



75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
1935 - 2010

FAHAN SCHOOL

SMALL SCHOOL, BIG FUTURE

Family builds a fine Fahan tradition over three generations

AS part of an investigation of Fahan School's 75th anniversary, we interviewed three generations of one family which has been involved with Fahan since 1953.

We put the same questions to Jo Fenn-Smith (nee Archer) who was a boarder from 1953-64; her daughter Emily Gardner (nee Fenn-Smith who boarded from 1980-86); and Emily's daughter Molly who is a current boarder.

What are your favourite memories of boarding at Fahan?

Jo: One year, all year, I slept on the balcony at the



Jo Fenn-Smith

boarding house with a friend. We loved it, even in the middle of winter.

Emily: One night during dinner we were eating instant mashed potato



Emily Gardner

when we decided we all didn't like it and someone flicked some across the table. It started a huge food fight. We got into a lot of trouble and we were



Molly Gardner

grounded for two weeks. Molly: I love being able to go to Sandy Bay Beach in summer and to the Blue Strawberry take-away.

What was/is the food like?

Jo: Every week we knew what we would be having each night. Friday was always fish-fingers, which we didn't like but it was sometimes followed by a delicious chocolate pudding that we nicknamed Tamar Mud! The food was good, but not as good as what Molly has.

Emily: I loved having spaghetti bolognese and the desserts were amazing. I remember our Hutchins friends being very jealous about the lovely food we got!

Molly: We get brilliant afternoons teas! I love the

chocolate brownies the best.

What did/do you do on weekends?

Jo: Full-time boarders only went home on long weekends and holidays. On Saturdays we were allowed to spend our pocket money. In the afternoons when we were too young to play weekend sport, we played in the grounds. On Sundays we had to put on our uniforms and crocodile march along Sandy Bay Rd to church.

Emily: On Sundays we usually went to church. Afterwards we sometimes went to North Hobart for

ice-cream or the sweet shop in Battery Point.

Molly: We are allowed to go home every weekend. I sometimes stay in town with friends or play sport. Otherwise I go home to Mum and Dad.

How many boarders were/are there in the boarding house?

Jo: There were about 45 boarders — it was very full.

Emily: I think there were about 65 boarders in the 1980s.

Molly: There are now 25 boarders at Fahan.

We thank Jo, Emily and Molly for sharing their experiences with us.

DOORWAY TO THE FUTURE

HOBART'S Fahan School is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

Founded by Isabel Travers and Audrey Morphet, the school was first located at Beaufront, on Sandy Bay Rd, and opened with 29 students in 1935.

In 1939 the school's 135 girls moved to the current location in Lower Sandy Bay. Even then people realised what a great location Nateby farm was. As the school grew the Nateby farmhouse became the boarding house.

Fahan recently opened its brand new music school, which has been a great way to help celebrate the anniversary year.

It has modern recording studios, dance areas and sound-proofed individual practice rooms, and is popular with students and staff.

"The music school is a fantastic building — it won a prize in the Tasmanian architectural awards," said Fahan principal Tony Freeman.

Head of Music, Annie Tremayne, agrees. "We love all of the space and the bright colours," Mrs Tremayne said.

Mr Freeman said the 75th anniversary was bringing together the whole school community. "It is a great opportunity to celebrate all the good things about Fahan," he said.

As a part of the celebrations Fahan has invited former principals, chairmen of the board and some of the original students to join in the celebrations.

Fahan alumna Helen Waterworth will attend a special assembly this Friday to cut the birthday cake and make a short speech about her time at Fahan and how it

has changed over the years.

As well as the physical changes around the school, the uniform has also had some massive changes, including colours, patterns and styles.

During the assembly, some senior students will be parading some of the changes of the last 75 years.

Fahan now has 350 students and is a great small school that offers the best opportunities for great futures for its students.

This Mercury School Page was produced by Sophie Edwards' Grade 4 class at Fahan School — students Emma Brodribb, Lily Chilcott, Jessica Cowen, Renee Di Benedetto, Jessica Hamilton, April Speakman, Maggie Turner and Hannah Vesinger — with thanks to all sponsors.



STATE-OF-THE-ART: Fahan's new music school has proved popular with students and staff.

In Brief

Fahan fun fair

FAHAN will host its annual "Day on the Green" on October 3 from 11am-2pm. The fair is great for all ages and is an opportunity to have a good look around the campus.

Fairytale frenzy

KINDERGARTEN to Grade 2 girls have been rehearsing for most of the term, putting together their annual play — this year called *Fairytale Frenzy*.

Sports camps

TWO multi-sport camps will be held at Fahan during the holidays. Organised by Fitness4Fun, these camps are open to girls and boys from all schools and will run from 9am-3pm, Monday to Thursday in both weeks of the September school holidays. Email emily@fitness4fun.com.au or phone Emily on 0409 252 188.



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