Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends of BMGS,

Several Centenary events have taken place since our last Centenary Newsletter, involving students at all campuses.

In May, the Preparatory School held a Bulb Drive and Birthday Party in conjunction with their annual Grandparents’ Day.

The Junior School also held their Anniversary celebration, complete with a large “100” themed cake, a jumping castle and petting zoo, which added much to the party atmosphere.

On Saturday, 26th May, the Senior School held a Bulb & Book Drive, which was a great success. The Foundation had purchased 1,000 bulbs, of the School’s special variety, and the stall was sold out within two hours.

Many of the bulbs were donated back to the School and so generous were the donations that there were sufficient bulbs to fill two new garden beds, prepared by Senior School students especially for the Bulb Drive. Half of the bulbs were planted by students in Year 7, who commenced their Senior School journey this year; the other half was planted by our Year 12 students, who will graduate in our Centenary year.

These two new beds are located on the left hand side of the entrance drive, just past the main gates, and they complete the ‘Driveway Lined with Gold’ project, which was part of our 90th Anniversary celebrations in 2008.

**COMING EVENTS**

- **Thursday, 16th August**
  - Sydney Reunion (see Page 4)

- **Saturday, 25th August**
  - Annual Trivia Night (see Page 4)

- **Wednesday, 12th September**
  - Service of Thanksgiving (see Page 4)

- **Saturday, 15th & 16th September**
  - Centenary Spring Festival (see Pages 4 and 5)
Tommy Cuff Era Reunion

Also in May (26th), on the afternoon of the Bulb Drive the Headmaster, Mr. Barman, hosted a Reunion for graduates from 1974 to 1982, the Tommy Cuff era.

It was a joyful occasion with much laughter and some very entertaining ‘tall tales and true’ told during a luncheon in Coorah and whilst on a tour of ‘old haunts’.

Graduates of 1982 were particularly impressed to see that their two cherry trees, gifted to BMGS on the occasion of their Valedictory Dinner, were thriving in the MacLaurin quadrangle. Others felt the years fall away as they entered Bartlett Building in which, together with Cuff Hall, they spent much of their time.

We were delighted to be joined by Mrs. Joan Edwards, Mr. Johnny Fuller and Mr. Ken Goodlet, who taught so many of those in attendance.
The final event for the Semester was the Blue & Gold Anniversary and Debutante Ball held in the Fairmont Resort, Leura, on Saturday, 9th June.

Throughout our Centenary year, we continue to acknowledge the history and traditions of our School and this year’s event was named “Blue & Gold” in deference to its origins. In his speech, the Headmaster Mr. Barman acknowledged Mrs. Elsa Elkington, who initiated the first Blue & Gold Ball in 1976 - and many subsequent Balls - who, although unable to attend this event, sent a lovely message to the Debutantes and their partners (17 couples in all), wishing them well on their Debut.

We were delighted that Mrs. Margaret Groenewegen (past parent and co-ordinator of Blue & Gold Balls), Mrs. Lynn Thomson and Mrs. July Kell (past parents and co-ordinators of Debutante Balls), Mr. Philip Hammon and Mrs. Peta Hammon (past parents and dance instructors for the students, pictured below) and Mr. Greg Searl (past Staff member, inaugural Head of Hughes House, and compere of the Debutante Balls for many years, pictured below) could be with us on the night.

We were also absolutely thrilled that so many of our Alumni returned to support the Ball with their musical talents, in both the Chamber Ensemble (Mrs. Elizabeth Harding, nee Cooney, 2005) and the Stage Band: Mr. Angus Airth (2014), Mr. Dane Jones (2014), Mr. Hamish Davidson (2016), Mr. Cameron Smith (2016), Mr. Matthew Hedges (2016), Mr. Joey Jones-Romeo (2017) and Miss Kate Verhoeven (2017).

There were also many members of our Alumni attending as guests at the Ball, and it was lovely to see so many ‘mini reunions’ taking place throughout the evening.

Guest of honour this year was Prof. Graham Farquhar AO, 2018 Senior Australian of the Year and recipient of the Kyoto Prize for Science, and Matron of Honour was Ms Charlotte Smith, past parent, owner and curator of the Darnell Collection. Also in the Official Party with Mr. and Mrs. Barman were Mr. John Wakefield OAM, Mrs. Susan Wakefield OAM, Mrs Lyn Stanger (Darug elder), Mrs. Christine Olliffe (Chair, BMGS Board) and the Reverend Greg Olliffe.

A memorable evening for all in attendance!
Coming Events - August/September

Sydney Reunion
Following the success of the inaugural “Sydney Reunion” in 2017, we are holding a return event this year, on Thursday, 16th August, from 6:30pm. The event will again be at the Imperial Hotel, Paddington and will cost $20 p.p.

Bookings via Trybooking.com.au  Event Number 398345

Gather your Alumni friends together and come and celebrate with us at the Imperial.

Annual Trivia Night
Also in August is the Annual Parents’ and Friends’ Association Annual Trivia Night and this year the theme will be “Pomp and Centenary”. Dress yourselves - and/or your tables - for an 'auspicious occasion' as we continue to celebrate the significance of this School's anniversary.

The event will be held in Cuff Hall on Saturday 25th August, and tickets are $30 (Adults) and $15.00 (Child/Conc).

There will be terrific prizes on offer for Winners’ Table, Runners’ Up Table, Winning Students’ Table, Best Themed Table, Best Dressed Adult (Male), Best Dressed Adult (Female) and Best Dressed Student. Make up a table of 8 players and come along for a fabulously fun evening.

Bookings via Trybooking.com.au. Event Number 398962

Service of Thanksgiving
On Wednesday, 12th September, the School will hold a special Service of Thanksgiving, in the T. W. Cuff Hall, at 9:30am, followed by morning tea in Coorah. The service, at which the Archbishop of Sydney Glenn Davies is speaking, will be attended by staff and students of the School.

Contact Mrs. Sarah Dunstan on (02) 4757 9000 to reserve your seat.

Centenary Heritage Spring Festival
The Centenary Heritage Spring Festival on 15th and 16th September will be the second of our two Centenary Festival weekends.

On Saturday 15th, there will be an Alumni v 1sts Summer Sports competitions: a T20 Cricket match on the newly opened turf pitch *(opened by the Headmaster earlier this year)* on the BMGS Oval and Boys’ and Girls’ Basketball matches in the D J Mulford Sports Centre.

Also on Saturday will be the Spring Fair, on the Senior School grounds, from 10:00am to 3:00pm. This will be another epic BMGS Fair, with great stalls, rides, displays, Picnic Races and a lot of fun for all ages.

There will also be abseiling displays in the Sports Centre, live music and great food available.
Symphony Under the Stars

Rounding out the events on the 15th, we will be presenting *Symphony Under the Stars*, from 5:30pm, on the main Senior School lawn. This will feature the BMGS Strings Ensemble, the BMGS Orchestra and the Orpheus Strings. Enjoy a glass of wine and appetisers as you enjoy the wonderful classical repertoire.

Bring a blanket or cushion to sit on. Admission is free!

Grammar Golf Day

On Sunday, 16th September, why not start your day with a leisurely 9 holes of golf at the Wentworth Falls Country Club. Tee off from 8:30am, with all rounds completed in time for the start of the Back to BMGS Centenary Alumni Reunion.

The cost per player is $20 (payable to the WFCC on the day) and clubs and buggies can also be hired from WFCC.


Back to BMGS Alumni Reunion and Centenary Celebration

All members of our Alumni are warmly invited Back to BMGS for the dual celebration of your graduation and the School’s 100th Anniversary, on Sunday, 16th September.

This major event will commence with Morning Tea at 11:30am, followed by lunch at 1:00pm. There will be live music and tours of the School.

Cost: $45:00 p.p. which includes morning tea, lunch and beverages. Children under the age of 10 years are admitted free.

**Bookings** via Trybooking.com.au. Event Number: 398970 or contact Mrs. Sarah Dunstan (Coorah Reception) who will take your booking.

Invitations have recently been posted to all Alumni members for whom we have a current address. If your BMGS Alumni peers have not received an invitation, it indicates that we do not have a current address for them, so please encourage your friends to contact the School to update their details or update them via the website, under Quick Links/Update my Alumni Record ([www.bmgs.nsw.edu.au/update-my-alumni-record](http://www.bmgs.nsw.edu.au/update-my-alumni-record)).

Please also encourage them to join our Facebook page where all Centenary and Alumni events are posted: www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsGrammarSchool

We look forward to seeing you in September, when you come Back to BMGS!
Centenary Calendar of Events

16th August, 2018
• Sydney Alumni Reunion, Imperial Hotel, Paddington

25th August, 2018
• BMGS Annual Trivia Night

12th September, 2018
• Whole School Service of Thanksgiving, the Archbishop of Sydney Glenn Davies presiding, T. W. Cuff Hall, 9.30am

15th and 16th September, 2018
Heritage Spring Festival
• Saturday, 15th September, Centenary Spring Fair, incorporating a Golf Morning, Rock Climbing Demonstration; Alumni Summer Sports competition and Symphony Under the Stars

• Sunday, 16th September, Grammar Golf Morning and Back to BMGS Day

12th November, 2018
• Remembrance Day Service, Wentworth Falls campus

Centenary Memorabilia

• Limited edition branded Keep Cups
• On Sale Now for $15
• Available from School Receptions and the Uniform Shop
• Cups will also be available for purchase at upcoming Centenary Spring Festival events.