



Valery (Humphrey) Dayas '37 (1921 - 2013)

Valery was born on 22 July 1921 in Woollahra and attended Kambala from 1928 to 1937 when she obtained her Leaving Certificate. She was a highly accomplished athlete, regularly participating in the inter-school athletics and sports meetings held at the Sydney Sports Ground.

Valery, like numerous old Kambala girls, was passionate about the plight of sick or injured people in remote areas and thus raised funds and served on committees for many years, whilst working as an occupational therapist for the Red Cross Society. During the Second World War, Valery was the founding president of a branch of the Signals Comforts Funds. After the War, Valery and her mother Mavis become involved in the Royal Flying Doctor Service, which was acknowledged by Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies as being at the time “perhaps the single greatest contribution to the effective settlement of the far distant country that we have witnessed in our time”.

Valery was an active member of the KOGU and, over the years, donated several items of historical significance to the School’s archival collection. These items include her Roseby House Badge, a silk rayon tie and grey bemberg sports tunic and pants.

In 2000 Valery published a book entitled *They Also Served* which recorded former Kambala students’ memories of service during the major conflicts in the 20th Century. As a highly-skilled artist, Valery both compiled and illustrated the stories for the publication.

Valery passed away on 2 January 2013. She had a great appreciation and love of the School and the enduring friendships made and cherished until her death.