

FREDA

Alumnae magazine

Issue 05, June 2024



110
YEARS OF



The Women's College
within The University of Queensland
ready to lead

1914

"This year witnesses a new advent in the collegiate world,
in the establishment of the

Women



n's College



and she steps forward with becoming modesty, yet with pardonable pride to claim recognition among her sister – or brother – Colleges.

Indeed, with another, we may even boast that our College has the greatest enrolment of students – for there are nineteen of us. Therefore let the man beware, who says aught in disparagement of our College, for he will bring upon himself the disparagement of nineteen tongues ...

All of us who had the honour and joy of being the first women installed in College would not be without the memories of this first term for a good deal ...

It is the College spirit that we value most, the sympathy and understanding, which arises from the pursuit of similar interests, intellectual and otherwise, and from the mutual enjoyment of each other – this is the most precious part of College life to us, as it ever has been and ever will be to College women.”

This is an excerpt of an editorial letter that was written by one of the first Women's College residents. It was the first College Note for Women's, published in *The Magazine of The University of Queensland* (vol. 2, no. 2, May 1914, pgs 39 – 39). [Click here](#) to read the full editorial letter on the UQ Library website.

*Image: The 1914 Fresher Year Group. These 19 women were the first residents of The Women's College.
Source: The Women's College archives.*

FREDA

Alumnae magazine

110th Anniversary special edition

Issue 05, June 2024

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COVER IMAGE

The 46 alumnae who appear in the first five episodes of the 110 Alumnae Stories series (read more about the series on page 19).

Welcome from Council President Emeritus Professor Carol Dickenson AM

I extend a very warm welcome to our alumnae readers as we embark on this commemorative journey to celebrate the 110th year of The Women's College!

As part of our celebrations, this year's alumnae magazine will have a completely different look from previous issues. We hope you enjoy the journey with us.

Our first official celebration was a 110th Anniversary Reception held on 27 February at Government House hosted by the Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM. The Reception was attended by Council Members, senior staff and student leaders of the College, alumnae, donors and also guests from universities, government and industry. The Governor was very generous in her remarks about the College and in the amount of time she gave to the event – mixing with guests and enjoying the stories told.

It was good to reflect on the historical connection between The Women's College and Governor, Sir William McGregor. In 1911, the Governor and Lady McGregor hosted a series of meetings at Government House about the need for residential colleges for young women and young men. They clearly decided that such a need existed

for young women, particularly from rural and regional Queensland!

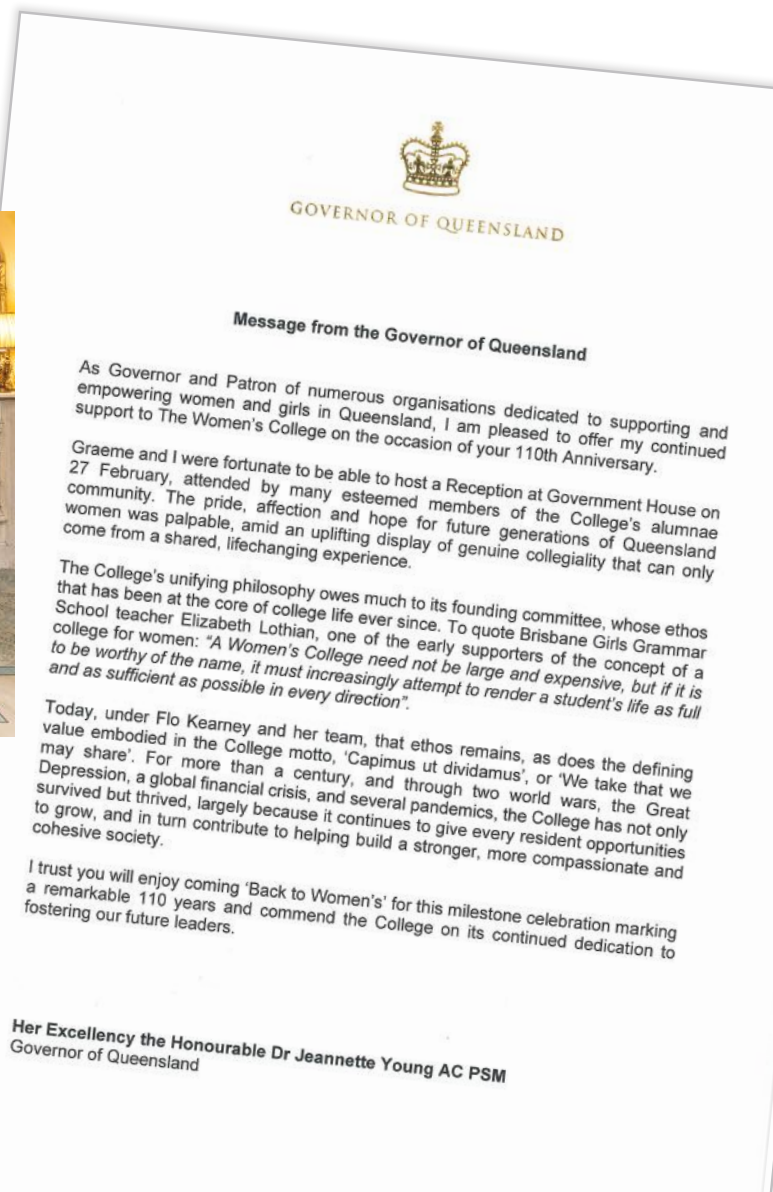
And so the journey began in 1914, the same year World War I started. Since that time, the College has progressed the education of women, women's agenda and the extraordinary contribution of women in society. The College has always been a place for women to live, learn and be empowered.

There are many contributions to the 110 years and most of them come from our alumnae. We thank you for being part of Women's, for creating the stories and legends, and for your ongoing connection with us and importantly with the women who are now in residence.

Please enjoy this special edition.



Left to right: Council Member and Alumna Olivia Williamson, Council Member Tamra Saayman, Director of Advancement Susan McGinley, Head of College & CEO Florence Kearney, Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM (Governor of Queensland), Council President Emeritus Professor Carol Dickenson AM, Director of Finance Fiona Bryant, Deputy Head of College Gayle Harris, and Director of Operations Luiz Gomes.



GOVERNOR OF QUEENSLAND

Message from the Governor of Queensland

As Governor and Patron of numerous organisations dedicated to supporting and empowering women and girls in Queensland, I am pleased to offer my continued support to The Women's College on the occasion of your 110th Anniversary.

Graeme and I were fortunate to be able to host a Reception at Government House on 27 February, attended by many esteemed members of the College's alumnae community. The pride, affection and hope for future generations of Queensland women was palpable, amid an uplifting display of genuine collegiality that can only come from a shared, lifechanging experience.

The College's unifying philosophy owes much to its founding committee, whose ethos that has been at the core of college life ever since. To quote Brisbane Girls Grammar School teacher Elizabeth Lothian, one of the early supporters of the concept of a college for women: "A Women's College need not be large and expensive, but if it is to be worthy of the name, it must increasingly attempt to render a student's life as full and as sufficient as possible in every direction".

Today, under Flo Kearney and her team, that ethos remains, as does the defining value embodied in the College motto, 'Capimus ut dividamus', or 'We take that we may share'. For more than a century, and through two world wars, the Great Depression, a global financial crisis, and several pandemics, the College has not only survived but thrived, largely because it continues to give every resident opportunities to grow, and in turn contribute to helping build a stronger, more compassionate and cohesive society.

I trust you will enjoy coming 'Back to Women's' for this milestone celebration marking a remarkable 110 years and commend the College on its continued dedication to fostering our future leaders.

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM
Governor of Queensland

Welcome from Head of College & CEO Florence Kearney

Welcome to our 110th Anniversary celebrations edition of *FREDA*!

In last year's edition, we unveiled our exciting plans for marking this anniversary and have been overwhelmed with the engagement and enthusiasm of the College community as those plans came to fruition. The College's contribution to Queensland and across the globe through the achievements of the more than 7,000 women who have resided here has been in the spotlight throughout this remarkable year.

Along with acknowledgement of this milestone from Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Cr Adrian Schrinner, extended his support, with a framed certificate that now hangs at the entrance to the Dining Hall.

The Back to Women's event on Saturday 16 March marked exactly 110 years since the official opening of The Women's College in 1914. Alumnae, current students, families and friends joined us for this

milestone celebration, where we honoured the past and inspired the future with five back-to-back events to celebrate our legacy.

We were delighted to welcome back over 150 alumnae, many of whom had travelled far and wide to join us, including Master of Ceremonies for the Champagne High Tea, Samantha Heathwood (alumna 2000 – 2002). A newsreader and journalist for Channel 7, Samantha added a professional touch to the occasion. Sam even wore her MC outfit to read the news that night as a tribute to Women's College!

Saturday 16 March 2024 was truly a day to remember, with celebrations to honour 110 years of The Women's College across the generations.

I encourage you to find out more about this unique event that celebrated the culture of Women's and the evolution of the College in our article on pages 12 – 16. The remainder of this issue explores our other 110th Anniversary celebrations and legacy projects. In the meantime, the College community looks forward to the final events in our 110th Anniversary calendar – the Gala Ball and Perth Alumnae Event – that follow the publication of this issue.



Above: The Leaders' Cocktail Party was the final event at this year's Back to Women's celebration.



Right: Flo with the certificate from the Lord Mayor of Brisbane.

Introduction from Director of Advancement Susan McGinley

Celebrating *FREDA*: five years of connection and pride at The Women's College.

As we celebrate the 110th anniversary of The Women's College, it's a joy to reflect on the first five years of our award-winning alumnae magazine, *FREDA*. Launched in June 2020, during a time of unprecedented global challenges, *FREDA* quickly became a beacon of connection for our alumnae community. The magazine emerged from a clear vision, to ensure that our alumnae remained connected and engaged, even as the world faced the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Named in honour of founding Principal, Anna Frederika (Freda) Bage, *FREDA* was initially launched as a digital publication that celebrated the achievements and stories of our alumnae. The process of naming the magazine was itself a testament to the creativity and passion of our community, with an overwhelming number of submissions in the naming competition. The winning entry, submitted by alumna Josephine Kendall (1983 – 1985), was a perfect tribute to a woman whose impact on The Women's College and its students has been profound since 1914.

FREDA was also the realisation of a long-held dream for one dedicated alumna, Kim Lyons (2001 – 2005), who served on the College's Council for a decade and who was honoured with a Fellowship of the College in 2023. Kim's unwavering support was instrumental in bringing this vision to life.

Reflecting on the first issue of *FREDA*, Kim shared, "I'm sure that everyone who received *FREDA* will agree it was worth the wait. The magazine's professionalism, style, tone, and the engaging range of stories capture the essence of life at Women's. It provides a fantastic platform for our alumnae community. It's truly inspiring to read about the wonderful things our women are achieving across the globe, and it makes one feel extra proud to be a Wooza."

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering this spirit of connection and pride through *FREDA*, celebrating the extraordinary alumnae of The Women's College for many more years to come.

Happy 5th Birthday, *FREDA*!



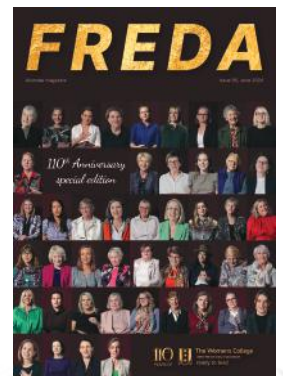
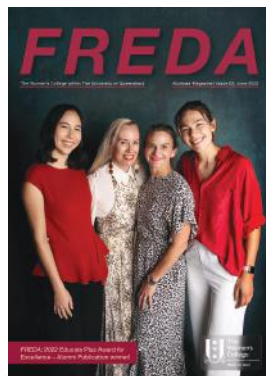
Left: Alumna Kim Lyons (2001 – 2005) and Director of Advancement Susan McGinley. Below: The covers for the first five copies of *FREDA*.

Join Us in Celebrating the College's 110th Anniversary

As we commemorate this significant milestone, we are thrilled to announce The Women's College's 110th Anniversary Capital Campaign: Find Your Place in the Wellbeing Precinct.

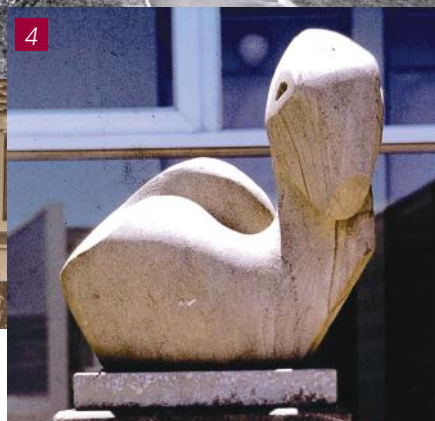
We invite you to be a part of this transformative initiative. Your support will help us create spaces that encourage connection, resilience, and lifelong wellbeing. More details are on pages 22 – 23.

Join us in this exciting journey and make your mark on the next chapter of The Women's College.



110 years of The Women's College

Since 1914, The Women's College has been a place for women to live, learn and be empowered. Discover more about the images in this timeline – and explore the history of The Women's College – in our Virtual Museum at womens.uq.edu.au/virtual-museum/



1910s This decade saw the establishment of The Women's College. Several prominent public and government figures – including the then Governor of Queensland and his wife – were involved in raising funds for the College, which officially opened at Kangaroo Point on Monday 16 March 1914. *Image 1*

1920s The College Crest was drawn and the motto– *Capimus ut dividamus* “We take that we may share” – was adopted in September 1921. Despite global wars and economic uncertainty, the College more than doubled in size by 1922, which saw 52 graduates. *Image 2*

1930s On Friday 15 March 1935, the College came of age, celebrating its 21st birthday with a celebratory photo in front of Chislehurst House. In 1938, a committee was formed to begin raising money for the new St Lucia site. *Image 3*

1940s As it had done during the First World War, the Women's community contributed to the WWII efforts. The 1940s also saw the presentation of Eeyore – which became the first College mascot – and the laying of the St Lucia site Foundation Stone in 1949. *Image 4*

1950s A new era for Women's began in the 1950s. After the first set of residents moved from Kangaroo Point in 1958, the official opening at St Lucia took place on Saturday 14 March 1959. Lady Aileen Slim, wife of the Governor-General, officially opened the new building. *Image 5*

1960s The 1960s saw growth, with the opening of New Wing and the Freda Bage Common Room, and the Dining Hall and kitchen expansion, all made possible through philanthropy. The Student Club magazine – *Eeyore* – was first published in 1967. *Image 6*



1970s The College celebrated its Diamond Jubilee (60 years) in 1974, the same year in which devastating floods impacted much of southeast Queensland. The College won its first ICC Shield for the women's competition in the 1970s, amidst women's liberation and other social changes. *Image 7*

1980s To mark the College's 75th Anniversary, Honorary Fellowships were introduced in 1989. This was also the year in which computers were introduced, with Women's being the first residential college at St Lucia to install computer facilities. *Image 8*

1990s The 1990s saw the introduction of Mary Woozer (now known as Mary Wooza), who was adopted as the College's second mascot. This decade also saw further expansion, with the opening of Piddington Wing and the College Playhouse. *Image 9*

2000s The Dining Hall's stained glass windows were a commemorative project for the year 2000, telling the story of the College. Life at Women's was full of sports, cultural and social activities, all while residents continued to embrace the spirit of community. *Image 10*

2010s 100 years of The Women's College was celebrated in 2014, with several events, further growth, and key milestones. The Maureen Aitken Garden was completed in 2013, while the Centenary Wing opened in 2015 bringing the total capacity to 253 residents. *Image 11*

2020s We're only (almost) halfway into the 2020s, but much has been achieved. *FREDA* and the Alumnae Awards were launched during a global pandemic that saw great resilience from the College. We celebrate 110 years in 2024, and confidently step into the future. *Image 12*

110th Anniversary *Reception at Government House*



The official start to The Women's College's 110th Anniversary celebrations, was marked by a Reception that was hosted by the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, alongside Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD, at Government House on Tuesday 27 February 2024.

Among the attendees were 70 distinguished guests, including esteemed members of the College's alumnae community. The Governor, in her address, highlighted the profound impact of The Women's College in empowering young women, especially those from rural and regional Queensland, throughout its illustrious journey as a university residential college since 1914.





THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE

Back to Women's

CELEBRATING 110 YEARS

On Saturday 16 March, we celebrated our 110th Anniversary in grand style, bringing together our vibrant Women's community for a series of unforgettable events.

Champagne High Tea

Our key event during Back to Women's saw around 140 alumnae, student leaders and residents, donors and friends of the College attend a Champagne High Tea. The event began with an introduction by Master of Ceremonies Samantha Heathwood (alumna 2000 – 2002) before Head of College & CEO Flo Kearney welcomed guests, with special mention to alumnae from the 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004 and 2014 Fresher Year Groups, which celebrated their milestone reunions.

Guests then enjoyed the cutting of the 110th birthday cake ceremony (pictured right), with Zimena Furey (Student Club President), Isabel Nolke (Senior Resident Assistant), Madeleine McEniery (2014 Fresher) and Judith Anderson OAM (1964 Fresher).

Winners and finalists of the 2024 Alumnae Awards then shared inspiring stories in a Q&A panel discussion. We were honoured to have the following panellists (pictured right) discuss heartfelt memories of their time at Women's:

- Anna McDougall (alumna 2011 – 2013), 2024 Young Alumna Award winner
- Rebecca Nicholas (alumna 1997 – 1999), Finalist
- Nikki Parkinson (alumna 1985), 2024 Inspirational Alumna Award winner
- Jan Willett (alumna 1973 – 1975), Finalist

Winners were announced for the Back to Women's major raffle, with funds from this major raffle going towards the Women's College Prizes program and the Standing Committee Bursary.

The event ended with the premiere of the third episode of the 110 Alumnae Stories series, and a lively fresher dance by the 1994 Fresher Year group.





Touchwall Unveiling Ceremony

Back to Women's commenced with an unveiling ceremony of the College's new interactive Touchwall. One of the 110th Anniversary legacy projects, the Touchwall was introduced by Head of College & CEO Flo Kearney before Director of Advancement Susan McGinley led a technical demonstration for guests. The Touchwall was then officially unveiled by College Council President Emeritus Professor Carol Dickenson AM, Student Club President Zimena Furey and Senior Resident Assistant Isabel Nolke.

When you next visit Women's, we encourage you to explore our history and achievements through the interactive Touchwall experience!



Philanthropy Trail Tour

Highlighting the generosity of our amazing Women's community is the new Philanthropy Trail Tour, which was launched at Back to Women's. Head of College & CEO Flo Kearney, alongside Director of Advancement Susan McGinley, led alumnae and donors on an inspiring journey through our campus.

As a part of our 110th Anniversary legacy projects, the Philanthropy Trail showcases the buildings, facilities and features made possible by alumnae and friends' philanthropic support. The tour includes some of our iconic landmarks, like New Wing and Centenary Wing, the refurbished May Hancock Auditorium (a.k.a College Playhouse), the Maureen Aitken Garden, and the intricate beauty of the stained-glass windows in the Dining Hall.



Art Collection Tour

We were honoured to have alumna and esteemed art curator Alison Kubler (1991 – 1992) lead an unforgettable Art Collection Tour at Back to Women's.

Diving into the depths of our College's rich heritage, Alison expertly unveiled masterpieces by some of Australia's most iconic artists – including William Drysdale, Sir William Dargie and Margaret Olley – all curated under her guidance.

Some of the collection highlights from the tour included:

- A stunning set of five ink drawings capturing the essence of our original College buildings at Kangaroo Point, graciously gifted by the legendary Australian artist Lloyd Rees back in 1915.
- A breathtaking collection of still life and artworks crafted by trailblazing women artists, each piece resonating with grace and empowerment.
- Commissioned portraits of our esteemed College Principals, capturing their vision and dedication to empowering generations of women.
- The inspiring 'The Getting of Wisdom' tapestry panels.

We were filled with gratitude for the intersection of art and education, weaving together the threads of our vibrant 110-year history during this extraordinary event.



Leaders' Cocktail Party

Student leaders have been an integral part of the vibrant 110-year history of The Women's College, with the spirit of leadership shaping our College and inspiring many.

We welcomed past members of the Student Club Executive and Resident Assistant teams to the Leaders' Cocktail Party on Saturday 16 March. This special 110th Anniversary event was an opportunity for alumnae to reconnect with student leaders from their era, and share their experiences with the current generation of student leaders.



Interstate Alumnae Events

Alumnae living and working outside of Queensland had the opportunity to celebrate 110 years of The Women's College and catch-up with each other at our Interstate Alumnae Events.

Melbourne

A few days after Back to Women's – on Wednesday 20 March – alumnae living and working in Melbourne came together. It was a wonderful occasion for everyone, catching up with inspirational women across the decades, including three alumnae – Maggie Cash (1954 – 1956), Margaret Mayers (1951) and Margaret Wood (1956 – 1957) – who were transitional students that experienced college life at our Kangaroo Point campus before living at our UQ campus at St Lucia from 1958.

A big thank you to Paula Wilton (alumna 1988 – 1990), one of the College's Network Ambassadors, for assisting with this special alumnae event.



Sydney

Thursday 21 March saw an unforgettable alumnae event in Sydney at the 18 Footers Bar. A group of inspirational women who have graced our College across the decades were reunited, and among them were three remarkable alumnae who held the leadership position of Student Club President – Ella Cooper (2020), Zoe Cotton (2011) and Phillippa Vella (2018).

A heartfelt thank you is extended to Amanda Johnston-Pell (alumna 1989 – 1991), a distinguished member of our College’s Network Ambassadors group, for her invaluable support in orchestrating this amazing venue in Sydney.



Perth






Please save the date – Monday 9 September 2024 – for our Perth 110th Anniversary Alumnae Event! We are delighted to

announce the venue – Modo Mio at Crown Perth.

[Click here](#) for more details and to register. An invitation will also be emailed to alumnae closer to the event.





- 110 Alumnae Stories Playlist**

 Kate Wyburn
 Medical Director
 1992 - 1993
 6:55
110 Alumnae Stories | Giving Back
- 
 Anna Bligh AC
 Former Premier of Queensland
 2018
 6:59
110 Alumnae Stories | Notable & Successful Alumnae
- 
 Maggie Cash
 Physiotherapist
 1961 - 1966
 Judy Smith
 Physiotherapist
 7:03
110 Alumnae Stories | Kangaroo Point & Transitional Years
- 
 Margie Bale
 Nurse
 1991 - 1994
 7:25
110 Alumnae Stories | Empowering Women to Succeed
- 
 6:10
110 Alumnae Stories | Multi-Generational Stories

110 Alumnae Stories | About

110 Alumnae Stories is a 110th Anniversary legacy project that celebrates the College's milestone 110th Anniversary. The videos in this project showcase the vibrant tapestry of experiences shared by our esteemed alumnae community.

This series consists of 10 engaging episodes, each focusing on different themes of the College's history, culture and cherished traditions. These videos are wonderful opportunities to reminisce about the days gone by, share insights, and inspire current and future generations of students who are fortunate enough to call our College home.

Episodes are released monthly throughout our 110th Anniversary year, and are available to watch on our website at www.womens.uq.edu.au/110-anniversary/110-alumnae-stories/.

3 Comments



@marywooza 2 days ago
I am loving hearing these wonderful stories from alumnae! Can't wait to see the next episodes. What will the next videos be about?

1 reply



@thewomenscollegeuq 2 days ago
@marywooza, our next episodes include stories about College traditions & O Week, student leaders & award winners, what the next 110 years at Women's might look like, the friendships alumnae have made at Women's, and there's even an episode about you, our amazing mascot!



@thewomenscollegeuq 3 days ago
The following alumnae appear in our first five published episodes and on the front cover of this magazine: Judith Anderson, Margie Bale, Courtney Black, Anna Bligh, Suzanne Bosanquet, Louise Brown, Cate Campbell, Maggie Cash, Jo Cope, Kate Copeland, Deborah Davis, Katherine Eccles, Sylvie Giguere, Elizabeth Greatbach, Genevieve Gregor, Charlotte Grigg, Medina Handley, Beverley Higgins, Sue Jackson, Mary Johnston, Amanda Johnston-Pell, Laine Kapetanakos, Cecilie Lander, Susannah Leydon, Kim Lyons, Elizabeth Macintosh, Leah McKenzie, Edith McPhee, Susan Moloney, Gwynneth Muller, Libby Munro, Barbara Page-Hanify, Ellen Palfreyman, Nikki Parkinson, Emma Robinson, Jacqueline Schultz, Joan Scott, Fiona Smaha, Judy Smith, Anne Thacker, Margaret Thorsborne, Bianca Watt, Olivia Williamson, Frances Wright, Kate Wyburn and Bree Zannes.

MORE

The College Touchwall

Driving forward innovation to showcase our past



The Women's College would like you to explore our history and achievements through the interactive Touchwall, which is one of our 110th Anniversary legacy projects. With innovation and technology, this legacy project is an interactive digital experience located in the College Foyer. In this article, we provide a sample of the information you can look forward to viewing when you next visit the Touchwall at The Women's College.

Pictured above: College Council Deputy President Joanna Jenkins (alumna 1982 – 1984) and past Principal Helen McBride (1985 – 1990) discover the Virtual Museum entry about Helen and her time as Principal at The Women's College.



Virtual Museum: This collection of memorabilia reflects our rich history and holds a special place in our hearts because it reminds us of the friendships and traditions that have enriched Women's community for more than a century.



Current Woozas: Guests are invited to explore the Australian and international regions that our current Woozas call home. The *View Graphs* pop-up also provides a snapshot of the universities and courses in which students are currently studying.



Notable Alumnae: Women's has over 40 alumnae who have received an award from the Order of Australia or Order of the British Empire. In this section you can learn more about this diverse group of remarkable women who have inspired, led and improved our world.



Year Group Photos: Our College has grown from 19 residents in 1914 to over 250 residents – plus around 50 associates – in recent years. This section also includes a search function to allow guests to look for alumnae by name, and a function to let users download photos.



110 Alumnae Stories: This page showcases each episode from the 110 Alumnae Stories legacy project. Guests are invited to explore summaries of the 10 episodes, with a QR code that can be scanned so that you can watch episodes on your device at your leisure.



Anniversary Events: This section of the Touchwall provides a snapshot of how the College is celebrating our 110th Anniversary. Events appear in chronological order with information about dates and venues, along with QR codes to RSVP or purchase tickets.

Philanthropy Trail

Step through time and discover the tangible impact of giving

The Women's College community has a long history of raising funds for the College, dating right back to the first meeting at Government House on 17 April 1913, when the establishment of a college for women was considered.

We invite you to walk through time on our Philanthropy Trail – a 110th Anniversary legacy project – to discover how the generosity of many donors has shaped The Women's College into a supportive living and learning community for young women who relocate to Brisbane to undertake tertiary studies at their chosen university.

This self-guided tour celebrates the generosity of our amazing Women's community, showcasing the buildings, facilities and features made possible by your philanthropic support.

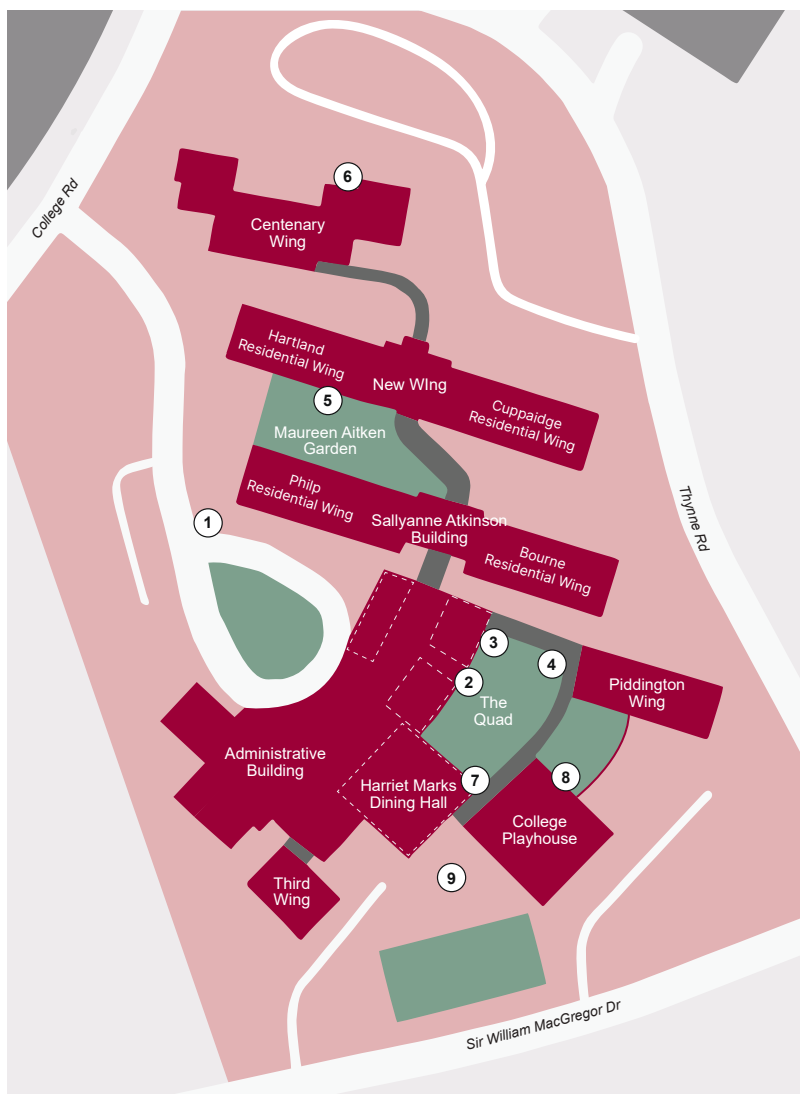
Through the Philanthropy Trail, guests are invited to explore some of our iconic landmarks, like New Wing and Centenary Wing, and the refurbished May Hancock Auditorium (also known as the College Playhouse). Along the trail you will get the opportunity to stroll through the Maureen Aitken Garden, and admire the intricate beauty of the stained-glass windows in our Dining Hall.

The spirit of giving and the incredible impact it has on our Women's College community is celebrated in this trail, with further points of interest to be added in the future, as alumnae and friends of the College continue to generously contribute to the growth of the Women's campus.

[Click here](#) to book a Philanthropy Trail tour on our website.



- 1 **New College opens – St Lucia Campus**
At the main entrance of the College, on the circular drive at the corner of the Sallyanne Atkinson Building.
- 2 **New Wing, Freda Bage Room and enlargement of Kitchen and Dining Hall building projects**
In between the Freda Bage Common Room and the Chislehurst Room (outside), overlooking the Quad.
- 3 **Piddington Wing and Playhouse Building Project**
At the Chislehurst Room corner of the Quad.
- 4 **New Century Project – Stained Glass windows**
At the Piddington Wing corner of the Quad.
- 5 **Maureen Aitken Garden**
To the right of the Chislehurst Society Alumnae Circle, on the New Wing side of the Maureen Aitken Garden.
- 6 **Centenary Wing – 100th Anniversary Campaign**
At the Thynne Road entrance to Centenary Wing.
- 7 **Study Hub Project**
On the basement level, under the Harriet Marks Dining Hall. Access is via the staircase from the Deck or from the walking pathway from plaque #4.
- 8 **College Playhouse Refurbishment**
To the right of the doors to the Playhouse, in the courtyard opposite Piddington Wing.
- 9 **Wellbeing Precinct**
Coming soon – currently, the site of the tennis and basketball court.





Find Your Place

in the
Wellbeing Precinct

110th Anniversary Capital Campaign



For 110 years, The Women's College has been a place for women to live, learn and be empowered, thanks to the unwavering generosity of our benefactors.

From the first meeting at Government House on 17 April 1913, where the establishment of a college for women was first envisioned to today, your support has helped shape a legacy of strength and inspiration.

*Join us in making history once again.
Find Your Place in the Wellbeing Precinct.*

We now invite you to Find Your Place by supporting the creation of the Wellbeing Precinct, an iconic new landmark designed to meet the evolving needs of our College community. This transformative space will provide a place for future generations to thrive academically, socially, and personally.

The Wellbeing Precinct embodies our commitment to fostering a holistic environment where students can flourish. By contributing to our Master Plan (Stage 1) Capital Campaign, you are not just supporting a new facility but investing in the future of women's education and empowerment.

“The Student Club is excited about the Wellbeing Precinct and is pleased to financially support the creation of such a positive environment for young women and the benefits it will bring to our College community. The 2023 and 2024 Student Club has contributed \$20,000 towards this capital campaign. I hope you will join us.”

— Zimena Furey, 2024 Student Club President

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Click here to give now](#)

Click on the Learn More button to explore the Wellbeing Precinct in a fly-through video, discover the campaign highlights and see the fundraising progress.

The Find Your Place campaign offers many contribution and naming opportunities for alumnae to be involved in the fundraising efforts to support the Wellbeing Precinct.



A tale of two mascots

How Eeyore and Mary Wooza share a special place in the hearts of alumnae

If our mascots could speak, they would tell you many stories about their adventures with Women's College students. But who are our mascots, and how did they come to life?

Eeyore

In mid-1942, a stone sculpture titled *The Fawn* was presented to the College. This sculpture was hand-carved by Leonard Shillam AM, an accomplished Brisbane-based sculptor. A site was chosen in the College garden, where a few months later the sculpture was placed onto a concrete base fixed into the ground. It was immediately christened 'Eeyore' by the residents because it looked like a fairytale character.

Quickly becoming the first College mascot, the nickname of the fawn was also the inspiration for the name of the Student Club magazine. The first editor of *Eeyore*, Judith Frohlich (alumna 1965 – 1967), wrote in her editorial:

"This being the first edition of "Eeyore", it is necessary to make some sort of a statement (for posterity) about this choice of name. Eeyore, as you no doubt know, lives in our garden. Nobody really knows what his main purpose in life is, since he spends most of the year hidden among the foliage ruminating to himself and looking very wise."

The very same first issue (pictured left) featured an illustration of Eeyore by Gaye Glanville, who was a First-Year Resident in 1967.

Eeyore currently sits at the entrance to the Maureen Aitken Garden.



Mary Woozer

Now known as Mary Wooza, this effervescent mascot is a beloved part of The Women's College.

Mary came to fruition in the early 1990s, when resident Lucy Moxon (1990 – 1992; pictured below with an incarnation of Mary Woozer in 1992) constructed a life-sized doll to prank fellow resident Nerissa Lee Long (1990 – 1993). This doll was carefully placed in the doorway of Nerissa's room, to suddenly appear as the door opened. The following evening, Lucy and Nerissa collaborated, repeating the prank, this time on Kath Myers (1990 – 1992).

Word about this homemade doll soon spread throughout the College, and she made an appearance at the 1990 College Ball, and was then subsequently adopted as the second Women's mascot. She was initially named Ginny, but with Principal (1985 – 1990) Helen McBride's intervention, was rechristened Mary Woozer.

This first incarnation of Mary attended many ICC events, becoming well-known among Women's residents and among the other colleges. Later in 1990, Mary became the target of St Leo's College when they stole her and burnt her publically at the ICC Swimming Carnival, igniting a tradition when the Women's College residents attempted to retaliate by capturing the Leonian's "lucky rake".

Since then, Women's students have fiercely protected Mary Wooza.

In 2023, Mary embarked on a journey across the world in celebration of the College's 110th Anniversary. She is sharing her adventures with alumnae and current students on her Instagram page [@Wooza_World](#). Alumnae are invited to join the Sisterhood of the Travelling Mary Wooza – [click here for more information](#).





Row 1 (L – R): Mary joins the Fresher Dance competition in 2012; goes tenpin bowling during O Week in 2013; and is one of the guests of honour at the College's Centenary celebrations in 2014.

Row 2 (L– R): Residents protect Mary from other College rivals in 2016; she plays tennis in 2018; and at her 2020 coronation.

Row 3 (L – R): Supporting an ICC team in 2020; and practising COVID-19 hygiene in 2021.



Sisterhood of the Travelling Mary Wooza



Through the [Sisterhood of the Travelling Mary Wooza](#) initiative, Mary has explored the following locations with alumnae.

1. Mary departed from Women's in Brisbane.
2. She visited Harrisville with Margie Bale (1991 to 1994).
3. Mary then explored Uluru in the NT with Margie.
4. After a brief stopover in Brisbane, Mary went to Italy with Amy (1994) and Indigo Makim (current resident).
5. Returning to Australia, Mary then went to Toowoomba and several towns in Outback Queensland with Kim Lyons (2001 – 2005).
6. Stopping briefly in Brisbane to attend the 2023 Alumnae Tour at the Thomas Dixon Centre, Mary then went to Bali as a guest at Sandy Key's (1991 – 1993) birthday celebrations.
7. After a few weeks back home – which included a rowing session on the Brisbane River with four alumnae – Mary then went to New Zealand with Leah McKenzie (1981 – 1983).
8. Mary then travelled to Cabarita Beach (NSW) to visit a 1992 Fresher who earned her Bronze Medallion with her Surf Lifesaving Patrol.



Where in the world will Mary Wooza go next?

Click here to follow her journey @Wooza_World on Instagram

Women's in the media Then and now

Women's College Queensland University

"A well attended drawing-room meeting was held at Government House yesterday, in connection with the proposed residential college for women students at the Queensland University. His Excellency the Governor and Lady MacGregor received the guests in the hall, and thence they passed into the dining-room, where tea was served ...

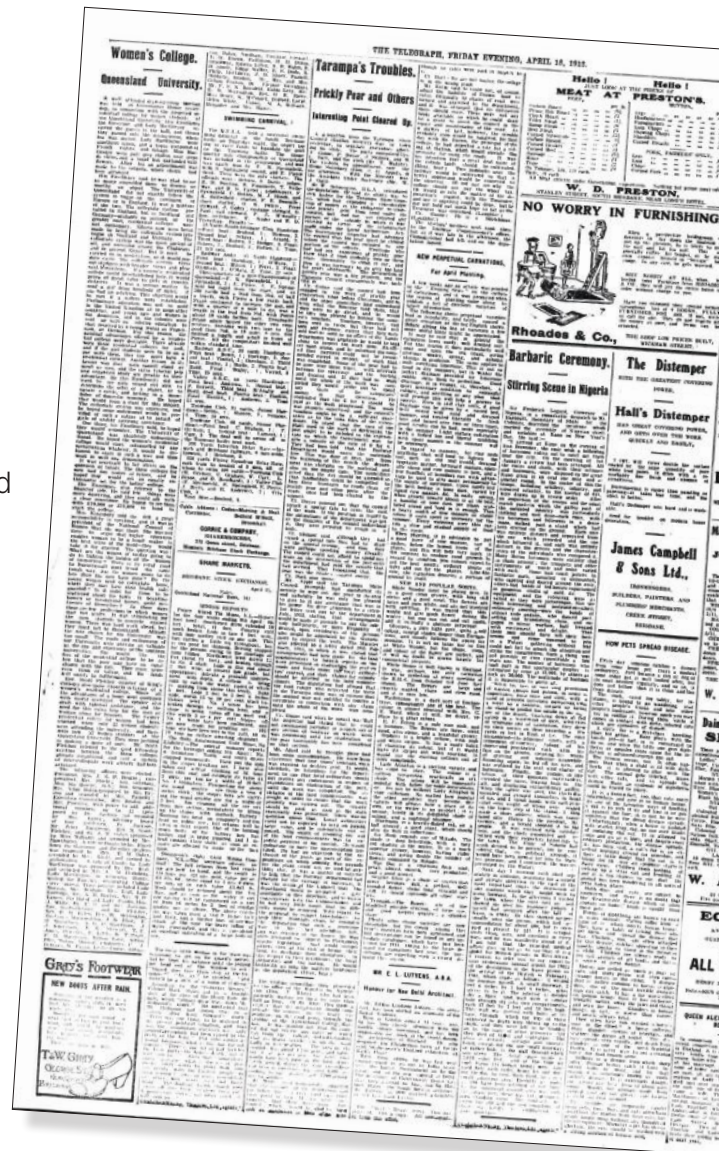
His Excellency said he was glad to see so many assembled there to discuss so worthy and object ...

If a women's residential college could be established here, it would prove of great value to girls in country districts."

This is an excerpt from (we think) the first newspaper article about The Women's College within The University of Queensland. It discusses the first meeting at Government House on 17 April 1913, when the establishment of a college for women was considered. This article was published on 18 April 1913 in *The Telegraph* (Brisbane), on page 3.

[Click here](#) to read the full article in the Virtual Museum on The Women's College website.

1913 'Women's College.', *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), 18 April, p. 3., viewed 17 Apr 2024, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article175906577>



Nowadays, you can get your up-to-date Women's College news from our social media pages! (Click on the logos to visit the websites.)



@TheWomensCollegeUQ



@womenscollegeuq



@womenscollegeuq



The Women's College within
The University of Queensland



@thewomenscollegeuq

Our social media pages were created on the following dates:

- Facebook: 24 May 2013
The first post was a photo of the 1914 Fresher Year Group!
- Instagram (@womenscollegeuq): 2 August 2018
The first post was info about the 2018 Open Day.
- Instagram (@wooza_world): 12 June 2023
The first post was about Mary leaving Women's to go on her new Sisterhood of the Travelling Mary Wooza adventure.
- TikTok: 12 February 2023
The first video was an introduction of the 2023 Student Leadership Team.
- LinkedIn: 1 November 2021
- YouTube: 2019

110th Anniversary Merch

Celebrate in style: explore our range of 110th Anniversary merchandise!

Whether you're looking to treat yourself or you're searching for the perfect gift, our exclusive 110th Anniversary merchandise is available for you to enjoy. Discover a range of items in our Online Shop.

Embrace the spirit of celebration and commemorate this special milestone with our carefully curated collection of keepsakes. Don't miss out on these unique offerings – visit our Online Shop today and make your selection before they're gone!

[Click here to visit the Online Shop](#)



Boxed Pen | \$39.95



Mary Wooza doll | \$49.95



Wines
\$15 – \$16
per bottle

Frank Green ceramic reusable cup | \$35.50



Purse/Clutch
(pictured: alumna
Margie Bale)
\$75



110
YEARS OF



The Women's College

within The University of Queensland

ready to lead

THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE

110th Anniversary

GALA BALL

Tickets on sale now

Please join us for an evening of elegance and celebration at the 110th Anniversary Gala Ball.

Tickets include a two-course sit-down dinner, drinks and entertainment. Save the date for this spectacular event on Saturday 17 August at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, as we transform the night into an unforgettable experience of shared stories.

Don't miss out on this spectacular formal occasion, where we will honour the past and inspire the future.

Visit www.womens.uq.edu.au/event/110-anniversary-ball/ for more details and to purchase your tickets today!