



Pymble Ladies' College
EX-STUDENTS' UNION INC. (ESU)

95th Annual General Meeting
7pm Monday 18th November 2024
David Macfarlane Centre, Pymble Ladies' College,
Avon Road, Pymble NSW





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95th Annual General Meeting

**To be held on Monday 18th November 2024 at 7pm
in the David Macfarlane Centre, Pymble Ladies' College, Avon Road,
Pymble NSW**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Open and welcome
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 94th AGM held on 20th November 2023
4. Business arising from minutes
5. Guests - Edwina O'Brien and Martha Itzcovitz presenting 2024 ESU Artist In Residence Grant
6. President's report
7. Treasurer's report
8. General business
9. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2024/25
10. Close of meeting



**MINUTES OF THE 94th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
PYMBLE LADIES' COLLEGE EX-STUDENTS' UNION INC. {ESU}
HELD ON MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2023 7PM AT THE DMC**

WELCOME

Fiona Walmsley thanked everyone for attending in person.

PRESENT

Dr Kate Hadwen, Principal

Kate Brown, Head of Junior School

Sarah Loch, Director of Pymble Institute

Kelly Mancey, Director Community Engagement + Advancement

Fiona Walmesly

Victoria Muller

Susan O'Sullivan

Medani Athanda

Rowena Ditzell

Natalie Brandon

Amy Graham

Kris Graham

APOLOGIES

Brigitte Liew

Louise Kellaway

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr Kate Hadwen, Principal

Sarah Loch, Director of Pymble Institute

Kate Brown, Head of Junior School



CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the 93rd Annual General Meeting held on 21 November 2022 were tabled and moved as a true record of those proceedings:

Moved: Victoria Muller

Seconded: Zoe Wang

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fiona Walmsley delivered the President's Report.

Moved: Zoe Wang

Seconded: Victoria Muller

TREASURER'S REPORT

Medani Athanda delivered the Treasurer's Report.

Medani presented the accounts from the Auditor. The report and accounts were accepted as a true and accurate record of the financial status for the year ending 30 June 2022. A special thanks to Susan O'Sullivan, Fiona Walmsley, Samantha Seaton and Crispin and Jeffrey for completing the audit on short notice was noted by the Committee.

Moved: Natalie Brandon

Seconded: Amy Graham

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Committee noted the request for involvement of the ESU in a proposal for the Ex-Pymble Rowers Cocktail party in 2024 with Zoe Wang happy to be the liaison.

The Committee noted the proposed Tentative Planning Session to be held on Thursday 1 February from 3-6pm at the Vision Valley Campus with School donating the catering.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE

Nominations received by the Secretary for 2023/2024 Committee were

Rowena Ditzell, Interim President

Amy Graham and Victoria Muller, Joint Vice-President for 12 months

Samantha Seaton, Secretary

Medani Athanda, Treasurer

Natalie Brandon, General Committee Member

Kris Graham, General Committee Member



Louise Kellaway, General Committee Member

Zoe Wang, General Committee Member

Susan O'Sullivan, General Committee Member

All the Office Bearers and General Committee members were elected unopposed.

Thanks to retiring Committee members Fiona Walmsley and Brigitte Liew. A special thanks to Fiona for her commitment as Chair for 2022/2023 and a special thanks also for Brigitte and her tireless work on the industry specific networking events.

Thanks to the College for its ongoing support.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Dr. Rowena Ditzell, Chair

Samantha Seaton, Secretary.

Date:

Date:



ESU President's Report 2024 – Dr. Rowena Ditzell

2024 has been an incredibly busy but also rewarding year for the Ex-Students' Union (ESU). During this year, the Committee has continued to work on a range of projects and events designed to bring together former students and benefit current students at the College.

The ESU Committee is passionate about the power of networking to support career development and transition. The 2024 Alumni Networking Event in held in May was testament to the fabulous success and diversity of *Pymble* Alumni.

Networking and mentoring are two critical enablers to a successful life after school, particularly when it comes to our careers. We all choose different pathways and work plays a different role for everyone, but regardless of our choices, our networks are a vital part of building connections, gathering information, finding opportunities and progressing through our chosen path. As *Pymble* Alumni, we all have access to a rich and diverse network, with the potential for mentoring support.



The Ex-Students' Union was active in the preparation and lead up to the Alumni Networking event and, as President, I had the honour of facilitating one of the



panels. A highlight of the evening for the ESU Committee was witnessing the buzz as attendees moved through the various activities, potentially building their own networks. We were also thrilled to have some new members join the Ex-Students' Union Committee on the evening.

A feature on the ESU calendar was the Commemoration Day Service held in the College Chapel. The Ex-Students' Choir performed beautifully and Dr Rowena Mobbs delivered an inspiring talk during the service. All of our guests then joined together for a delicious morning tea to reflect on the service and chat.



During term 3, the Committee presented gifts welcoming our current Year 12 cohort to the Ex-Students' Union. Amy Graham (2017) spoke to the students and shared insights from her journey beyond school. We look forward to having our newest Alumni as part of our ever-expanding cohort and benefiting from the network that we offer.



On Saturday September 21, on a glorious Spring Day, the iconic Ex-Students' Union Chicken Sandwich and Champagne Stall continued to delight Garden Party attendees. The stall looked so beautiful, and it was wonderful to connect with so many of the broader College Community. Thank you to all who volunteered to serve on the day.



During 2024, the ESU has continued to support several initiatives including the Ex-Students' Union Scholarship, the Artist-in-Residence Grant, the Alumni Dance Group as well as contributing financially to alumni tutoring services for our Boarders.

The Artist in Residence Grant is always highly contested. This year we were delighted to support two wonderful programs. In the Junior School, artist Kate Temple, an author of picture books and junior fiction worked with small groups of Year 5 students to co-lead writing activities. In the Secondary School Natasha Holmes, a singer/songwriter, has worked with the chaplaincy team to lift and enrich the music during students' weekly chapel time.



independent legal advice to determine our course of action. More information will be forthcoming and further member consultation will be required in the coming months, but we look forward to delivering a reinvigorated ex-student offering in partnership with the College in 2025.



All of this has taken a huge amount of time, effort and brainpower from our very engaged ESU Committee. We are all passionate about a constructive and ongoing relationship with the College as well as cementing relationships amongst the *Pymble* Alumni. We are a diverse group of former students who each bring a unique skill set and make a valuable contribution to the committee. Our working backgrounds are diverse including insurance, corporate governance, not-for-profit, marketing and communications, business analytics, education, retail and full-time post-graduate students. We have an extremely collaborative and supportive culture that allows us all to balance busy lives, working, caring for families, and volunteering. Thank you to all these ladies for the dedication they have shown this year, I have enjoyed working with you very much.



Pymble Ladies' College
EX-STUDENTS' UNION (ESU)



Thank you to all the College staff and in particular Dr Hadwen for her ongoing support of the ESU and our Alumni Manager Katrina Corcoran for her guidance and friendship.

Rowena Ditzell

President

Pymble Ladies' College Ex-Students' Union



Treasurer's Report 2024 – Susan O'Sullivan

Pymble Ladies' College Ex-Students' Union (ESU) reported comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2022 of \$23,863.

Expenses

The ESU's primary expense is the funding of two half scholarships for daughters or granddaughters of ex-students, costing \$39,486.

The ESU contribution to administration fees of the College Alumni Relations Office was \$15,000 and we are grateful for their continued support of our operations. Other expenditure contributions to the College this year included the Pymble Foundation and First Nations Tutoring Program. Legal fees were incurred as part of the review of the structure and constitution of the ESU.

Balance Sheet

This financial year invested assets increased by just over 10% enabling the ESU to increase its total equity and continue to maintain a strong financial position.

Independent Auditors' Report

The auditors have issued an unqualified audit opinion that the Financial Statements provide a true and fair view of the financial position of the ESU as of 30 June 2024, and its financial performance for the year then ended.

I would like to thank the ESU Committee for their dedication and collaboration, and the College and Council for their ongoing support in ensuring the ESU's continued success in engaging with the College and ex-students.

Susan O'Sullivan

Treasurer

Pymble Ladies' College Ex-Students' Union