**Formation of Girls’ classes**

**Legacy Girls Club**

Early in 1927 a meeting was called to form a Legacy Girls Club. We met in the YWCA basement at 7pm one Friday evening.

The late Mrs Gertrude Gillies was in charge and her niece Mrs Lesley Bowman and Maisie Burgess were her helpers.

Names of all the girls were taken and their ages. A gym class was formed with three divisions. Junior, Intermediate and Seniors. We were taught exercise, rods??? and dancing.

The Legatees were wonderful men. They took up to picnics, circus, and the theatre.

As the years went by Mrs Gilles and staff put on demonstrations. The first one was in the Playhouse which was just over Prince’s Bridge. Then we had one concert in the Old Bijou Theatre in Bourke Street, Melbourne. Then the concert were transferred to Melbourne Town Hall. One year ten girls were sent to Ballarat to take part in their yearly gym exercises. Our girls danced the giv?? And took first place.

We formed a basketball club and the girls played every Saturday. Legatee Cohen took us to his home in St Kilda Road on Saturday afternoon to learn to play tennis and we used to have great fun.

The Club moved to Anzac House at 179 Collins St. We met there for several years, until Legacy moved to Market St City. After being there for many years Legacy moved to present place at 290 Swanston St City.

The intermediate girls used to go to Balnarring East now known as Somers, to a camp at the end of January and some of us senior girls used to go and help.

At Easter time the Seniors would go to camp from Thursday to Sunday. We had wonderful times as Uncle Stan as we called Legatee Savige used to bring some of the lads from the 24th Battalion over on a Saturday night and we would hold a dance. The Legatees who were staying with Uncle Stan would also come to the dance.

The cooks were one from the 24th Battalion and one of our Legacy girls called Jean. We all had to take turns in doing the potatoes and other vegetables, also lay the tables. Then the washing up was taken in turns by the girls.

The best fun I think was had at the camp was when we went to the toilet. There was a long bench with ten holes in it and we would all sing songs it was great fun. We were met at the Bittern Station by Bill Stone, who helped run the local store, with his big truck and off we would go singing and having fun.

As time went by we all started to get a little older and the camps stopped and the girls were sent to country Legatees and some of us got married. Then the old girls club was formed and later on it was renamed ‘Intermediate Legacy Ladies Club’ which still going strong.

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