideation, Cartography, Creative Producers, Code-Breaking and Legacy (History).



da Vinci Decathlon 2024 Results

Year 11 - 1st in Cartography

Year 9 - 2nd in English

Year 8 - 3rd in Legacy (History)
- 3rd in Science

International Future Problem Solver Triumphs

In June, two Ravenswood students travelled to the United States to compete in the 2024 International Future Problem Solving Conference held at Indiana University.

Competing against 1,263 champion problem-solvers from 12 countries and 242 different schools, Alexandra 'Allie' Pitman (Year 7, pictured right) placed second in Junior Scenario Writing (creative writing), in which competitors have two hours to write a creative scenario of up to 1,000 words in response to a future problem prompt that students received at the beginning of their writing time.

'Future Problem Solving is a dynamic international event involving thousands of students from around the world,' says Mr Josh McMahon, Head of Gifted Education and High-Potential Learning. 'The program teaches a unique six-step problem-solving process that can be applied in the real world, and teaches students critical and creative thinking, problem-solving and decision-making.'

Grace Robinson (Year 8) also did Ravenswood proud, receiving final marks that placed her in the top 5 in the world. Allie and Grace competed against students from the United States, Singapore, Canada, New Zealand, China, France, India, Portugal, Spain, Thailand and Turkey.



Kids' Lit Quiz Winners

Four Ravenswood teams from Years 5 to 9 competed against 25 teams from across Sydney in the Kids' Lit Quiz recently, with the Year 6 team winning the overall Sydney event.

The annual quiz tests knowledge of literature and comprises 10 rounds, each with a different category. The host this year was Nat Amooore, author of popular (and hilarious!) junior fiction books, and categories included Baldness, Book Characters, Book Knowledge and Birds.

Each Ravenswood team won a heat and a book prize. The Year 6 team (pictured) of Tiffany Bunyan, Leyla Hegeman, Sophie Humburg and Sylvia Tristram will now go on to the national final, to be held at the State Library of NSW.

Rostrum Finalists

In May, Ravenswood hosted one of the six Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking regional finals held across NSW and the ACT. Grace Brady (Year 9, pictured right) and Jennifer Tao (Year 11, pictured left) progressed to the State Finals, with Ravenswood the only school in NSW/ACT to achieve representatives in both the Junior and Senior Rostrum State Finals. Congratulations to Grace who achieved second in the State. The national public speaking competition, now in its fiftieth year, attracts more than 900 competitors from across Australia.



Student Showcase

Young Writer Honours

Cinny Yuan (Year 6) has won a Merit Award in the 11 to 12 years category in the 2024 Nan Manefield Young Writers' Award for her piece, *I am*. At the award ceremony in North Sydney, Cinny met some of the esteemed literary judges, including international best-selling author Jaclyn Moriarty, award-winning novelist Will Kostakis, and author and poet Helena Fox.

Cinny says, 'I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the School for its unwavering support and encouragement in nurturing the literary talents of myself and others. This achievement is not only a result of my efforts but also a testament to the excellent education and guidance provided by the School. It is through the dedicated teaching and mentorship of my teachers that I have been able to make continuous progress in my writing journey and achieve this success. A huge thank you to the School and my teachers for supporting my literary dreams.'



Glückwunsch!

Josie Howarth (Year 12) has achieved the top award for German at Level 3 (the highest level) of the prestigious national ALC Award. This annual competition is run for all languages across the country. Josie is the fourth Ravenswood student to win this award for German in consecutive years!



StoryFest

Audry Li (Year 9) was announced as the national winner for the 2024 Storyfest National Novella Writing Competition. The competition is open to all Australian high school students. In March, Audrey was also invited to travel to the Gold Coast to attend the Storyfest Writers' Festival where she met authors and publishers and immersed herself in the literary world.

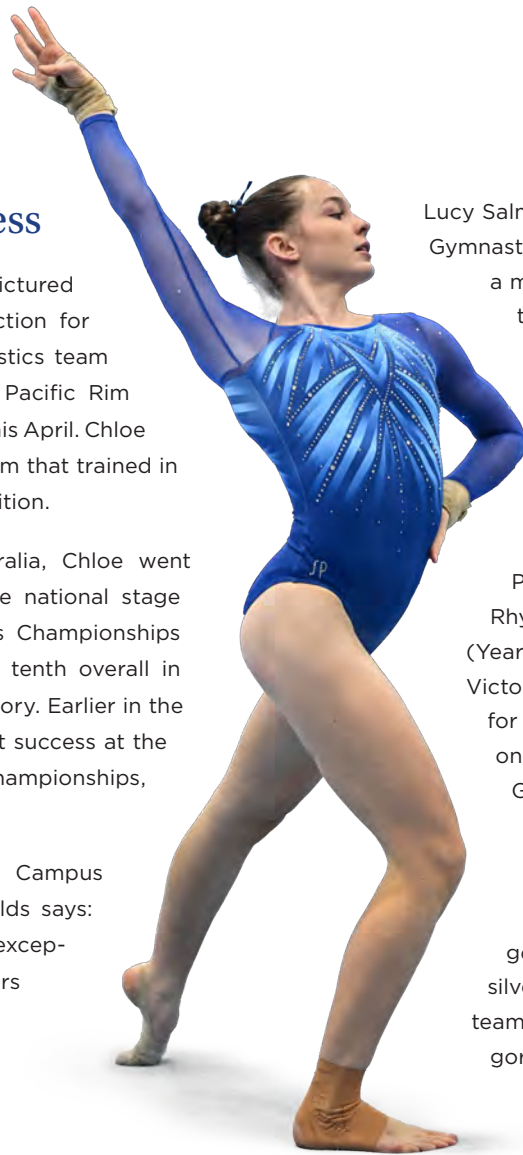


Gymnastics Success

Chloe Muntz (Year 11, pictured right) enjoyed her first selection for an Australian Artistic Gymnastics team when she competed at the Pacific Rim Championships in Colombia this April. Chloe was part of a four-woman team that trained in Colombia prior to the competition.

After landing back in Australia, Chloe went straight to competing on the national stage at the Australian Gymnastics Championships on the Gold Coast, claiming tenth overall in the Senior International category. Earlier in the year, Chloe had enjoyed great success at the Gymnastics NSW State Championships, finishing second overall.

Director of Sport and Campus Supervision Mr Cameron Childs says: 'Chloe's performances are exceptional - she always delivers breathtaking routines and demonstrates her courage and technical capabilities on a range of apparatus.'



Lucy Salmon (Year 10) also competed at the Gymnastics NSW State Championships. As a member of an Acrobatic Gymnastics trio, she claimed the silver medal in the International 12-18 Years category. As a result, Lucy and her teammates were selected and represented Australia at the Maia International Acro Cup in Portugal in May, placing fourth.

Perennial state representatives in Rhythmic Gymnastics Cara Gavagna (Year 10), Leona Asahina (Year 9) and Victoria Wei (Year 9) were also selected for the NSW team that competed on the Gold Coast in the Australian Gymnastics Championships in May.

Cara was a member of the NSW team that competed in the Senior International category and won a gold medal. Leona and Victoria won silver medals as members of the NSW team in the Junior International category and Leona placed sixth in the final of Ribbon in the Junior International.

Swimming Record Tumbles

Amelia Robinson (Year 10, pictured right) clocked the fastest ever time in the 16 Years 50 m Breaststroke at the Senior School House Swimming Carnival, breaking the School record in a scintillating 35.02 seconds. Fifty new school records have now been set at Junior and Senior House Athletics and Swimming Carnivals since 2020.

Swimming Ravenswood Captain Bella Todhunter (Year 12, pictured bottom left) also won a bronze medal in the 18-19 Years 50 m Breaststroke at the NSW CIS Swimming Championships.

Six Ravenswood students - Georgina Fife (Year 9), Stella Goulston (Year 9), Amelia Robinson (Year 10), Annabelle Scarlett (Year 12), Kirrily Woods (Year 10, pictured far right) and Racquel Wu (Year 10) - swam at the week-long Australian Age Championships on the Gold Coast, achieving several new personal best performances. Kirrily Woods placed tenth in her first national final in the 14-15 Years Multi-Class 50 m Backstroke.



Student Showcase



Athletes Make Their Mark

Annika Boys (Year 11, pictured above on left) won a silver medal in the U17 400 m Hurdles at the NSW Junior Athletics Championships, achieving a national qualifying time.

Annika then joined Ravenswood Sports Captain Amelia Watkins (Year 12) and Eliza Williams (Year 8) in Adelaide at the Australian Athletics Championships.

Annika continued her wonderful form in the U17 400 m Hurdles, progressing to the national final and achieving sixth place.

Amelia Watkins produced a thirteenth placing in the U18 400 m Hurdles and Eliza finished twentieth in the nation for the U15 800 m.

The 46-strong Ravenswood Cross Country Team also performed exceptionally, claiming fourth from 27 competing schools at the Independent Girls' Schools Association (IGSA) Sport Cross Country Championship in May.

Mia Ryko (Year 7), April Rose (Year 8) and Eliza Williams (Year 8) were also selected for the IGSA Sport Cross Country Team to compete at the NSW CIS Championships.

'Since 2018, the Ravenswood team has not finished any lower than fifth position at this prestigious running event,' says Mr Childs. 'The expertise and commitment of the coaching staff, combined with the mental fortitude of the students representing the School, has led to these truly impressive results.'

In winning her race in the Junior School House Cross Country, Year 6 student Maisie Mason also achieved the rare feat of winning all five of her age-division races in as many years. Every year since 2020, Maisie has crossed the finish line in first position, from the 8 Years category right up to the 12+ Years category.

'Maisie has achieved a truly remarkable outcome in winning her age division these past five years,' says Mr Childs. 'Her dedication to her school sporting endeavours is inspirational.'

Five Junior School students were also selected for the IPSHA Cross Country team to compete at the NSW CIS Championships: Year 6 students Zoe Jordan (Junior School Cross Country Captain), Piper Aiken and Ruby Zhang, and Year 5 students Eloise Lombardo and Vaani Mangat.



Inaugural Sydney FC Girls High Schools Cup

A Ravenswood Football team participated in the inaugural Sydney FC Girls High Schools Cup. While undefeated in their round-robin event, they narrowly missed out on qualifying for the final. Comprised of players from Years 9 and 10, the team enjoyed meeting Sydney FC players and posing for photographs with the A-League trophy (pictured), which Sydney had claimed for a second year in a row, their fifth A-League Championship overall.

Regional Representation

Alexis Brak (Year 7) and Ashlee Fryar (Year 8) played with their NSW Navy team in the grand final of the U14 Regional Softball Championships, losing a thrilling tournament decider 6 runs to 7. Both girls also had the opportunity to participate in a training session with the national players in the Aussie Spirit Women's Softball Team.

IGSA, CIS, ISC and IPSHA Selections

Four students were selected for IGSA Sport Touch Football teams to compete at the NSW CIS Championships. Erin Blayney (Year 9) was then selected for the CIS 15-and-Under team and will contest the NSW All Schools Championships in August.

Tahlia Irish (Year 9) has been selected to play AFL for the NSW CIS 15-and-Under team at the NSW All Schools Championships in June. Ravenswood Captain of AFL Maddy Peachey (Year 12), along with Year 11 students Jemima Day, Isla Evans and Grace Miller, also played for the Norths team in the AFL Sydney Independent Girls' School Competition representative match.

Mackenzie Simons (Year 8) represented the IGSA Sport team at the NSW CIS 15-and-Under Hockey Championships, with the team winning three of their four matches.

Lily Graham (Year 12) was selected for the IGSA Sport Representative Rugby 7s 18-and-Under squad. Lily currently plays for the Gordon 7s team in the Open Women's Competition.

Stella Adam-Smith (Year 6) was selected for the IPSHA Basketball team that competed at the NSW CIS Trials in March.

Junior School Football is enjoying a golden age at Ravenswood, with three Year 6 students - Maddy Gough, Emma Reinert and Indigo Walker (Junior School Saturday Sport Captain) - selected for the IPSHA Football Team for the NSW CIS Trials.

Year 6 students Isla Ramage and Lulu Simons won the 2024 NSW PSSA State Hockey Championship with their CIS team in Newcastle. Isla has also been selected to the NSW Team to compete at the School Sport Australia Championships in Cairns this August.

Student Showcase

House Performing Arts Festival

Audiences were thrilled at Senior School students' creativity and teamwork at the House Performing Arts Festival (HPAF) in February, themed 'Pathways to Wellbeing'.

Students devised, led and presented their own drama, dance and choral items, with tech and media and costume design support from fellow House members.

Students raised the roof of the Sydney Town Hall, once again setting a new decibel-level record for the venue, and sending spirits soaring.

Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone described the excitement on the night: 'It has been so exciting to see the way each House rallied together to create this extraordinary experience. What we felt tonight was not just the excitement, but also the sense of joy, the sense of connection, the sense of belonging that is fostered through these experiences, and the most extraordinary leadership and cross-age mentoring. Students in Years 7 to 12 have worked together in just three weeks to create these most incredible performances.'

Stuart won Best Costume Design under the leadership of Aoife O'Reilly (Year 12). 'My goal was to make all Stuartarians feel both confident and absolutely fabulous on-stage,' Aoife says, 'while simultaneously ensuring a sense of cohesion throughout the separate disciplines' costumes that fit with the storyline set in the 1980s. It was a highlight to see everyone so happy and with so much spirit for this beautiful House at what was Year 12's last HPAF!'

Alex Papadimitriou (Year 12) led York to win the Technology and Media category. Alex says, 'HPAF

2024 was the most wonderful experience to be a part of and I am so grateful to be a captain involved in this event, and to also bring home a win for York House. Having been in Year 7 when HPAF was first established, the opportunity to lead a discipline in Year 12 and work as a team with others truly is an adventure I will cherish well beyond my time at Ravenswood.'

Stuart won for Best Drama, led by Clara Scholefield (Year 12), and Year 12 student Shoni Doshi led Windsor to win the Coral category.

Tudor then took out the Dance category with an energetic performance led by Lily Graham (Year 12). 'My goal was to create dances that progressed through an empowering and heartfelt story that both the audience and the dancers themselves could connect with,' Lily reflects. 'I also hoped to make every dancer, regardless of prior skill or experience, feel as though they had an equal and appreciated role.'

The 2024 judging panel of industry experts included director and actor Ed Wightman and video production pro Geoff Anderson, founder of Sonic Sight.

For the first time in the festival's history, two Houses tied as runners-up (Tudor and York) and the remaining two (Stuart and Windsor) tied for the overall win!

Shoni reflects, 'By cooperating with my fellow House Captains, we were able to foster an environment where everyone could feel comfortable to let their own individual skills shine, by interlinking each discipline while creating a tight-knit community within Windsor as a whole!'



The Little Mermaid

Students in Years 7 to 12 have captivated audiences with their production of *The Little Mermaid*. Based on the 1989 animated Disney film (itself an adaptation of a Hans Christian Andersen story), the performance included uplifting renditions of *Under the Sea*, *Kiss the Girl* and *Part of Your World*.

‘The fishy fable captured the audience’s heart!’ says Mrs Heather Aird, Director of Music and Performing Arts P-12. ‘The rich costumes, enchanted undersea set and LED screen brought to life the beloved score. The cast and crew worked tirelessly to evoke the magical kingdom and characters, presenting a beautiful love story to sold-out crowds.’



The Lion King Kids Musical

Students in Years 3 to 4 celebrated a timeless story of courage, friendship and destiny with their *Lion King Kids Musical* performances in June. The African savanna was brought to life on the Ravenswood stage, with students portraying Simba, Rafiki and other unforgettable characters as they journey from Pride Rock to the jungle and back again in the inspiring, coming-of-age tale.

‘We are so proud of every girl who committed to the production,’ says Mrs Aird. ‘It has been an epic start to the year, culminating in the exceptional talents of all girls on stage, as well as backstage and front-of-house crew.’

Student Showcase



RAVO Presents Taylor Swift

RAVO Presents in Term 1 offered a rousing evening of Taylor Swift-inspired performances in our auditorium. A record 40 students from Years 7 to 12 auditioned and performed, delighting the audience with their inspired takes on Taylor's generation-defining music.

Supported by a live band and a dynamic lighting and visual display, the glittering sold-out concert saw audiences singing and cheering spontaneously.

'A *Fearless* range of solo and group performers were accompanied by a dazzling live band and backing vocals, led by Dr Michael Varecka and Mrs Heather Aird,' muses Lucy Vince (Year 12). '*Don't Blame Me* for saying that this event was a highlight for my final year at school and will be remembered for the enjoyable night performing with friends and for the immense support provided by peers and staff.'



Music Scholars

Music Scholars from Years 6 to 12 showcased their own journey of excellence, performing virtuosic pieces at the annual Music Scholars' Concert. Killara Music Club members joined Ravenswood friends and family in the audience, all of whom were touched by the performers' talent.

Of particular note was a duet by Lara Dowdeswell (Year 12), Captain of Music, and Hannah Kim (Year 12), Performing Arts Prefect, whose contribution to the Music Department over the years has been highly valued.



Drama Productions

Year 11 Drama students rehearsed and performed Carolyn Bock and Helen Hopkins' moving World War I drama *Girls in Grey*, with all students assigned roles to bring the script to life.

In June, students in Years 9 to 12 presented the magical story of *The Book of Everything*, adapted by Richard Tulloch from the novel by Guus Kuijer. Head of Drama Mr Chris Bird says, 'The students' performance of Guus Kuijer's humble and uplifting story grabbed audience members' hearts, challenged their minds and made them laugh out loud.'

Alumni News

Alumni Local Heroes

Melissa Pye (1984) and Dr Katrina 'Kate' Schofield (Tiller, 1984) were hailed local heroes last year when they were among a group of people who helped save a swimmer's life during a Manly to Shelly Beach morning swim.

Melissa, a qualified lifesaver, was one of the first on the scene, calling for help when the swimmer, who suffered from asthma and experienced difficulty breathing, was pulled to shore with no pulse. Kate was one of five people who administered life-saving CPR to the swimmer before NSW Ambulance paramedics arrived.

The swimmer told *Mosman Daily*: 'There are no words to describe the heartfelt gratitude owed to you all [the team] and my family. No one gave up, that's why I'm still here.'



From left to right: Dr Katrina 'Kate' Schofield (Tiller), Melissa Pye and survivor Katherine Smith with paramedics



Alumni Careers Networking Night

In May, 40 Ravenswood Alumni volunteered their time to share with parents and current students their career insights and journeys at the Alumni Careers Networking Night.

Alumni Nicole Beavan (1996, pictured left), a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs, gave an engaging and insightful presentation on her career journey in investment banking. Over 100 students and their parents attended the evening and enjoyed listening and learning from four industry panels hosted by our Alumni.

Alumni News

Recent Leavers' Reunion

The School and Ravenswood Alumni were delighted to welcomed back to campus the Class of 2022 for the Recent Leavers' Reunion. The women reconnected during the celebrations, held in February in the Old Girls' Courtyard, seizing the opportunity to rekindle friendships over drinks and canapes.



2024 Alumni Reunions

For help organising a reunion, please email alumni@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au. To find event information for your reunion, visit ravenswood.nsw.edu.au/community/alumni/reunions

5-Year Reunion (Class of 2019)

Event organiser needed

10-Year Reunion (Class of 2014)

Event organiser needed

20-Year Reunion (Class of 2004)

Saturday 1 November 2024

Event organiser: Erin Bassett

30-Year Reunion (Class of 1994)

Friday 20 September and Saturday 19 October 2024

Event organiser: Meredith Robson (Weeks)

40-Year Reunion (Class of 1984)

Saturday 9 November 2024

Event organiser: Sarah Beresford

45-Year Reunion (Class of 1979)

Saturday 14 September 2024

Event organiser: Jenny Wells (Page)

50-Year Reunion (Class of 1974)

Saturday 23 November 2024

Event organiser: Louise Bosch (Falkner)

56-Year Reunion (Class of 1968)

Friday 1 November 2024

Event organiser: Dianne McKenzie-Rabu (Blackford)

60-Year Reunion (Class of 1964)

Event organiser needed

Golden Girls' Luncheon – Save the Date!

Wednesday 13 November, 2024

The annual Golden Girls' Luncheon will be held on campus for Alumni who left Ravenswood 50 years ago or more. The lunch is complimentary and a wonderful way to re-connect, hear from Principal Mrs Anne Johnstone and visit the campus. Save the date – more information will be available soon.

2025 Reunions

It's never too early to start thinking about your reunion.

School reunions are a fabulous way to celebrate significant years since leaving Ravenswood. Our reunions are all about re-igniting the Ravenswood spirit and having fun. They provide a great opportunity to catch up with friends you may not have seen for many years – as well as wonderful women you may not have seen since leaving school!

Ravenswood school reunions are generally held to mark 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70 years since leaving the School. However, there is no need to restrict your reunions to these significant milestones.

Ravenswood organises and hosts the annual Recent Leavers Reunion and the Golden Girls Luncheon: these are held on campus in February and November each year respectively.

All other reunions are organised by a representative(s) or working group from each cohort, with support from the Ravenswood Alumni office. Email enquiries to alumni@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au

Coming Up in 2025

Recent Leavers' Reunion (Class of 2023)

February 2025 at Ravenswood – Invitation will be sent later in the year by Ravenswood

5-Year Reunion (Class of 2020)

Event organiser needed

10-Year Reunion (Class of 2015)

Event organiser needed

20-Year Reunion (Class of 2005)

Event organiser needed

30-Year Reunion (Class of 1995)

Event organiser needed

40-Year Reunion (Class of 1985)

Event organiser needed

50-Year Reunion (Class of 1975)

Event organiser needed

60-Year Reunion (Class of 1965)

Event organiser needed

70-Year Reunion (Class of 1955)

Event organiser: Robin Blackwell (Halliday)

Golden Girls' Luncheon

November 2025 – date to be confirmed

Alumni News

Weddings

Ali Galbraith (2012)

Ali Galbraith (2012) married Blair Whelan from Deniliquin NSW after the pair met in Melbourne in 2018. They were married in November 2023 at Tanglewood Estate on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. Numerous Ravenswood Alumni from the Class of 2012 attended, including Steph Selig, Allie Bartholomew, Bella Blake, Sophie Leijer and Elle De Bruyn.



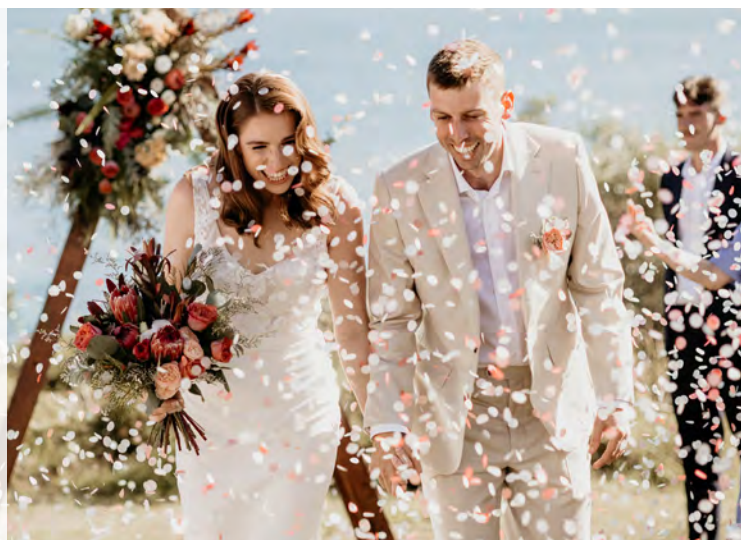
Jennifer van den Heuvel (2012)

Jennifer van den Heuvel (2012) married Vinicius Gomes Dos Santos in November 2023 on the South Coast of NSW. The couple and their guests enjoyed a day full of fun, laughter and even dancing in the rain. To help celebrate the day, Jenny and Vinny were joined by many Ravenswood Alumni including Amelia Krebs (van den Heuvel, 2015), Gretel Hickling (2012), Nicole Barnes (2012), Natasha Robson (Whiteman, 2012), Rachel Haynes (2012), Steph Selig (2012), Alexandra Bartholomew (2012), Shemira Jeevaratnam (2012), Sophie Ray (2012) and Caitlin Harris (2012).



Georgia Bartholomew (2011)

Georgia Bartholomew (2011) married Matt Hudson on 9 March 2024 at Q Station in Manly. Their sunny outdoor ceremony and cocktail reception on North Head was enjoyed by a range of Ravenswood Alumni, including bridesmaid Alexandra Bartholomew (2012), together with Emily Phillips (2011), Jenny Kim (2011), Catherine Davis (Crouch, 2011), Christal Baker (Cheung, 2011), Sarah-Anne Fenech (Raine, 2011) and Sophie Madgwick (2011).



Sarah Wells (2014)

Sarah Wells (2014) married Lachlan Urwin on 1 April 2023 at The Woods in Tomerong on the South Coast of NSW. Maid of honour was Aimee Malouf (Bennett, 2014), and sister Hannah Wells (2018) was a bridesmaid. Many other Ravenswood Alumni attended the weekend to celebrate the very happy occasion. Sarah and Lachlan now have a beautiful little girl, Indiana Grace, born 10 November 2023.



Kate Cowley (2010)

Kate Cowley (2010) married Sean Taylor on 17 February 2022 at Ancora in Tweed Heads. Numerous Ravenswood Alumni friends from the Class of 2010 attended the wedding, including Belle Cassidy (Brittain), Laura Beck, Elsie Williams (Dalyell) and Savannah Michael.



Belle Brittain (2010)

Belle Cassidy (Brittain, 2010) married Jackson Cassidy in January 2024 at Jaspers Berry. The cloudy morning cleared to blue skies in time for the ceremony. In attendance were Ravenswood Alumni Amy Brittain (2006), Lucy Rich (2010), Laura Beck (2010), Kate Taylor (Cowley, 2010), Elsie Williams (Dalyell, 2010), Savannah Michael (2010) and Emily Fisher (2010).

Vale

We offer our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following Ravenswood Alumni:

Marion Buddee (Hobson, 1958) (1941-2023)

Elizabeth (Libby) Christie AM (1967) (1950-2023)

Karenne Crow (Stott, 1961) (1944-2024)

Helen Dickson (McNickle, 1947) (1930-2023)

Audrey Drinkwater (Back, 1948) (1931-2024)

Maisie Enders OAM (Jones, 1948) (1931-2023)

Susan Penelope James (1971)

Sophie Kyprianou (2017) (1999-2024)

Margaret Jean Lock (Cooper, 1959) (1942 - 2024)

Karen Mackay (Lumby, 1974) (1956-2024)

Lynette McNickle (Jamison, 1947) (1929-2024)

Robyn Nade (Derrin, 1963)

Cynthia Dawn Smith (Wells, 1934) (1926 - 2024)

Karyl Taylor (1984) (1967-2023)

Ida Lynette Yeo (Wyld, 1965) (1939-2023)

Community News





Community News





Selected photos from Boarding Family Welcome Dinner, Parent Welcome Cocktail Reception, RPA Junior School Morning Teas, Junior School SHARE Morning Teas, RAVO Presents Taylor Swift, Mother and Daughter Celebration and Chapel Services, Champagne Twilight Tour, RPA Cupcake Day, Mother's Day Stall, Foundation Commemorative Paver Reveal, International Women's Day and Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize Opening Night.

Ravenswood Community Forums



Ravenswood welcomed Dr Judith Locke (pictured left), Director of Confident and Capable and one of the leading experts in delivering psychological ideas and solutions for parents, children, teachers and staff, to a Ravenswood Community Forum in May.

Dr Locke shared inspiring approaches to parenting and the impacts of these on children and families, including in educational settings. She also provided practical strategies to encourage a teen's confidence,

resilience and self-regulation, in their schooling and schoolwork, and to maintain harmony in the home.

Also in May, Paul Dillon presented a Ravenswood Community Forum titled 'Teens, parties, alcohol and vapes: What do parents need to know?' The insightful forum helped parents to navigate the complex area of the use of alcohol, vapes and other drugs by school-aged young people with a range of simple strategies to empower them to have open and honest family discussions.

2024 Gala Ball

THE RAVENSWOOD FOUNDATION

You are warmly invited
SATURDAY 24 AUGUST 2024

Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, 6.30pm

Gather your friends for a night of fun with the Ravenswood community to raise life-changing funds for scholarships and bursaries, and the new Wellbeing and Sport Centre.

Nominate as Table Captain and have your friends book on your table of 10.

Email community@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

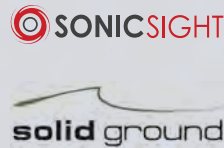
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Ravenswood

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