



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY. PRINCESS IDA CLUB
ACCESSION NO	1963.0030 including 1988.0168
CATEGORY ACTIVITY	University Club/Society University Club
DATE RANGE	1888-1915
SIZE OF COLLECTION	1 (Type) archive box
HISTORICAL NOTE	This Club for past and present women students was formed in 1888 and intended to "promote the common interests of, and to form a bond of union between the present and past women students". Its activities included social functions, debates, literary discussions. It ceased to exist in 1915, having formed a Committee within the Union to represent the interests of University women.
DATE OF TRANSFER	April 1963, March 1998
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
DESCRIPTION	Minutes 1897-1915; reports 1895-1912; club notices 1897-1907; correspondence 1896-1915; membership lists; rules. Minute book containing club rules and reports of meetings July 1888 - April 1894; correspondence 1914-1915.
LISTED BY DATE	Cecily Close Sep 1963, June 1990

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE - ARCHIVES

RECORDS RECEIVED INTO CUSTODY

NAME: THE PRINCESS IDA CLUB.

ADDRESS: Defunct.

MAIN ACTIVITY: Social.

NAME OF TRANSFEROR: Victorian Women Graduates' Association,
(per Mrs. Helen Ferber, President).

DATE OF TRANSFER: April, 1963.

GENERAL NOTE: The Princess Ida Club, inaugurated in 1888, was intended "to promote the common interests of, and to form a bond of union between the present and past women-students". It organized, among other activities, picnics, literary discussions, dramatic entertainments and debates, until it ceased to exist in 1914.

PRINCESS IDA CLUB: List of Records

I Minutes

1. Minute Book
March 27 1897 - August 13 1908.
2. Minute Book
September 24 1908 - ~~September~~ 9 1913.
3. Minute Book of the Committee of Management
June 24 1896 - April 26 1897.
4. Minute Book of the Princess Ida Debating Club.
May 4 1909 - ~~May~~ 10 1910.
5. Minutes of a general meeting of women students held to
elect a woman representative to the S.R.C.
6 pp. MS.
First Term 1914.
6. Minutes of the Princess Ida Club Committee
3 pp. MS.
May 3, 1915.
7. Minutes of the Princess Ida Club Committee
3 pp. MS.
October 4 1915.
8. Minutes of a General Meeting of woman students, 3pp. MS.
October 19 (incompletely dated).
9. Minutes of a Provisional Committee appointed for the
purpose of organising women members of the Melbourne
University Union
5 pp. MS
July 22 (incompletely dated).

II Reports presented to meetings of the Club.

1. Junior Debating Club, 1895.
2 pp. MS.
2. Secretary's Report, 1897
4 pp. MS.
3. Balance Sheet, 1899
1 p. MS.
4. Committee of Management, 1900
2 pp. MS.

Princess Ida Club: List of records.

5. Secretary's Report, 1906.
2 pp. MS.
6. Committee of Management, 1906.
1 p. MS.
7. Tennis Court Report, 1906.
1 p. MS.
8. Secretary's Report 1907-1908.
3 pp. MS.
9. M. Latham's report on the activities of the National Council of Women, 1908, with copy of the Council's brochure.
2 pp. MS.
10. Committee of Management, 1911.
2 pp. MS.
11. Secretary's Report, 1911-1912.
3 pp. MS.

III Correspondence

1. A. Ellis, Secretary of the P.I. Debating Club
Letter concerning Rules of the Club.
May 8, 1896.
2. A. Ellis
Letter concerning the Constitution of the Committee of Management.
July 4, 1896.
3. A. Ellis
Letter questioning the validity of the Rules and elections of the Club.
4. Secretary of the Committee of Management to Miss Ellis.
July 7, 1896.
5. A. Ellis
Letter suggesting two amendments to Rules.
July 12, 1896.
6. Women's Christian Union of Melbourne University.
Letter thanking the Committee of Management for permission granted to use a bookshelf in the Common Room.
July 14, 1896.
7. Sutton's music store.
April 13, 1897.
8. Sydney University Women's Association
Letter enclosing a copy of S.U.W.A. Rules, and asking for a copy of those of the P.I.C.
May 24, 1899.
9. S.U.W.A.
Letter proposing new regulations to cover associate membership.
August 1, 1899.
10. Sydney University Women's Union
Follows up a previous request that the Women's societies of the various Australian universities correspond with one another.
June 1, 1900
11. S.U.W.A.
Thanks the P.I.C. for complying with request.
July 12, 1900.
12. J.L. Greig
March 26, 1901.
13. Secretary of Queen's College
April 30, 1901.
14. M. Martell.
(1901?)
15. Alma Mater
July 1 1901 Desires information for publication.

List of Princess Ida Club Records

16. Helen White.
Letter informing the Club that she will give a picture of the first group of women students photographed in Melbourne.
September 3, 1901.
17. National Council of Women, Victoria
Letter asking for support.
June 2, 1901.
18. Victorian Women's Federation
Letter enclosing rules, and asking the P.I.C. to join.
January 14, 1903.
19. The Registrar
Letter concerning use of Wilson Hall.
April 16, 1903.
20. Trinity College
Letter asking for a representative for the Ladies' Executive Committee for a Ball.
May 1, 1903.
21. Empire Patriotic League, Perth.
Letter and enclosures
June 16, 1903.
22. J. McCormick
Letter about Ladies' Gynaecium
May 2, 1904.
23. Bitto.
May 24, 1904.
24. Ethel Osborne,
Letter re. membership.
June 22, 1904.
25. The Registrar.
June 23, 1904.
26. Letter from the P.I.C. to the Kew Asylum asking for list of doctors, returned with list attached.
June 23, 1904.
27. Helen White
Letter asking that the Debating Society be continued.
September 1, 1904.
28. University of Tasmania Women's Union.
Letter introducing a member, with letter from the member.
October 5, 1904. November 18, 1904.
29. Janet Clarke
Letter to Miss Cuning asking her to meet Lady Clarke to discuss the problems of the Trinity College Hostel for girls.
September 9, 1904.

30. Mary Baker.
Letter asking for advice on the running of the Lunch Club.
March 17, 1905.
31. Esther Falconer, cleaner.
May 27, 1907.
32. Dorothy Davies.
Letter of complaint about the cleaner.
March 22, 1905.
33. The Registrar.
February 15, 1907.
34. Melbourne University Union
Letter re. position of members who have already paid a
number of subscriptions to the "late Princess Ida Club".
March 11, 1915.
35. Melbourne University Union
May 10, 1915.
36. Melbourne University Union
Letter re. life membership for certain members of the P.I.C.
June 14, 1915.
37. Professor Moore
Letter complaining that noise from the Club room interferes
with lectures.
Undated.
38. Secretary to the Chairman of the Committee of Management.
Letter concerning Professor Moore's compensation.
Undated.
39. Christian Smith
Letter asking that the girls consider taking part in
Commencement functions.
Undated.

IV

Other papers

1. Notes of an address to a meeting concerning the action of
the Committee of Management in response to Council's threat
to close Club rooms because of noise. Draft of letter to
Council, September 1897 and reply September 21, 1897.
2. Notice of United Conversazione to be held August 18, 1898,
with receipt for £10 donated to the cost of the
Conversazione by the Club.
3. Princess Ida Club Sales
1899 (2 copies).
4. Circular from the Club to past women students concerning
the University Jubilee.
1906.
5. Notice of Social
First Term, 1907.
6. Notice of Social
Second Term, 1907, with typed programme.

List of Princess Ida Club Records

7. Notices of meetings
Incompletely dated.
8. Rules made by the Club for those using the Women's Students' Rooms
9. Sports Union: Rules.
10. List of women members furnished to the Secretary of the University Union.
November 17, 1916.

Received with the Princess Ida Club Records

The Melbourne University Magazine, Vol.9, No.3, 1915.

Cecily Close,
Senior Assistant Archivist.

5th September, 1963.

(1915-1917)

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Records received into Custody

2nd Accession

TRANSFEROR: Mrs. Janet Paisley

TRANSFEROR'S

DATE OF TRANSFER: March 1988

1. Minute Book containing Club Rules and Reports of meetings
July 1888 - April 1894.
2. Correspondence 1914-1915.
Letters regarding disbandment of the Princess Ida Club and the formation
of a University Women's Committee within the Union.
- 2/1 J. McKellar Stewart, Hon. Sec., Melbourne University Union, to Mrs. Osborne,
8 Oct. 1914. The reconstituted Union Committee will include four
women members of the Union elected as the women members think fit.
- 2/2 J. McKellar Stewart to Mrs. Osborne, 9 Oct. 1914. His understanding of
entitlements of the Graduates Association in using Union facilities,
exclusive of voting rights. (A pencilled note at foot
records that members of the University Association have "rights of vote").
- 2/3 Jane Greig, Education Department, to Miss Hoy, 17 Oct. 1914. Apology for
not attending the meeting, with hopes that the movement will be supported
but that the suggested name ("Women's Representative Committee") will be
changed to "University Women's Committee, ^{or} Society or something else".
- 2/4 Emma Whyte to Mrs. Osborne, 18 Oct. 1914. Her apology for not attending
tomorrow's meeting; her regret at the gradual dissolution of the Princess
Ida Club despite its inevitability, long felt. Only by keeping separate
most of the time can present and past students get along together.
- 2/5 K. (Katy) A. Lush to Mrs. Osborne, Wednesday. Apology for not attending
the meeting because of his sister's bad health, but after all "it is
the undergraduates that are most needed, and their opinions and requirements
that should carry most weight". Present Union management, especially with
respect to catering, leaves much to be desired, both men and women students
being disgusted with the buffet charges and stock.
- 2/6 Alice Hoy to Mrs. Osborne, 23 June (1915?). Is unable to find the minutes
of the general meeting last year - only those of some of the meetings of
the Provisional Committee.

Cecily Close,