



# IN BLACK & WHITE

ISSUE 6 – 26 October 2010

## FROM THE HEADMASTER

In Chapel on Sunday evening (17th) I found myself talking about the Chilean mine rescue, something which I consider fascinating for so many reasons. As the initial euphoria of the rescue dies down, we are being treated to more insights into the human condition. Different countries and enterprises announced their involvement. The drilling rig was American, much of the expertise was German, even the NASA website notes the advice they were able to give about long term isolation, and the design of the rescue capsule. And the sunglasses. Were the Oakley sunglasses an altruistic gesture of assistance – or one of the shrewdest marketing coups of all time? It is estimated, apparently, by media advertising analysts, that for a retail product value of about \$20,000 US the global advertising exposure was worth \$41m US. The worldwide audience for the TV transmission was exceeded only by that for the World Cup Final, and Obama's acceptance speech.

At a much more mundane level I noticed the painted marks on the winch operator's machinery. No commentator mentioned it, but in the occasional shots of the winch it was obvious the operator was tracking the position of the capsule (apart from the film feed from the bottom of the shaft) according to where the cable came to on his drum. Simple, foolproof and reliable. No electronic position telemetry -the safe extraction in the end came down to a steady and patient hand on the winch, and a few dabs of paint. However demanding a situation might be, often the simplest approaches yield the best results!

I have been in communication with one family this week who are moving to New Zealand, and were seeking information about NCEA. They felt intuitively that an 'international' qualification was in some way more credible. At College we have actively supported the development of NCEA, and demonstrated the quality of outcome that is possible with motivated students and committed teachers. The 'credibility' of examination systems and their ability to differentiate students by genuine ability is always of interest. I have written before of the situation in the UK where the consequence of years of 'grade inflation' enhancing the apparent ability of quite ordinary students, lead to the introduction of an A\* grade at A level. It is worth noting that some of the very best engineers in the world in their fifties, could have found university places in outstanding institutions with a couple of grade Ds at A level when they

left school – now the requirement would be at least 3Bs. Are students in schools today really much cleverer than they were then? I have this week communicated with Oxford University about interpreting the meaning of Excellence endorsements, at level 1, 2 and 3 NCEA. It is possible to say precisely what proportion of the cohort sitting the examination achieved at that level, nationally, locally and by school, and this is public information. A candidate achieving Excellence at Level 3 is an 'excellent' student; a student gaining three As at A level may, or may not, be when differentiation is limited.



This week the International Baccalaureate Organisation is reeling from its second media debacle. The General Director of the IBO was recently exposed by a US academic institution for plagiarism of the work of Sir Ken Robinson, who has a worldwide reputation for his work on creativity. Now it has emerged (Times Educational Supplement, October 8th) that mark schemes containing model answers for a history paper sat by 20000 students had been taken from unattributable Wikipedia articles. Geoff Lucas, secretary of the HMC (Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference) is quoted: 'One has to ask what the quality assurance system within the IBO is, to allow this to happen.'

Whilst this episode will probably reflect the actions of a single examiner, and should not be taken as a more general problem, it is true that one of the advantages we have in New Zealand is scale, and accessibility. Those charged with regulating NCEA are known personally to us at College, and those with the highest levels of responsibility in NZQA will answer their own phones to any school who needs them. The levels of moderation are impressive, and the return of papers and appeals process is possibly the most open system to be found anywhere. I was able to reassure the family referred to that not only does NCEA provide the opportunity to truly set the most able apart in a way few other systems can claim to do, but also its structure and philosophy are increasingly of interest around the world. Perhaps in New Zealand we tend always to make the A Levels/IB comparison, when in fact around the world there are literally hundreds of examination systems, a very large number of which produce candidates

for top institutions around the world. There is obvious appeal for an 'international' system which bridges this variation, but most do not have the structure and credibility of NCEA.

You will read about last week's 'Pink Lunch' elsewhere in this edition, but I would like to thank Nicci Wyllie and her committee. It was a wonderful event. Thanks also to all who supported what has become an annual highlight in our calendar.

I apologise to those who were there, who have heard this before, but it is worthy of repeating. An Earthquake anecdote...(with the permission of the main participant): The staff have an internal award periodically made to one of their number for distinguished conduct in the line of duty, which provides unintended collective entertainment. Mr Chris Williams carries the responsibility for touring the school during Congregational Practice assisting any lost souls who failed to find their way to their commitment – it happens occasionally. On a routine visit to the top floor of School House he found a locked toilet cubicle, on the door of which he knocked politely and invited the occupant to identify himself. Receiving no response, and not unreasonably assuming the occupant was attempting to escape identification, a more 'assertive' instruction was issued to 'come out at once!' A rather intimidated builder renovating the roof is unlikely to be the same again.

I have also just received this extract from the UK media, where the Hobbit saga is making the news. The casting director was commenting on unexpected frustrations in the past. New Zealand posed unique challenges in terms of casting, telling a story of when she needed to find an army and called up local farmers near Queenstown, only to be snubbed because of the muster season. "It took me a couple of days to see the funny side, that my efforts had been stymied by sheep."

"Another story that comes to mind was when my Dunedin elves were unavailable because it was Otago University exam week. I had to tell Peter Jackson that none of the elves were available because they were all in Geography 101."

## AN INVITATION TO TELL YOUR STORY

We are recording the earthquake experience of the staff, boarders and dayboys, and parents of boys at Christ's College. You are invited to share your personal account of September 4th, and the days that followed. This will become part of the College archives for generations ahead. Tell your story for future students and historians!

Go to [earthquake.christscollege.com](http://earthquake.christscollege.com) to create your written record.

## REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE

Our website [christscollege.com](http://christscollege.com) is regularly updated with news and images of events happening around College. We also post the notes from our weekly assembly and, of course, this e-newsletter (under Information: In Black & White).

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## CALENDAR EVENTS

- Tu 26 1st XI cricket v Wanganui Collegiate (away)  
The Cathedral Grammar School Athletics Sports, reserve day, Upper Interhouse junior table tennis semi-finals & finals, Cranmer Gym, 1.15pm  
Monitor meeting (Group A), Selwyn Room, 8.00am  
Prefects' Dinner, 7.00pm
- W 27 Interhouse golf competition, Hagley Golf Course, 3.00pm  
Year 11 NCEA drama performance assessments, OBT, 6.30-9.00pm
- Th 28 St Michael's Church School Athletic Sports Day, Upper  
Year 9 Biology field trip to Mt Oxford, 8.35am-3.30pm  
Canterbury Junior Model United Nations General Assembly, Horticultural Centre, 9.00am-5.00pm  
Interhouse badminton semi-finals, Gym, 12.45pm  
Victoria University course planning, Library Conf Room, 2.30pm  
Interhouse senior tennis semi-finals, Hagley Tennis Club, 4.00pm  
Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh training session, 6.45-8.45pm  
Year 7 information evening, OBT, 7.00pm  
Zonta Sports Awards, Addington Raceway, 7.00pm
- F 29 Visit by students of Westminster School (London)  
Year 13 General Studies, OBT, 1.15pm
- Sa 30 Weekend programme available for all boarders  
Year 13 University of Canterbury Accounting Scholarship examination workshop, 10.00am-3.00pm  
Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award training tramp departs, 3.00pm
- Su 31 All Saints' Sunday  
Holy Eucharist, 9.00am  
Year 13 University of Canterbury Economics Scholarship examination workshop, 10.00am-3.00pm  
Duke of Edinburgh training tramp returns, 5.00pm

### NOVEMBER

- M 1 Monitor meeting (Group B), Selwyn Room, 8.00am  
Mathematics Cambridge exam, Interhouse senior tennis final, Hagley Tennis Club, 4.00pm



# THE PINK LUNCH

The Parents' Association held their 3rd Annual Pink Lunch on Friday. Held each Friday before Labour Weekend, this event is much enjoyed and a popular fixture on the College calendar.

This year one hundred and forty three College mothers arrived to find the Dining Hall transformed (by a hard working committee) to the High Country, with tussocks, river stones, and country memorabilia. Even a drafting gate stood at the entrance. We were all welcomed by Headmaster, Mr Simon Leese, complete with pink tie!

Christine Fernyhough joined us for lunch and spoke about her life in Auckland, the creation of *Books in Homes* and her lifestyle change after buying Castle Hill Station here in Canterbury. Christine had a brief book signing session with her books *The Road to Castle Hill* and her latest book *Ben and Mark: Boys of the High Country*. We were fortunate to have the profit from the books returned to the Parents' Association. This will be put towards the Parents' Association Bursary, awarded to boys annually.

Spot prizes were awarded to a lucky few and we thank most sincerely Latitude Magazines, Ginger Meggs, Stuart from Mods Hair Colombo Street and Riccarton Orthodontics.

The Parents' Association is surrounded by an amazing group of parents who have worked very hard behind the scenes to make this a very relaxing, convivial day for mothers. On behalf of the Association I would like to thank them all again for their tireless work and making the event such a great success.

Nicci Wyllie, Parents' Association President



Ceridwen Fowler, Christine Fernyhough and Nicci Wyllie



Christine Fernyhough

## CALENDAR EVENTS

cont.

- Tu 2 Year 10 Biology field trip to Cooper's Creek, 9.00am-3.40pm  
Interhouse badminton finals, Gym, 1.15pm  
Mathematics Cambridge exam, AS level, Paper 2, 1.30-3.00pm
- W 3 CSS junior tennis championships  
Mathematics Cambridge exam, IGCSE, Paper 2, 9.00-11.30am  
Interhouse junior cricket first round, CCCG, 3.00pm
- Th 4 Year 13 PE golf internal assessment, Hagley Golf Club  
Leavers' photograph, Quad (Dress uniform), 12.45pm  
Interhouse tug-of-war competition, Upper, 3.45pm  
Boarding Awards Dinner, Dining Hall, 6.00pm
- F 5 Year 12 General Studies, OBT, 1.15pm  
School House dinner, 5.00pm  
Condell's House prize giving & dinner, Dining Hall, 7.00pm
- Sa 6 Weekend programme available for all boarders  
Final Saturday activities for years 11 & 12
- Su 7 32nd Ordinary Sunday  
Choral Eucharist, 7.00pm  
Preacher: The Chaplain

## 2010 PRIZE GIVINGS

There will be two Prize Givings held in 2010.

Year 9 & 10 Prize Giving December 2nd at 3pm. Senior Prize Giving December 3rd at 11am

There will be plenty of seating available and tickets are no longer required to attend these events.

For further details about the routine for boys and parents during these two days please look under 'Information' on our website.





## MUFTI DAY

Christ's College boys enjoyed a mufti-day organised by Deputy Head Boy, Alexander Donaldson. Houses dressed in themes with some of the more cohesive themes being the Somes House's cowboys and Julius House's ninjas.

At lunchtime staff took on the prefects at a game of dodgeball which drew a large supportive crowd to the gymnasium. The prefects were the convincing winners in a game that was played in good spirit.

Funds raised from the day are being donated to the Anglican City Mission. This organisation was chosen by the boys as it is a significant resource to the city, particularly since the Canterbury earthquake on September 4th.





# FILM FESTIVAL RATED AS BEST YET

The Christ's College interhouse Film Festival took place in the Old Boys' Theatre last week. Twenty-four entries covering a wide range of films from thrillers, music videos and comedies to documentaries about the September 4 Canterbury earthquake and the College 1st XV were shown to an appreciative audience. There was even a film produced by the German Department with English sub-titles.

Judged this year by John Chrisstoffels, New Zealand film maker and cinematographer, and Anne Williams of Port Hill Productions, the competition standard was impressive. Mr Chrisstoffels thanked the boys for a very entertaining evening of film. "This festival gets better and better every year," he said. "The strength of the documentaries was very good and maybe it would be good to introduce a documentary prize in the future."

Boys had made their films this year as part of Media Studies courses, the 48 Hour Film Festival or as independent film-makers specifically for this competition. Head of Media Studies, and organiser of the festival, Mr Peter Hewson, said that it is very important for the boys to have a screening of their work in the same way that drama or music students can. "For some boys this is their first jump into making films," he said, "but it is only through public screenings, such as this evening's event, that they get to experience the complete film-making process."

Mr Hewson announced to the audience during the evening that Christ's College and St Margarets College are producing a short film, called "The Sleeper." The film is due to be shot in December and will premier early in 2011. It has been written by boys and girls from the two schools and is being mentored by industry professionals.

The 2010 Interhouse Film winners in each category were:

**BEST ACTOR:** Doug Robertson

**BEST SCREENPLAY/IDEA:** 'The Fence has Two Sides' (Drama) Directed by Taliesin Fleming, based on a story by David Bellamy

**BEST DIRECTOR:** Nick Palmer for 'Nudel – even in death' (TV commercial)

**BEST EDITING:** Nick Lange for 'Lion King 3' (film trailer)

**BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY:** 'Lonely Spirit' (Christ's College 2010 48 hour Film Festival entry. Directed by Michael Hall)

**BEST OVERALL SHORT FILM:** 'Nudel – even in death' (TV commercial) Nick Palmer (Rolleston House)



'Nudel – even in death'



'Lonely Spirit'



'Lion King 3'



'Pop and Fresh'

## SCUBA DIVING

At Labour Weekend seven Christ's College boarders took their passion for Scuba Diving to the next level when they completed their PADI Advanced Diver course in the Marlborough Sounds.

Supervised and assessed by Mr Hayes and assisted by Mr Scott, the trip was overseen by the staff of Moby Dick's Dive centre. Collectively the boys took part in 9 dives which included a night dive, a dive to almost 30m, diving on a wreck and the opportunity to bag a few scallops to bring back for 'thank yous' for their house staff. In addition they were treated to a display of aerobatics and high precision swimming from a pod of dolphins who followed the boats on two occasions.

George Staniland and Reinn Duxfield of Jacobs House, George Fox, Tom Bostock and James Newbigin of School House and Tom Cresswell and Sam Kidner of Richards House are now qualified to dive beyond the 18m limitations of an Open Water Diver, and many are looking forward to developing their interest with the next level of training, the PADI Rescue Diver course.

Presentations will be made at the Boarding Awards dinner next week.



# SEDLEY WELLS PERFORMERS' COMPETITION

The Sedley Wells Performers' Competition is an annual event at Christ's College which gives our top musical performers the opportunity to shine in a formal setting and to compete for a number of prizes donated Sedley Wells Music Works of Riccarton.

Last Thursday evening saw twenty performers participate, twelve for the Senior prize and eight for the Junior prize, with Ms Shelley Spang having the difficult job of selecting the top places. Some performances were so outstanding that it was hard to believe that you were listening to students perform. Justin Standring's piece required two music stands as there was no let up in the music for him to turn the page and Thomas Frost, playing the saxophone, chose a most unusual work which required a backing track, giving his piece incredible complexity in which he was required to do circular breathing; that is, blowing out through his mouth and in through his nostrils, at the same time - try it!

The results were as follows:

## SENIOR

1. **Bradley Wood** (piano) - Transcendental Etude No 11 by Liszt
2. **John Kwak** (violin) - Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso by Saint Seans
3. **Justin Standring** (flute) - Carnival of Venice by Briccaldi

## JUNIOR

1. **Danial Bunyasakdi** (guitar) - Cappricio Araba by Tarrega
2. **Paul Lee** (piano) - Sonata in A by Mozart
3. **Nick Edmundson** (trumpet) - The Prince of Denmark's March by Clarke

All performers are to be congratulated and thanks must also go to accompanists Mr Robert Aburn, Miss Nikola Eckertova and Mrs. Cecilia Kwak.

Mr Nick Coxon



Danial Bunyasakdi



Bradley Wood

# ASSEMBLY NOTES

Tuesday 26 October 2010

**MUSIC:** 'Tension' by Kotaro Oshio. Richard Park on the acoustic guitar

**PRAYER:** Chaplain

## NOTICES:

### From Mr Coxon

Orchestra rehearsal this week will be for strings only, after school on Friday, upstairs in the Recital Room. All string players to attend please

### From Mr Sellars

General Studies this week is for Year 13, to be seated in the OBT by 1.15pm please. Victoria University course planning in the Library Conference Room at 2.30pm on Thursday.

**ACTIVITY REPORT:** Billy Dowle, Richards House Prefect

## Cricket

Saturday: The 1st XI were 142/4 (**Jeremy Duncan** 56 not out

and **Jack Harper** 40) chasing Shirley BHS's 247/4 declared at stumps on Day 1.

The 2nd XI are in a strong position in their match against CBHS 3rd XI. College made 312/8 with **Sam Chamberlain** scoring 122 and **Sachin Tandon** 63. In reply, CBHS were all out for 126 in their first innings and were struggling at 7/2 in their 2nd innings at the close of play.

The Colts just did enough to draw their match against STAC 2nd XI. **Sam Bowden** made 39 in the 2nd innings.

The Youth open team dismissed Burnside for 93 runs with **Ben Gunn** taking 4 for 18 including 3 wickets in one over. **Thomas Knight** (62 not out) and **Taidhg Fraser** (22) then combined in a rapid fire opening partnership of 81 to set up the victory which was achieved in just 11 overs.

The Year 10 Whites beat the Year 10 Blacks by 5 wickets in a low scoring affair. The Blacks were dismissed for just 68 with **Charles Newberry** claiming 5/13.



1st XI Cricket vs Wanganui Collegiate: At stumps on Day 1 Christ's College are in the box seat having dismissed Wanganui for 115 with **Guy Murgatroyd** and **Ollie Bosworth** picking up three wickets each. In reply, College are 110/5.

### Volleyball

The Senior As had an excellent 2-0 win over CBHS and Mr Greenlees Senior Bs had a 2-1 Win over StAC.

### Waterpolo

The Senior As went down 10-6 to STAC and the Bs had a 9-3 win over Shirley BHS.

### Tennis

The A1s had a 4-2 win over Shirley BHS. The B1s had a 6-0 win over Riccarton HS. The B3s were too strong for the B4s winning 6-3. The B5s beat Riccarton 4-2. The Junior teams had a great week with the J1s, J2s and J3s all having good wins.

### Athletics

Some results of note from this weekends Athletics meet at QEII:

**David Elliott** won both the M16 100m and 200m. **Tadhg Walker** was 2nd in the M19 400m. **Ryan Alexander** was 2nd in the M19 100m and 3rd in the 200m. **William Mohammed** was 2nd in the M16 200m

### PRESENTATIONS TO:

#### ICAS English examination results:

All receive High Distinction certificates. This is an international reading skills competition with participants from over 20 countries. Eight College students achieved High Distinctions placing them in the top 1% for their year group in New Zealand.

Year 9: **William Briscoe, Vincent Curd, George Fitzgerald, Samuel Till, Etienne Wain**

Year 10: **Jack Holloway**

Year 11: **Alexander Gregory**

Year 13: **Alex Donaldson**

### Australian Young Writer's Competition:

**Jeremy Penrose** in Year 9 has won the poetry section of this competition with his poem 'The Storm'. He has been awarded a certificate, cheque and book prize and his poem will be published in the next Young Australian Writer's 'Explore' magazine

### Australian Mathematics Competition:

College boys achieved excellent results in this competition in which almost 500,000 students from 42 countries, including 16,000 from New Zealand, took part. 92 Credits, 44 Distinctions and 15 High Distinctions were awarded. A High Distinction places a boy in the top 2% of all entries. The boys who were awarded High Distinctions are:

Year 9: **Harry Beadel, Brendan Chin, Paul Lee, Jeremy Penrose, Samuel Till, Etienne Wain**

Year 10: **Louis Loader-Horncastle, Patric Song, Tony Sun**

Year 11: **Min Chan Park**

Year 12: **Andrew Carrell, Jonathan Childs, Tony Kim, Boyd Siripornpitak**

Year 13: **James Ban**

### Interhouse Debating trophies:

Junior – Julius (defeated Flower's)

Senior – Somes (defeated Julius)

### Hockey trophy: (Peter Glasson to collect)

Awarded to the 3rd XI hockey team for winning the Canterbury Youth division 3 grade and winning the Porritt Cup for their grade.

### Cricket bat:

Awarded to **Charles Newberry**, 5 for 13, Y10 Whites v Y10 Blacks

### Honours Ties

#### Drama:

**Alex Donaldson** – three years of musical productions

**Thomas Fellowes** – four years as an actor and technician

**Max Fitzgerald** (+ tie) – five year involvement in drama

**John Gordon** (+ tie) – four year involvement in drama

**Hunter Haines** – involved in 10 major production roles in College

**Jack Marshall** – involved in 7 major productions in College

**Will McJorow** – stage major and senior technician for the last three years

**Douglas Robertson** – five years involvement in drama as an actor and director

**Uddaka Weijesinghe** (+ tie) – four year involvement in drama

### Colours

#### Football:

**Thomas Barlow** – 2nd year in the team, played more than 50 games for the 1st XI, played for the Canterbury U16 rep side

**Ryan Loeffen-Gallagher** – 3rd year in the team, joint Vice-Captain, played more than 75 games for the 1st XI

**Theo Sekeris** – first year in the team, played more than 30 games for the 1st XI

**Reagan Sherriff** – 3rd year in the team, joint Vice-Captain, played more than 75 games for the 1st XI, scored 24 goals this year

**Jack Sissons** – 2nd year in the team, played more than 50 games for the 1st XI

**Campbell Taylor** – 2nd year in the team, Captain. Played more than 50 games, scored 13 goals this year

**Robbie Walker** – 2nd year in the team, played more than 50 games for the 1st XI

### Cycling

**Will Bowman** – represented New Zealand at the World Junior Track Champs in Italy, placed 13th in the world

### Rugby

**Jack Ballantyne** – 11 tries in Press Cup

**Nick Grice** – played out of position for large parts of the season

**Jack Kain** – invited to trial for Canterbury U18

**Tyler Koning** – Canterbury U18 trialist

**Guy Murgatroyd** – worked hard in the team

**Tim Murgatroyd** – Vice captain 1st XV, excellent leader

**Angus McKenzie** – 1st XV captain for 2010, U18 Canterbury rep

**Marty McKenzie** – most points for an individual and most tries in the 2010 Press Cup season, Canterbury U18 rep

**Tim Smith** – 16 tries in Press Cup

**Michael Snedden** – important part of the 2010 1st XV forward pack

**George Wigley** – assisted in setting up numerous try opportunities for the backs