

Impact of Giving

REPORT 2022

Nil sine labore lives enriched by learning

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From the Chair



'Our community is built upon the cornerstone of generosity, hard work, and support.'

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend my sincere gratitude for your philanthropic support of Brisbane Girls Grammar School throughout 2022.

In addition to nurturing a School community that shares a belief in the importance of educating girls and young women, and one that values the finest traditions, innovations, and aspirations in education, we also wish for our students, teachers, parents, and alumnae to be *engaged*, in a meaningful way, and to feel a sense of belonging.

Our School community is strengthened with your generous support—whether through volunteering of time and expertise, or through a financial gift.

As the School approaches its 150th anniversary, we will be sharing the opportunities for celebration, honouring a proud history of educating generations of girls.

The generosity of our donors in 2022 allowed for the establishment of a new means-tested bursary, in perpetuity, the *Parents & Friends Association Bursary*. This bursary will create an opportunity every five years for a girl, who would not otherwise have had the means to attend our school, to benefit from a Girls Grammar education.

As we look ahead to the next exciting phase of our School, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I sincerely thank all in our BGGS community who continue to support girls' education at Brisbane Girls Grammar School.

Ms Julie McKay (2000) Chair of the Board of Trustees



From the Principal



'Our annual Impact of Giving report is an uplifting reminder of the difference we can all make to others.'

'I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver'—Maya Angelou.

I hope this sentiment rings true to you, as you chose to support the future of girls' education in 2022.

Each day at our School, teachers enrich the lives of Grammar girls by facilitating deep learning and fostering critical thinking. We encourage students to *question*, to *challenge*, to be *bold*, and to *persist* when challenges emerge. It is this education that gives them a strong foundation to not only enter the world beyond school, but to be the ones who change it for the betterment of all.

Parents trust their daughters will receive an outstanding education at our School, and that their personal development throughout secondary school will be nurtured through the vast opportunities our School offers—be it in the classroom, on the sporting field or stage, or beyond. Our alumnae community regularly return to impart their wisdom, to share their experiences and knowledge with students, and for this, we remain grateful.

The commonality of these experiences is that at their core, their purpose is to enrich lives through education—the sharing of knowledge, of time, of tangible resources—it is truly giving in action. Our strong culture of giving demonstrates to students the value of involvement, of contributing to make a tangible difference to the lives of others.

Your philanthropy directly benefits the lives of current and future Grammar girls, who may, one day, become world leaders, international experts, and change makers. Regardless of their path, it is our hope that they contribute in their own way to a more just world.

In celebration of the spirit of giving at Girls Grammar, this *Impact of Giving 2022 Report*, highlights the philanthropic contributions of our generous BGGS community. Thank you.

Ms Jacinda Euler Welsh Principal



Philanthropic Priorities

Brisbane Girls Grammar School's philanthropic priorities are focused on four pillars that support the School's commitment to a broad, liberal education for girls.

Bursaries

Girls Grammar fosters a climate of opportunity and has a rich history of educating girls from diverse backgrounds. Through bursaries, the School is committed to offering the life-changing experience of a Girls Grammar education to girls who may not otherwise be able to attend the School.

Buildings

Providing inspirational teaching and learning spaces in all curriculum areas can support students to achieve their full potential. Girls Grammar will continue to invest in infrastructure projects to engage and challenge our students.

Library

Housed in the Elizabeth Jameson Research Learning Centre, the Beanland Memorial Library contains a vast array of specialist resources to spark curiosity, imagination and discovery, and deepen knowledge.

Sport

The School has a long tradition of encouraging students to train and perform to their highest potential in their chosen sport. Girls have access to excellent sports facilities, equipment, and programs for their physical and mental wellbeing.



- \$753 180 raised for bursaries on BGGS Giving Day
- Oldest donor from Class of 1948 and youngest donor from Class of 2021
- More than 400 volunteers gave their time to support BGGS activities



2022 Philanthropic Highlights

In an ever-changing world, where we still grapple with the lingering effects of COVID, we find comfort in the incredible generosity and spirit of our Girls Grammar community. It is our shared hope that your continued support of our School will make a difference in girls' education—balancing the scales for young women by challenging the status quo. When you choose to engage in philanthropy, your gift is about the *future*. It is an investment in our School and the young women who shape it.

The philanthropic spirit at BGGS was certainly alive in 2022 as we all sought to return to a renewed sense of normality by coming together, face to face, once again. Our Grammar Women also enjoyed reuniting to celebrate their milestone reunions.

'Philanthropy can help bridge the gap in gender equality.'

In 2022, we were able to celebrate the enormous success of our second Giving Day, which raised more than

\$753 000 in 12 hours. This extraordinary achievement would not have been possible without the contributions of the P&F Association, the Old Girls Association (OGA), and the generosity of our parents, staff, and alumnae.

Because of this success, the School has established the *Parents & Friends Association Bursary*, a new, means-tested bursary that will allow a new Grammar girl to start at our School every five years—a truly fitting way for the P&F Association to celebrate 70 years of supporting girls' education at BGGS.

Volunteering is at the heart of community spirit and we are fortunate so many parents, alumnae, and friends give their time to help our students and staff. We are grateful to all who took time out from their personal schedules in 2022 to assist Girls Grammar in myriad ways—from volunteering at parent support groups, mentoring current students through the Grammar Women—Grammar Girls Mentoring Program, or volunteering as their graduating class reunion coordinator.

Thank you to all in our School community who continue to support girls' education at Brisbane Girls Grammar School.



Celebrating the Spirit of Giving

'For me, the bursary has really changed my future. The School makes so many opportunities accessible, from sport to debating, to Outdoor Education, that otherwise would not have been possible for me to access. I would not be the person I am today without my education at BGGS'

— Abigail Woodcock (2022), bursary recipient On Tuesday 16 August, with a slight chill in the air and soft morning light filtering through the trees, students excitedly streamed through the white picket gates with purpose. Exchanging a gold coin for a House badge, Grammar girls made their first contribution to the School's second Giving Day.

Building on the success of our inaugural Giving Day in 2021, staff, students, alumnae, and parents once again came together for 12 hours of philanthropic giving and an opportunity for our community to make a donation—big or small—to directly impact the lives of future students.

'To a future shining star, with love.'

By 8 am, Giving Day had officially launched. Staff and volunteers had assembled in the Louise McDonald Room at the 'Giving Day HQ'—a volunteer centre where a dedicated group of parents, past students, and teachers gathered during the day, donating their time and efforts, to make phone calls to raise awareness, and encourage support for, the BGGS Bursary Program.

For the next 12 hours, all donations were *tripled* thanks to the enormous generosity of matching donors, including the P&F Association, OGA, the Board of Trustees, BGGS staff, and individual supporters.

'I am grateful to BGGS and my parents. This is my way of paying it forward.'

Our initial target of raising \$500 000 in 12 hours was quickly reached by the afternoon, and due to the incredible response from our community, we decided to keep the momentum going and push the target to \$750 000.

'Education is the passport to the future.'



Thanks to the outstanding generosity of 465 donors, an incredible \$753 180 was raised in total, which has enabled the establishment of the *Parents & Friends Association Bursary*, a new means-tested bursary in perpetuity.

'May this gift of education bring positive change to the world.'

The establishment of the $P \mathcal{CF} Association Bursary$ is a wonderful way to celebrate and acknowledge the 70th anniversary of the P&F Association, which continues to provide significant support and volunteer assistance to the School. Through this new bursary, every five years a new student, who would otherwise not have had the opportunity, will be welcomed into the BGGS community to experience a Girls Grammar education.

'May someone enjoy the education I wish all could receive.'

Bursaries have the power to be life-changing—they create access and opportunities, unlock potential, and open pathways by providing vital financial assistance to girls from a wide range of backgrounds. The expansion of the BGGS Bursary Program is made possible thanks to the generosity of of the Girls Grammar community, and the School is deeply grateful to all those who have contributed.

'When we educate one girl, we educate generations.'

Your gift creates a lifetime of possibilities for the next generation of women to lead, innovate, and contribute with purpose to their world. As Principal, Ms Jacinda Euler Welsh, noted:

'We all, of course, in our community understand the value of an excellent education for girls and young women, but we also understand the importance of making that education accessible to more girls from more diverse backgrounds into the future.'

'#Education = Opportunity.'

Thank you to everyone who so generously supported Giving Day in 2022.



'So grateful for my bursary back in the day! Great to be able to help give the gift of education'.



A Gift of Encouragement

'Girls Grammar made such a difference to my life. It was such a wonderful experience. I loved it!'

When Dr Barbara Burge (Payne, 1950) graduated from Brisbane Girls Grammar School with the ambition of pursuing a career in medicine, she knew the maledominated industry would present challenges.

Barbara commenced at Girls Grammar in 1947 followed by her sister, Margaret, in 1952. A bright and enthusiastic student with a passion for learning, Barbara particularly enjoyed English and History. She was also actively involved in sporting activities at the School, recalling the early morning journeys from her family home on the Redcliffe Peninsula to sports practice before school: 'it was quite a challenge, but well worth it!' In her graduating year, Barbara was Secretary of the School Sports Association.

It was during her time at Girls Grammar that Barbara gained the courage, determination, and confidence she needed to pursue a meaningful, fulfilling career. Barbara fondly remembers the inspirational teachers she had at School who were 'all individual in their own way, especially Headmistress Miss Lilley' who Barbara still remembers as 'such a strong, powerful woman'.

'I think one of the things that Grammar does so well is that they encourage girls to do whatever they want.'

'If they have enough passion, they can pursue their dream to do things that, in the past, may not have been easy to do. Anything is an option if you want it enough.'

This belief in the encouragement of girls and young women is reflected in Barbara's continued involvement and support of Girls Grammar. She supported a number of philanthropic campaigns and initiatives at BGGS and has also made a bequest to the School in her Will, in the hope that future generations of students can enjoy the wonderful opportunities that she experienced.

'Girls Grammar is so liberating for girls ... instilling in me the strong belief that if you work hard, you are capable of living your dreams. I would love to see this continue to be a part of the School's philosophy.'

A prefect in her graduating year, Barbara studied medical science at The University of Queensland where she obtained a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery. She graduated in 1956 and obtained Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. While studying medicine in 1954, Barbara met her husband, the late Revd. Dr Evan Laurie Burge, who had offered to teach Barbara how to play the organ after hearing her play at a Student Christian Movement camp. Barbara and Evan developed a deep, life-long relationship, encouraging and supporting one another's interests and passions, including their individual career aspirations while raising a family of six children—three girls and three boys.

With encouragement and support from Barbara, Evan, who taught languages at Brisbane Grammar School in 1956, took the family to Oxford where he studied Ancient History and Philosophy. The family returned to Australia and Evan lectured in the Department of Classics at Australian National University. Together, Barbara and Evan shared common faith, values, and mutual respect. They both enjoyed helping others and were active in the Anglican Church community where Evan was ordained to the priesthood in 1971.

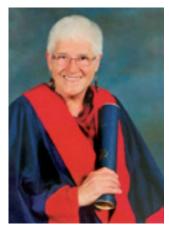
Three years later, in 1974, the family moved from Canberra to Melbourne. This was the same year that the first 10 female students were admitted full co-residence at Trinity College, some 90 years after the first female student was admitted as a non-resident in 1883, and the first cohort of female students successfully petitioned to study medicine at the University in 1887.

As Barbara established a successful career in general practice, her role as the Warden's wife was broad and varied. She worked full-time at a community health centre while raising their family and became a role model to the female students at Trinity College. The students found inspiration and encouragement in her ability to juggle family life, further studies, and a successful career in medicine—nothing seemed to hold her back.

When Evan fell ill, Barbara cut back her hours as a GP to care for him. It was during this time that Barbara undertook further tertiary studies. In April 2003, one week after Evan passed away, Barbara, aged 71 years, graduated with a Masters in GP Psychiatry at Monash University.

Barbara's love of education only deepened throughout her career, and she enjoyed sharing her knowledge, experience, and challenges with budding doctors at Melbourne University, where she also tutored part-time on Ethical Practice.

Today, Barbara believes there is nothing holding young women back from studying. In the 1950s, Barbara had to fight for a seat at the table, and that seat was in the front row of the lecture hall, attended by only 10 women compared to 100 men.



Dr Barbara Burge (Payne, 1950)

Dr Barbara Burge with one of the many babies she has delivered



Brisbane Girls Grammar School, Prefects 1950 Back L-R: Katherine Quin, Rosemary MacLean, Lyndal Edmiston, Margaret Roberts and Barbara Payne Front L-R: Barbara Cochran, Elizabeth Marks and Clair Savage



Dr Barbara Burge with her family in the Warden's lodge at Trinity College, 1974. *Image courtesy of Trinity College Archives, MM 000431 (2)*

'There were times as a young resident when I was called down to the emergency department and it was quite common for them to think I was one of the nurses,' she said.

'I don't believe that assumption happens anymore.'

After an accomplished career, living interstate and abroad, and raising six children, Barbara is now retired and enjoying life in Melbourne with a wonderful community of family and friends located across the world-from Zimbabwe to Mexico.



Brisbane Girls Grammar School Athletics Team 1949 Barbara Payne – second row, sixth from right.

Barbara is a member of the School's *Sophia Beanland Circle*, an emergent group who have chosen to leave a bequest to Brisbane Girls Grammar School.

By choosing to leave a bequest to Girls Grammar, Barbara is helping to create more opportunities for the education of girls—encouraging future generations of women to work hard to fulfil their dreams—with nothing to hold them back.

Sophia Beanland Circle

Including a bequest in your Will is a powerful and inspiring way to leave a lasting gift that will enrich the lives of future generations of women. After making provision for your family and other beneficiaries, it is a chance to support girls' education at Brisbane Girls Grammar School.

Those who choose to include a gift in their Will are recognised, if they wish, with membership in the Sophia Beanland Circle. The School is very grateful for the bequests received in 2022.

For more information about leaving a bequest to Brisbane Girls Grammar School, please contact Director of Development and Alumnae Relations, Ms Petrina Gilmore, for a confidential discussion on +61 7 3332 1383 or email pgilmore@bggs.qld.edu.au.

References

*Ref. Trinity College, Trinity College Archives, https://trinity-college.shorthandstories.com/timeline-150-years-of-trinity/index.html

Gifting the Beauty of Art

Brisbane Girls Grammar School is fortunate to hold more than 400 works of art in a variety of media, in addition to beautiful and unique antique furnishings as part of the Brisbane Girls Grammar Fine Arts Collection. The School maintains a commitment to collecting contemporary Australian art, particularly that of female artists and the work of our alumnae. Access to diverse and inspiring works of art is important for Grammar girls, not only in their Visual Art curriculum studies, but also as an integral part of their daily learning and living environment.

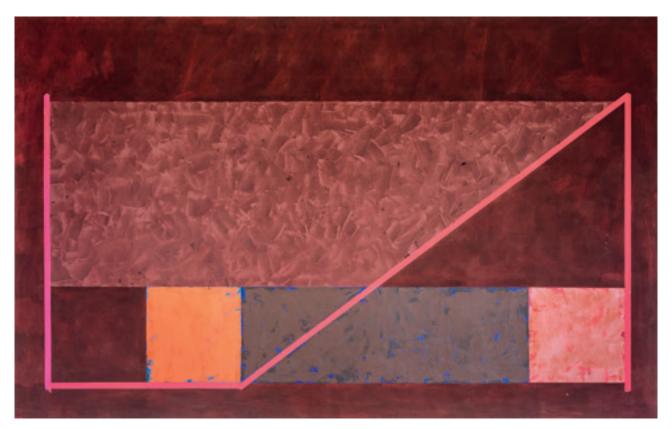
With no notes to give a historical narrative of the growth of our Fine Arts Collection across more than 100 years, we can only surmise that at a point early in its history, the School attracted the attention of benefactors who gifted artworks to the first Girls Grammar campus. Perhaps early Members of the Board of Trustees introduced artworks into the School to emphasise the cultivated nature of the education Trustees sought to provide for young women, which included a critical appreciation of aesthetics.

Donations account for a sizeable number of works in the collection, almost 50 per cent, and across the history of the School, this giving has contributed to the growth and significance of our artworks.

BGGS has listed more than 40 donors or benefactors to the Fine Arts Collection with some gifted through bequests or donated by individual donors; for instance, alumnae and their families, or School community groups such as the Old Girls Association (OGA), Mothers Group, Year 12 cohorts, Sister Schools, Artists in Residence, and Reunion classes.



Evening, Bay of Fires, Geoffrey Proud, Oil on linen. Gift of an anonymous donor, 2021



Taimur, Michael Johnson, Acrylic on cotton duck. Gift of an anonymous donor, 2021

Indeed, many of the donors have connections to the School, whether as alumnae, families, or past staff, all share a common love and appreciation for the rich enjoyment and creative inspiration that art can bring. BGGS has also received gifts of artworks from families, and indeed artists, who may have no direct connection to the School, but who admire and recognise that Girls Grammar holds a valued and rich collection of art where they can entrust their art to be displayed for the enjoyment and benefit of girls' education.

One such donor gifted two valuable works, *Taimur* by Michael Johnson, and *Evening, Bay of Fires* by Geoffrey Proud. Both artists are important figures in Australian art. While the donor wishes to remain anonymous, they are familiar with our School and believes that these works from their collection will be cared for, and provide aesthetic value, learning, and pleasure to students, staff, and the Girls Grammar community. Gifting artwork to BGGS is a considered way to pass on the custodianship of much-loved creative works to bring joy and inspiration to generations of students at Girls Grammar.

Contributions from donors have a valuable and valued role in supporting and growing the Collection and, wherever possible, we respect and acknowledge the generosity of these donors, displaying their gifts appropriately.

The Commonwealth Government Cultural Gifts Program has accorded status to Brisbane Girls Grammar School, which enables donors to access tax concessions for donated artworks.

To learn more about gifting artwork to the Girls Grammar Fine Arts and Antiques Collection, please contact Director of Development and Alumnae Relations, Ms Petrina Gilmore, for a confidential discussion on +61 7 3332 1383 or pgilmore@bggs.qld.edu.au.

Community Spirit

In 2022, the P&F Association and Parent Support Groups continued to promote fellowship among parents and friends of the School, and provide invaluable support at School events and co-curricular activities.

The P&F Association donated funds for student-initiated activities, as part of School Clubs and Activities, including song-writing workshops and Japanese drum performances. Most importantly, the P&F continued to provide opportunities for parents to network, support, and learn from each other at various social events.

This year marked the 70th anniversary of the P&F Association. In celebration of this significant milestone, the P&F Association established the *Parents & Friends Association Bursary*, a means-tested bursary that will enable the School to welcome a new student, every five years, who would otherwise not have an opportunity to access a Girls Grammar education.

To commemorate their milestone anniversary, the P&F Association also commissioned the recreation of a bronze Minerva bust. The Roman goddess of wisdom, and the sponsor of the arts, trade, and strategy, Minerva is believed to excel at music, poetry, medicine, wisdom, commerce, weaving, and the crafts. A statue of Minerva was said to have been used in the Classics classrooms as a teaching device from the 1920s and was embraced by senior students as a sort of muse. It is suggested that her diverse skills and knowledge may have appealed to students who strove to embody these attributes to meet the challenges of university and the demands of a professional life, but mysteriously this bust has not been seen since 1966.

President of the P&F Association, Dr Cate Campbell, knew the perfect commemoration of the 70th anniversary would be the recreation of a bust for the modern Grammar girl, a bust that she hoped 'all students would see something of themselves in, or who they aspire to be, in her'. Accomplished artist and sculptor, Mr Phillip Piperides, was engaged to create the new bronze sculpture situated at the front of the School.



'From waking at dawn to support staff and students, to volunteering countless hours and generously donating to Clubs and Activities—we thank our community for their remarkable generosity.'







Thank you to all our parent volunteers in 2022: Parents & Friends Association Mothers Group Fathers Group Music Support Group Rowing Support Group Water Polo Support Group P&F Uniform Shop Giving Day

Unveiled at a special ceremony attended by Chair of the Board of Trustees, Ms Julie McKay (2000), Principal, Ms Jacinda Euler Welsh, Trustees, staff, current and former P&F Association members, and parents, the event brought together the BGGS community in celebration of this important milestone and significant gift to the School.

Of the new sculpture, Ms Euler said, 'Minerva is renowned for fighting on behalf of just causes and was seen as a civilising influence on society—qualities that we aim to instil in BGGS students today.'

The Mothers Group continued their generous coordination and support of social events and School initiatives each year, including Year level dinners, and hosting the annual Autumn Lunch, which remains one of the highlights of the year for Girls Grammar mothers. In support of Giving Day, the Mothers Group donated \$15 000 to the Bursary Fund. This wonderfully generous contribution will support more opportunities for girls to experience a Girls Grammar education.

The Fathers Group enabled fathers and friends to connect with each other while supporting the School through regular working bees to maintain and improve the Marrapatta Memorial Outdoor Education Centre. Fathers Group dinners and guest speaker nights provided an opportunity for fathers to come together and hear from BGGS leaders. The annual Volunteer Thank You Reception, held in Term 4, has become a much-anticipated way to see out the end of the School year, a celebration of our volunteering parents, alumnae, and friends who enliven the BGGS Community in so many ways through their generous support.

The dedicated support from parents also continued to provide staff with valuable assistance in many of the School's Co-curricular Programs. The assistance provided by the Water Polo Support Group is highly valued by both our students and staff for its hands-on and motivational nature. In 2022, the Water Polo Support Group generously donated \$3200 towards new Water Polo goals. Water Polo serves as one of the initial opportunities for new students and parents to meet other members of the School community, and the Support Group plays a key role in facilitating this process.

The Rowing Support Group, who often wake before dawn, tirelessly provided logistical, catering, and fundraising support to coaches and students—from cooking breakfasts after training to helping out at the Rowing regattas.

The Music Support Group continued to assist with the School's extensive program of performances while raising funds for specialist equipment and instruments to further expand the School's collection. In 2022, the Group generously purchased a Mobile Folding Choral riser for use at large performance music events such as the annual Gala Concert.

The Grammar Women Network

The School's Development and Alumnae Relations Department works closely with the OGA to create innovative opportunities for past students and the wider community to engage and reconnect with each other and their School. In 2022 many Grammar Women had an opportunity to gather and celebrate together once again.

Led for the past five years by President, Mrs Julie Caton (Cleghorn, 1981), the OGA plays a vital role in the administrative, meet and greet, and ambassadorial responsibilities of the many alumnae functions held throughout the year. OGA Committee Members have a strong connection with our community, volunteering their time to give back to Girls Grammar. In 2022, the School was delighted to receive a generous contribution from the OGA to our second Giving Day campaign to enable more girls to attend Girls Grammar and become future Grammar Women.

Foundation Day Afternoon Tea, held in Term 1, lets Grammar Women come together at the School to acknowledge the day Girls Grammar was founded in 1875. The event also incorporates the 60-plus Year Reunion—a truly special occasion for those who left Girls Grammar more than 60 years ago! There is always a lovely, warm, and nostalgic atmosphere as our alumnae catch-up, reminisce about their days at School, and meet new faces. Always a highlight of the occasion, is the ceremonial cutting of the Girls Grammar birthday cake—this year celebrating 147 years!

After a tumultuous past few years, it was wonderful to welcome our Grammar Women back to School in 2022 to mark their 10-year milestone reunions. The graduating classes of 1972, 1981, 1982, 1991, 1992, 2001, 2002, 2011, 2012, and the Starting Class of 1959 reunited with fellow Grammar Women on the School campus.

The Grammar Women community is broad and diverse. Through the *Grammar Women: Leaders and Game Changers* program, the School provides opportunities for our alumnae to network and find inspiration from other women in a relaxed, networking environment. Events held throughout the year are open to all past students. Expertly facilitated by Grammar Woman, professional actor and high-performance coach, Angie Milliken (1981), the July event encouraged attendees to workshop and explore themes and challenges in the evolving work climate of 2022, incidentally developing a professional skillset around courageous leadership and career empowerment.

The Grammar Women community continues to thrive and inspire future generations of Grammar girls—with more exciting opportunities to engage and connect to come in 2023.



To learn more about engaging and reconnecting with the Grammar Women Network, please contact Ms Antonia Swindells, Alumnae Relations Manager +61 3332 3437 or GrammarWomen@bggs.qld.edu.au.





















'What a fantastic morning at the Grammar Women: Leaders and Game Changers event with the inspiring Angie Milliken, CPCC. Thank you for sharing so many brilliant pearls of wisdom and facilitating us to collaborate with like-minded BGGS Alumnae to apply these pearls in our current and future endeavours. I look forward to the next one!'

—Suzie O'Hagan (Grierson, 2002)



Thank You

The Board of Trustees and the Principal, on behalf of the School, thank members of the Brisbane Girls Grammar School community for their generous support in 2022.

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Brisbane Girls Grammar School Year 9 students, 1949 Photo credit: Lorraine Todd (Jorgensen, 1952)



BRISBANE GIRLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Brisbane Girls Grammar School Gregory Terrace Brisbane QLD 4000 Australia

T +61 7 3332 1300 E development@bggs.qld.edu.au

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