

Kate Gilder Scholarship 2021



**JANE
FRANKLIN HALL**

The Scholarship

Endowed by Rosey and Sarah Gilder in memory of their sister, Kate, the scholarship is to be awarded to a female student who has been resident at the College for at least one year.

Catherine Jane (Kate) was the eldest daughter of Robert and Jane Gilder and grew up near the tiny township of Licola in country Victoria. Born in 1965, she attended the local one-room primary school, which boasted a total of nine pupils and a single teacher to take all grades. Robert Gilder was forever hiring stockman on the basis of having three or more children, hoping to ensure the school would stay open long enough to get his own progeny through the primary system.

Far more relaxed than today's schooling programmes, the students of Licola Primary enjoyed climbing the nearby hills when there was snow and leaping off the cliffs into the Macalister River on hot afternoons; school work was generally a team effort, with the older grades helping the younger and by early afternoon the whole school was usually free to go exploring in the surrounding paddocks or fossicking for frogs and lizards down by the river. What the education may have lacked in modern electronic technology (Licola remains to this day still reliant on its own generators for power) was certainly made up for by overtime in 'Nature Studies'.

Nevertheless, Kate was gifted with a brilliant mind and was awarded a scholarship to Geelong Grammar where she spent her higher school years, culminating in being the first-ever female captain of the school. During these years she became both tutor and mentor to the younger students and a keen participant in activities varying from cross-country skiing to parachute jumping. Rowing was her sport of choice, a passion she carried through her days at Melbourne University when she was studying for her law degree.

Once qualified, Kate joined Blake Dawson Waldron Lawyers and worked for them first in Melbourne then three years in Port Moresby PNG, and finally in Perth, WA.

During her breaks from work she liked nothing better than to have a pack on her back and go walking in the mountains. Tasmania became her favourite escape and she spent her happiest times staying with friends at Jane Franklin Hall, doing expeditions to Federation Peak and the Overland Track or helping to organise outdoor adventures for groups to build confidence and teamwork values. She threw herself into every activity with gusto and seemed to make it a personal challenge to be able to do as well as the next man, if not better. Her greatest delight, however, was not so much in achieving something for herself but in inspiring other people to do the same.

Kate led treks up Papua New Guinea's highest mountain, explored Nepal with World Expeditions, walked alone across Scotland's Pennine Way and braved a solo ascent of the Willin Ridge Peaks on the beautiful Isle of Skye. Tasmania, however, remained the place she felt most at home and it was during an Easter break in 2001, to go walking on some of her favourite Tassie tracks, that she died.

Kate was in every sense an adventurer and an inspiration in helping others to live their lives to the full.

Rosey Gilder January 2004

Selection Criteria

Applications will be considered based on the following criteria:

1. leadership
2. significant contribution to College life
3. satisfactory academic achievement
4. encourages others with an attitude of "Having a go" – achieving balance in life between study, the outdoors and community participation.

To apply

To be considered, please submit a written piece of around 500 words, to be handed in at the Jane office or emailed to office@jane.edu.au, explaining why you believe you are eligible for the scholarship. Your application should be addressed to the Principal.

The Selection Process

To be considered for a scholarship at Jane Franklin Hall, students should also have applied for residency of Jane prior to 9.00am on the 23 November 2020.

The Jane Franklin Hall Scholarships Committee meets in late November and in the second week of January of each year to determine scholarship recipients. Final approval for scholarships is determined by donors where applicable.

The College liaises with the University Scholarship Office to ensure wide distribution of scholarships, although scholarship applicants are encouraged to apply for as many scholarships as they are eligible for.

Successful applicants are notified by mail as soon as practicable in late January, although it is possible that some recipients may not be informed until the beginning of Semester 1. The Committee's decisions are final and no further correspondence will be entered into. Unfortunately, due to the tight timeframes we work on, unsuccessful applicants will not be contacted.

All scholarship recipients must be residents at Jane in 2021. Withdrawal from the College will mean forfeiture of the scholarship. Unfortunately, due to the nature of funding for scholarships, deferrals of scholarships are not permitted.

Applications close: 31 October 2020