From the Head of Senior School

This term the Year 9 group is exploring the concept of Inspiring Women. Partly because of that and the events of this month I spoke to the assembly this week about the example of Aung San Suu Kyi and thought Ancanthe readers might be interested in the text. Here is an extended version of that talk:

All of us will have seen the images of women who have attended this school around the town, displayed on our buses and elsewhere. These women have all done something special with their lives; be it in business, sport, the creative arts, public service and so on. I want to talk briefly about another inspiring woman today, whom I am sure you will all have heard of. In 1991, this woman, Aung San Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. At the time she was under house arrest in her native country Burma, now called Myanmar. She was under house arrest because the military in Myanmar at the time were concerned that she and her National League for Democracy party would win the democratic elections of 1990. The party won in a landslide but the military, which held power at the time, would not accept the result and Aung San Suu Kyi was to stay under house arrest, apart from a couple of short periods, until November 2010. On 16 June this year, she was able to travel to Oslo in Norway to be presented with the Nobel Peace Prize she won 21 years previously.

Not only was she detained for all those years, but she was not able to see her dying husband Michael Aris who was living in England, during that time. She sacrificed her private life because she believed that her stand against the regime of Myanmar was more important. What can we learn from this woman? Here is a little of what she said on the occasion of accepting the Nobel Peace Prize recently:

‘To be forgotten. The French say that to part is to die a little. To be forgotten too is to die a little. It is to lose some of the links that anchor us to the rest of humanity. Fires of suffering and strife are raging around the world. In my own country, hostilities have not ceased in the far north; to the west, communal violence resulting in arson and murder were taking place just several days before I started out on the journey that has brought me here today. News of atrocities in other reaches of the earth abound. Reports of hunger, disease, displacement, joblessness, poverty, injustice, discrimination, prejudice, bigotry; these are our daily fare. Everywhere there are negative forces eating away at the foundations of peace. Everywhere can be found thoughtless dissipation of material and human resources that are necessary for the conservation of harmony and happiness in our world.

‘Absolute peace in our world is an unattainable goal. But it is one towards which we must continue to journey, our eyes fixed on it as a traveler in a desert fixes his eyes on the one guiding star that will lead him to salvation. Even if we do not achieve perfect peace on earth, because perfect peace is not of this earth, common endeavours to gain peace will unite individuals and nations in trust and friendship and help to make our human community safer and kinder.

Mr Andrew Gibson
Head of Senior School
Reader Young Adult Fiction and the iGens

YA fiction, like most literature, is difficult to define. Even a classic like Jane Austen’s much loved *Pride and Prejudice* was considered to be popular fiction in the Regency Era and not worthy of scholarly study.

Most commentators concur that Young Adult fiction is literature written for adolescents in a variety of genres. The only unbreakable rule in YA fiction is that the protagonist must be a teenager. Beyond that anything goes – the character may be fighting thylacines (Thylia), foreign invaders (the *Tomorrow When the War Began* series), or the dark lord himself (Harry Potter).

Oliver Twist and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* can be considered the progenitors of the genre, although they were not exclusively written for adolescents. Similarly, many early 20th Century books like *Black Beauty* and *The Hobbit*, books that appealed to younger audiences, were not directly marketed for a YA audience. *Catcher in the Rye*, and shortly after, *The Lord of the Flies*, were perhaps the first books that were written exclusively for younger ‘male’ readers.

The popularity, and marketability, of the genre was astounding and continued to proliferate by exploring situations familiar to young people such as rebellion, alienation, finding yourself and a myriad of social issues confronting young adults, both boys and girls. Along the way, YA fiction cemented the reputations and status of authors such as S E Hinton, John Marsden, Suzanne Collins, not to mention J K Rowling, as global celebrities.

YA fiction is the bread and butter of English classrooms right across Australia and an effective way to study how language is used to create extensive, complex, and often, sophisticated texts. Through the study of literature, young Australians discover a safe and engaging way to relate to their own community and the world around them. They confront a host of issues and scenarios that they would, otherwise, never have the opportunity to do so. In the case of some of the darker themes imbuing the world of YA fiction, this is a good thing indeed. Studies have shown that students reading for leisure/fun are more likely to be the ones who apply themselves fully to school studies and community work. I feel that reading for pleasure is a precious gift and will reap many rewards in one’s adult life.

Apart from the age of the protagonist, the other essential element in YA fiction is an emphasis on relationships. This is an important consideration for many young people as they struggle to form relationships, outside the family institution, at a time of great physical and emotional change.

YA fiction boasts a strong voice, an emphasis on good storytelling, clear prose without an undue emphasis on literary style. Maybe this is one of the reasons grown-ups are also discovering and enjoying this special category of books. Cleverly, and profitably, publishers are releasing proven YA fiction titles with new covers that target the adult market! Despite its emphasis on telling a good and engaging story, I find YA fiction is more ingenious and tends to take more risks with form, content and in its dialogue with social issues.

*Popular* meritorious books like *The Book Thief*, *Delirium* and *The Hunger Games* all take risks with setting and genre. Another reason for the growing popularity of YA fiction is that, increasingly, it questions monolithic perceptions about gender definitions. No fan of Ellie Linton, Hermione Grainger and Katniss XX would accept traditional wisdom that girls are more emotional and boys more logical!

Despite its social and cognitive benefits YA fiction is also good fun. Reading a great book, like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, can be an adrenaline rush; comparable to, if not better, than exercising and eating amazing food.

Many thought that the digital era would kill off reading.

...continued.
School of Performing Arts Auditions for 2013

Calling all talented performing artists!
At Collegiate, the performing arts are seen as an integral part of life that unites cultures, transcends generational boundaries and interprets and reflects upon the world. From a young age the performing artist has to display dedication, commitment and talent both in the pursuit of their personal excellence and their contribution to the ensemble. The role of the School of Performing Arts is to help talented students develop as communicative artists. We aim for our students to be instilled with the dedication and understanding to reach within themselves to affect and move audiences. It is through this process that students are prepared for a life in the arts and attain essential life skills that will equip them for diverse life experiences.

There are four strands of performing arts within SPA and they are Dance, Drama, Instrumental and Vocal. The teaching team of SPA consists of professional dancers, actors and musicians who are able to pass on their industry knowledge of a life in the performing arts. If you want to be part of this exciting program then you need to audition. Auditions for entry in the School of Performing Arts in 2013 will be held on Tuesday 7 August 2012. Applications will be considered from students from Collegiate and outside the School who are entering Years 7 to 12 in 2013. Applications close on Tuesday 31 July 2012 and application forms are available online at www.collegiate.tas.edu.au.

If you have any further questions regarding the School of Performing Arts auditions then please contact our Registrars, Katherine Harris or Debbie Kelly, on 6211 4969 or email registrar@collegiate.tas.edu.au.

Ms Jane Polley
Director of SPA

Uniform Embroidery

Please be advised that the School’s uniform embroiderer, LT Little, have restructured. The embroidery function of the Business will now be undertaken by Little’s machinery Little, have restructured. The embroidery function of the Business will now be undertaken by Little’s machinery

Ms Julie Brock
Co-ordinator

National Year of Reading

Look Me In the Eye

I’ve just read Look Me In the Eye by John Elder Robison. It’s a fascinating memoir of a man who, for most of his life, knew he was different from other people and felt he didn’t fit in. He didn’t fit into his dysfunctional family. He didn’t fit into school. He didn’t know how to make friends and he always felt strange and different to everyone else. When in his mid-forties, a long-time friend of Robison’s gave him a book by Tony Attwood, all about Asperger’s Syndrome. He read the book and had so many ‘aha’ moments, realising that there was a name for “the way he was” and that he wasn’t the only person on Earth who felt like him.
It was a great read because Robison so honestly and simply explains his experiences and thoughts. It makes understanding Asperger’s easier. I’d recommend this book.

Miss Julie Smith
Year 2 Teacher

The Year 10 Hutchins and Collegiate Charity Gala

No doubt parents of Year 10 students have heard about the Formal, now known as the Hutchins and Collegiate Charity Gala. The Gala is at The Pickled Pear Function Centre at UTAS on Saturday 4 August from 7:00pm to 11.00pm and we anticipate that Year 10 students from The Hutchins’ School will be attending also. The dress code is semi formal; this evening is not expected to be a costly affair but rather an occasion where they can celebrate their friendships and time at Collegiate together with the Hutchins boys, listen to their nominated charity guest speaker and present their fundraising cheque.

The Gala Committee, made up from a representative from each House, is working on all aspects of the evening with staff and student representatives from The Hutchins School. The students are keen to make this event an opportunity to raise funds for charity. Year 10s will be selling chocolates over the coming weeks for their charity, which will be chosen by the Year 10s of Collegiate and Hutchins. Over the years previous Year 10 Semi Formals have made possible the donation of thousands of dollars to local and international charities. Invitations will be distributed in the week of 2 July with RSVP and full payment due on Thursday 12 July. Cost for the tickets will be $55.00. I ask parents to please support their daughter in meeting this deadline and in the sale of their box of chocolates.

A letter will be sent home to parents before the event to confirm all aspects of the evening. If you require any other information at this stage please contact me on 6211 4911 or julie.brock@collegiate.tas.edu.au.

Mr Charles Kemp
Head of Middle School

School Shop

A very warm welcome to Renee McGarvey, the new manager of the School Shop. Renee is available to help you with your uniform requirements from 9.00am to 4.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and every second Saturday morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Ph: 6223 1897.

Middle School Acknowledgments

We wish to acknowledge and congratulate:

• Laura Phair (Year 5) has been selected as a member of the U11 STNA Southern Netball Team which competed recently and placed second. The team will compete in 3 more carnivals this year.
• Kelcey Pitt (Year 8) was highly commended during judging of the recent Music – Count Us In - 2012 National Competition. Kelcey’s original composition was entitled ‘What We Fight For’.
• Briana Bessell (Year 7) has been selected in the State Touch Football Team for the 3rd consecutive year. She will compete in Brisbane in October.
• Sancia Bingham and Ella Hannaford (Year 6) have been selected for representative hockey in the Under 13 Southern Team. Sancia has also been invited to train for the U12 Tasmanian Team.

Please provide details of student achievements to Debbie Betts in the Middle School office on 6211 4930 or by email debbie.betts@collegiate.tas.edu.au for inclusion in future editions of Anacanthe. Please also let us know if we have inadvertently omitted someone from the list above.

Mr Charles Kemp
Head of Middle School
Parties!

Who doesn’t love to get invited to a great party? I think three things make for a great party; great location, great food and great company. In Chapel this week I spoke to the girls about four significant parties in my life - my wedding reception, Jan’s recent birthday party, a birthday party that Jan and I are going to tomorrow night (for which we have hired ‘Abba’ costumes, as we have to go as our favourite blonde character), and the great party God has promised to throw one day in Heaven.

The Jewish people of Jesus’ day looked forward to God’s promise to one day set things right, by ridding the world of sin, death and despair. This was often symbolised as a great banquet where God’s people would sit down in God’s presence and celebrate (party) with him. The religious elite of Jesus’ day thought that they were part of God’s ‘in crowd’ and were definitely invited to God’s party, but that there was no way God would include the poor, crippled and ordinary people at the great heavenly meal. And so, whilst sitting amongst these religious elite, Jesus told his parable of The Great Feast (Luke 14).

In the parable the invitation list is extended beyond the religious elite (who are portrayed as declining the invitation) to include the poor, the crippled, and the masses. The last book of the Bible confirms that God’s invitation list is huge. In Revelation we read that there will be people from every tribe, tongue and nation at the party.

In and through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ God has purchased our ticket to the greatest party ever.

I concluded Chapel this week mentioning that whilst the girls didn’t get to come to our wedding reception, my wife’s birthday, and presumably won’t get to party with us as a blonde this Saturday, they can come to the great heavenly party that symbolises an eternal life of forgiveness, grace and relationship with God. You are also invited!Grace and peace,

Scott Sargent, School Chaplain
chaplain@collegiate.tas.edu.au

School Calendar

**Friday 6 July**
- **Year 6 Day Walk**
- **Year 9 Study Day**
- **Water Polo**: Col Yr 5 R Junior girls v, SHC at Change End, 6:30pm, Col Yr 6 W Junior girls v Hutchins at Dive End, 6:30pm, Col Yr 7/8 v Tarooma Girls at Change End, 9:00pm, Col Yr 9/10 R v SMC 9/10 at Dive Pool, 6:00pm, Col Yr 9/10 W v MKC 9/10 at Middle, 9:00pm, Col College Yr 11Pink v GYC Girls at Dive Pool, 9:30pm, Col College Yr 12Purple v SMC 11/12 at Dive Pool, 6:30pm
- **Hockey**: Yr 10and Yr 7/8 training at THC. 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- **Badminton**: ColN Yr 9A – Bye, ColW Yr 9B – Bye, Col Yr 10A - Bye

**Friday 6 July to Wednesday 11 July**
- **Year 10 Examinations**
- **Friday 6 July to Friday 13 July**
- **Years 11 and 12 Examinations**

**Saturday 7 July**
- **Hockey**: Half Field Blue Col W v Holy Rosary at THC3 B, 9:25am, Half Field White Col R v Corpus Christie G at THC3 White, 8:30am, Hookin2hockey White Col v Corpus Christie at THC3C, 8:45am, Col 5/6 R (Div 2) v South Arm at H.C., 10:00am

**Coming Up**
- **Monday 9 to Thursday 12 July**
- **Year 9 Examinations**
- **Monday 9 to Tuesday 10 July**
- **701 Overnight Bushwalk**
- **Tuesday 10 July**
  - **All Schools Cross Country**
- **Thursday 12 to Friday 13 July**
  - **702 Overnight Bushwalk**
- **Friday 13 July**
  - **Year 9 Rock Eisteddfod Final Rehearsal Day**
  - **Year 9 Exam Hand Back Day**
- **Monday 16 July**
  - **Mid Term Exeat**

**From the Chaplain**

**Parties!**

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