

[Forward to a Friend](#) [Alumni](#) [International](#)

SEPTEMBER 2018



[ALUMNI COMMUNITY](#) [EVENTS](#) [ALUMNI UPDATES](#) [LOOKING BACK](#) [WESTLAKE NEWS](#)

Westlake Girls High School has recently updated our suite of video presentations on the school for local and international audiences, principally for prospective students and their families.

It may be many years since you've been along to the school so you may find it interesting to have a look at a new video on the school.

[Westlake Girls in 2018](#)



Alumni Community

Using our networks for mutual benefit

We were delighted with the huge response to a recent notice on our Alumni Facebook page, seeking additional supervisors for the NZQA examinations at the Westlake Girls Centre. The positions were all filled very quickly - within hours. It was good to be in a position to connect with the Westlake alumni network for mutual benefit in this way. If there are opportunities or requests that former students have, or concerts, exhibitions, ventures that you are involved in that may be suitable for our Alumni page, do get in touch. alumni@westlakegirls.school.nz

'Alumni Ambassadors'

A growing number of former students are 'giving back to Westlake' in many ways and have made valuable contributions in helping make connections in our alumni networks. We are keen to acknowledge those in each alumni class network who are a vital part of building our alumni community - our 'Alumni Ambassadors'.

In particular, at this stage, we are keen to have help in building up our Facebook groups which now have about 3,000 members. Joining these provides us with your current surnames, one of the first and biggest challenges of compiling an alumni database in a girls' school.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

would like to help by being a joint administrator for your year, and/or an 'Alumni Ambassador', please message the Alumni Co-ordinator through the Facebook groups or email alumni@westlakegirls.school.nz

All our FB groups are closed groups. All the group links are at the end of the newsletter.

Events

Coming up in 2018

Class of 2008 10th Year Reunion



When: Friday 16th November 2018, 6-8pm

Venue: Westlake Girls staff room

Further information: [Class of 2008 Facebook group](#)

Thanks to Brooke Millar, Class of 2008, for her help.

Class of 1998 20th Reunion



When: Saturday 3rd November 2018

Time: 4-6pm (tbc)

Venue: Westlake Girls staff room

Further details: Please keep in touch through FB [Westlake Girls class of 1998](#)

or email alumni@westlakegirls.school.nz

Thanks to Karen Boyd, Class of 1998, for her help.

Art exhibition: 3.15 Westlake Arts Past and Present

With exhibitors from both WBHS and WGHS, past and present students and art educators

When: Opening Sunday 14th October 2018, 2.00pm, then 15-28 October

Venue: Lakehouse Art Gallery, Fred Thomas Drive, Takapuna

We like to keep in contact with our former students working as artists in various forms. There are many we don't know of, so please email if you would like to be on our list of Westlake artists. We can let you know about events that may be of interest such as our annual combined exhibition. We also appreciate your letting us know of exhibitions you are involved in so we can pass this on to staff and students and on our Alumni Facebook page.

Looking ahead to 2019

Class of 1999, 20th reunion 2019 - Save the Date!



When: Saturday 1 June 2019

Details to come: Keep in touch through your Facebook group [Westlake Girls Class of 1999](#) (for all those who attended Westlake Girls 1995-1999, regardless of whether you stayed for the Form 7 year in 1999)

Thanks to Anna Ashton, Class of 1999, for her help.

There are ongoing discussions underway about other possible gatherings in 2019 for groups such as Westlake Girls Rowing Alumni and Westlake Girls Music Alumni.

Make sure you stay connected through our Facebook page and also like or follow these pages:

[Westlake Girls Alumni](#)

[Westlake Girls Rowing Alumni](#)

[Westlake Girls Key Cygnetures Choir alumni](#)

[Friends of Westlake Music](#)

Alumni Updates

Alumni Updates

Musical successes: Natasha Wilson and Alicia Cadwgan, Class of 2011

Good luck to two of our former students who are heading overseas this month to continue their musical studies - both sopranos and both from the Class of 2011.

Natasha Wilson (right) will be studying a year-long Postgraduate Diploma in Voice at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. **Alicia Cadwgan** (left) will study for a Masters in Music at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Alicia completed a BA in French and Italian and a BMus and Postgraduate Diploma (Distinction) in Classical Voice Performance at Victoria University of Wellington. She has been performing extensively since graduating, most recently with Wanderlust Opera and NZ Opera and has also taught singing, piano, and clarinet, based in Wellington.

Hear Alicia talk about her plans. <https://youtu.be/k6cLcc1cQdk>

Natasha completed her BMus at the University of Auckland. She has had considerable success performing with NZ Opera and in Aria competitions since graduating. In 2018, she has performed to acclaim in major productions such as Candide and The Elixir of Love. Through 2018 she has been recognised as a talented Emerging Artist by the Dame Malvina Major Foundation. She was a semi-finalist for the 2018 Lexus Song Quest.

[Natasha Wilson August 2018, Otago Daily Times](#)

Congratulations to Natasha and Alicia on being selected for these prestigious music schools.

Jillin Yan, Class of 2015

Congratulations to **Jillin Yan** on her recent successes at the University of Auckland.

Jillin represented the Business School and placed 2nd at the 2017 Global Business Case Competition in Seattle and 3rd at the 2017 NHH International Case Competition in Norway. She also represented the University of Auckland Law School in the 2018 Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, where her team placed in the top 16 from 370 universities around the world.

Jillin also took the top spot out of 170 competitors in the 2018 CMC Markets' National Trading Challenge. Her 780% return on investment allowed her to become the first female winner in the history of the competition.



At Westlake, she studied a broad range of subjects in both the sciences and humanities. She was involved in Advanced Premier Debating, Future Problem Solving, Model UN Youth and Brain Bee. She was also active in stage challenge and various choirs and orchestras. She headed to university at the end of Year 12.

Jillin is currently completing a BCom/LLB conjoint degree, and is President of the University of Auckland Public Policy Club. After graduation, she intends on pursuing a career in investment banking or management consulting.

April Hyo Rin Kwak, Class of 2011

Good luck to **April Hyo Rin Kwak**, Class of 2011, as she heads off for a prestigious 3 month internship at the UN Headquarters in New York.

April gained her BA/LLB at the University of Auckland with a year at Seoul National University in 2013. She is a Graduate Policy Adviser at the Ministry of Transport and is also studying part time for a Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy at Victoria University of Wellington. She was admitted as a Solicitor and Barrister of the High Court of NZ this year.

April, known by her Korean name 'Rin' at the time, attended Westlake from 2007- 2011 with a year's exchange at a French high school in 2010. Her interests at Westlake included music, academic and cultural activities, including Choralation and Cantare choirs, Cultural Committee and Korean Night. She also received the Language Cup at the Prize Giving 2011.

Her work experience includes being an intern at the US Embassy in Seoul and the *NZ Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice*.

This, along with her overseas school exchanges, interest and ability in languages, and experiences as the recipient of a Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia in 2017 contributed to her desire to further her work in the field of international relations.

April will be working in legal and policy areas with the UN Department of Safety and Security.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Muskan Devta, was recently chosen as the 'Kiwi Indian Young Achiever of the Year' for



2018. This recognises Muskan's talents and efforts as a young author, motivational speaker, radio host, and fundraiser.

Muskan left Westlake at the end of Year 12 to pursue a BA in Psychology. She had already won other national awards including the Attitude ACC Supreme Award and the Youth Disability Award.

Muskan was born with partial hemiplegia and a series of other health complications. She has focused on the positive aspects of her life to inspire others. This includes writing a book aged 9, with proceeds going to the Wilson Home in Takapuna, and at 13 years of age, writing her autobiography *I Dream*, donating money raised to Starship Hospital, which carried out long-awaited corrective surgery in 2013. This book became part of the Year 9 English Curriculum at Westlake.

Muskan has a long-term goal of raising money for a school for girls in a small Indian village.

[From the Indian Weekender](#)

Freya Fretwell (Colah), Class of 2008

Business owner, 'Milford Bakers Delight' franchise

Well done to **Freya Fretwell** (Colah), who is a successful business owner in Milford. She has featured in recent media items about taking on a franchise as a career option. In particular, the success of the *Milford Bakers Delight* franchise owned by Freya and her husband Brad Fretwell was featured as an example of people taking this leap at a relatively young age.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Photo Credit Ted Baghurst

Freya, who left high school in Year 12 in 2007, without a career plan, worked at some casual jobs including at the Milford Bakers Delight before getting a 3-year apprenticeship at SkyCity and gaining skills in all aspects of hospitality.

Freya and her husband Brad, a qualified baker, rejuvenated the business over the past 10 years and because of its success, it has become a training franchise for new owners. They eventually hope to take on another franchise and build it up in the same way.

It's great to hear of successful local business run by a Westlaker.

[Read more NZ Herald](#)

Julie Carrel (née Still), Class of 1982

Sports administrator, CEO

Julie Carrel has recently stepped down from her role as Event Director of Badminton NZ, with a host of accolades marking her significant contribution to the sport over her 15 years in the role. During that time she has led the major events at regional, national and international level, including the 2017 World Masters Games in Auckland and Event Director of the New Zealand Open.



Her move from Badminton NZ is to concentrate on her leading role at Badminton Oceania where she is the Secretary General/CEO. She is also a highly regarded Badminton World Federation Referee and will continue to represent New Zealand on the international stage at events around the world.

Julie attended Westlake 1978-1982 and was a key member of the premier badminton teams including the 1981 Westlake Girls Badminton team that won the NZ Secondary Schools national title, the first time Westlake had won the championship. She was also competitive in swimming, tennis and volleyball.

'My love of sport was cemented whilst I was at WGHS as I was able to represent the school in a number of sports. One of the highlights was being given the opportunity to attend an Outward Bound course in my Form 7 year; certainly a life changing course from which I gained a lot of self-belief and confidence.'

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

1996. She competed in the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland; as well as playing in 5 world championships. She combined this with studying for a BPhEd at Otago University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Sports Marketing. Julie also went on to represent NZ in the NZ Universities badminton team.

In 2003 she was the inaugural recipient of the 'Outstanding Contribution to Badminton in NZ' award; and won the 'North Harbour Sporting Excellence – Administrator of the Year' award in 2004 and 2005.

Julie was the Coaching and Promotions Director at Badminton North Harbour from 1994 – 1998 and then moved into the first ever CEO role at Badminton North Harbour from 1998 – 2008. She took up the role as Event Manager at Badminton NZ.

She led all major international and national badminton events held in NZ from 2008 – 2017. She was made a Life Member of Badminton North Harbour in 2008 and was awarded a Badminton NZ service award in 2016.

'It was an absolute honour to be able to work in both a sport and an area – the North Shore, which means so much to me; working at Badminton North Harbour was the start of my career in both sports administration and badminton event management.'



The winning 1981 Premier Badminton team (Back Left) Brenda Green, Julie Still, Denise Cherrington; (Front left) Moana Tercel, Rebecca Moreton)

Looking Back

2008 Year 13 Graduating Students



1978 5th Year students



1988 Student Executive



1978 Badminton teams



Westlake News

Westlake Netball - Congratulations!

Westlake had a great finish to the netball season with three teams taking North Harbour titles - the Premier title, the Open title - Team C (right) and the Year 9 title (bottom). With the Premier team (left) is coach Toa Tanimo an ex-Westlaker and current staff member. Toa is in the Samoan national team for 2018.



Westlake Choralation Choir had a wonderful concert tour in Italy in July 2018 and were privileged to sing at the Vatican.



Fire in the Westlake Girls Hall

A small electrical fire in the ceiling of the hall in June 2018, meant that the hall has been out of use since then, as it awaits demolition later this year.



Because of the fire, the last big event to be held in the hall was a High Tea on Mothers' Day. Organised by Pupuke House Prefects and Service Committee, this outstanding event raised more than \$16,000 for the Breast Cancer Foundation.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The first school function in the school hall was the Speech Contest in October 1957 , when foundation pupils spoke on 'A Famous New Zealander' and gave impromptu speeches.

Alumni Association Update

Westlake Girls Alumni

Westlake Girls Class of 1966

Class of 1967 Westlake Girls

Westlake Girls Class of 1968

Class of 1969 Westlake Girls

Class of 1970 Westlake Girls

Class of 1971 Westlake Girls

Class of 1972 Westlake Girls

Class of 1973 Westlake Girls

Class of 1974 Westlake Girls

Class of 1975 Westlake Girls

Class of 1976 Westlake Girls

Class of 1977 Westlake Girls

Class of 1978 Westlake Girls

Class of 1979

Westlake Girls Class of 1980

Class of '81 Westlake Girls

Westlake Girls 1978 - 1982

Westlake Girls Class of 1983

Class of '84 Westlake Girls

Westlake Girls Class of 1985

Class of '86 Westlake Girls

Class of '87 Westlake Girls

Westlake Girls Class of 1988

Class of '89 Westlake Girls

Westlake Girls Class of 1990

The Westlake Class of 1991

Westlake Girls Class of 1992

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

[Westlake Girls Class of 1995](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 1996](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 1997](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 1998](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 1999](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2000](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2001](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2002](#)
[Class of 2003 Westlake Girls](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2004](#)
[Class of 2005 Westlake Girls](#)
[Class of 2006 Westlake Girls](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2007](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2008](#)
[Class of 2009](#)
[Class of 2010](#)
[The Westlake Class of 2011](#)
[Class of 2012](#)
[Class of 2013](#)
[Class of 2014](#)
[Class of 2015 Westlake Girls](#)
[Class of 2016 Westlake Girls](#)
[Westlake Girls Class of 2017](#)
[Westlake Choralation Choir Alumni](#)
[Westlake Girls Key Cygnetures Choir alumni](#)
[Westlake Symphony Alumni](#)
[Westlake Girls Alumni Australia](#)
[Westlake Girls Alumni UK](#)
[Westlake Alumni Korea](#)
[Westlake Girls Rowing Alumni](#)
[Westlake Boys Alumni Page \(Westlakers\)](#)



Westlake Girls High School

Copyright © 2018 Westlake Girls High School, All rights reserved.

[update subscription preferences](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#)