From Our President

2011 finished with a hectic culmination of many reunions—10-, 20- and 30-year Pembroke reunions were held, as well as a 40-year reunion for Girton Old Scholars. These were all very well attended and continue to provide a great avenue to catch up with School friends who travel from interstate and overseas to attend—so much so that we are increasingly finding that Leaver groups are seeking the opportunity to catch up more regularly. Last year, POSA assisted with the coordination of both 25-year and 35-year reunions.

POSA not only facilitates reunions to promote unity and friendship among former students and staff of the School, but we have initiated quarterly network luncheons held in Adelaide. This is a great, relaxed avenue for Old Scholars to catch up with peers, with regular groups from several eras attending. This has been so successful that the model has also been tried for cocktail drinks in Sydney in March. Much of this success is attributed to the use of social media, specifically our Facebook and LinkedIn networks.

To further the welfare of the School, POSA has initiated a babysitters database to assist Pembroke Parents find potential Leavers who are familiar with the School and can assist in babysitting duties. This is a valuable service that can provide an income stream for leavers pursuing further studies or to supplement other income.

POSA has also initiated a mentoring breakfast, using Old Scholars in various vocations to provide guidance to students considering their futures.

This event will be held in August and old scholars who are interested in having a positive influence in guiding the career choices of current students at this breakfast should contact POSA.

Our affiliated clubs continue to thrive. We have recently been contacted by a local drama group, Unified Productions, which comprises mostly old scholars. POSA is promoting this group as an avenue for school leavers to continue their drama pursuits. The School and POSA will support this group where possible. POSA has also recently been contacted regarding the establishment of a women’s Soccer team and a Tennis group. The viability of these potential groups is being investigated and anyone interested in being involved is encouraged to contact POSA.

Finally, we recently brought together a group of Girton ladies from several Girton eras who gave their time to share their memories of the School, which were captured on video. These stories will be collated and used for future archives and for the upcoming 100-year Girton celebrations in 2015.

As you can see, the Old Scholar network is a vibrant and active group and I encourage you all to be a part of it.

I especially want to thank our committee for their initiative and assistance in driving so many of these activities.

Scott Peters (82–86)
President, POSA