

# In Black & White



CHRIST'S COLLEGE  
CANTERBURY

Issue 81, 10 February 2015



## From the Headmaster

We have launched into 2015 with the campus in much better shape than my bronchial tubes. Whilst enjoying a regatta at Twizel, I was biologically invaded and consequently missed the boys' start of the year. I am pleased the day went so well for all. The place is now promising the future. A few more weeks, only, to the occupation of our new buildings.



Click on the photo to read the full story then click the go back arrow in your browser to return to In Black & White.



As you are aware I will be moving on in September. In the first episode of the Vicar of Dibley, after Geraldine has arrived, Owen and Jim are discussing change. Owen's profound contribution refers us to traffic lights - if there was no change, he muses, no one would get anywhere, so change was essential. After cogitation, Jim offers that gravity mustn't change - or everyone would float away, concluding change obviously isn't always good. But change is on the way; schools are remarkably resilient organisms, and after the challenges of the last few years, the minor matter of a change of pilot on the flight deck pales into relative insignificance.

As I wrote that, I was reminded of taxiing out at London *en route* to Islamabad about twenty years ago in a very rattly and altogether concerning elderly 'jumbo'. Many minutes later, the pilot announced there was a 'mechanical' with 'the engine' (I had hoped and assumed there were four) and we were returning to the gate - and so we rattled our way back. No sooner, it seemed, had we stopped than we were pushing back again, but this time a new Captain introduced himself. I thought that was a novel approach to technical issues. My successor will find, I hope and expect, most instruments showing normal on the flight deck, but a few rattles to gain his (or her) attention.

Between now and then, seven months of frenetic activity as always. The first few weeks of term see us get through both our swimming and athletics sports - an extraordinary feat of planning and execution by my colleagues. Our athletics sports day is an annual highlight; new parents are strongly encouraged to come and enjoy it with us if they can.

As always, we can be very pleased with our examination results overall. For the last two years, I have been harassing NZQA about the apparently inexorable annual increases in pass and endorsement rates, at all three Levels of NCEA. Whilst political capital may be vested in apparent signs of success in education policy and practice, the reality is that grade inflation leads to erosion of differentials at the top end; we have to set above everything the capability to identify the truly outstanding from the merely highly capable. 3 A's at A level in the UK used to be a remarkable distinction, today it is the

## 44 NZQA Scholarship Awards for 2014

We congratulate our NZQA Scholarship awardees. In total 23 students gained 44 subject awards...



## Assembly Notes

Click on the photo for the Assembly Notes



## Calendar Events

Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

membership criterion for a large club of high achievers, amongst whom are some exceptionally talented people. It is a situation bemoaned by employers, university admissions offices, and the young people themselves. NCEA can still boast a better differentiation, and must continue to do so. We have had an overall increase in endorsement levels at Level 3, and slight reductions at Levels 1 and 2. I am happy with that. It is, of course, of less use to look at year on year achievements at the same levels - the cohorts are different. We should track the cohort through Level 1 achievement, to Level 2, and Level 2 through to Level 3 and this analysis will follow shortly.

UE requirements have changed, and with them the number of our boys not achieving UE exactly mirrors the national change. We remain above the national average by the same clear margin. We have a number of young men for whom university is not the right ambition. Indeed, many more remain for year 13

than did a generation ago when a vocational route after year 12 was the chosen path. It is so important that each individual gives due consideration to what is right for them, and we of course help with that decision making as fully as we can.

I am pleased that a number of 'returning' or 'continuing' parents reminded me that in welcoming the new Year 9 boys I did not give my traditional encouragement to cycle to school. It was an oversight, but I do it now. The more independent and self-directing the boys are from the outset, the better! The minor risks involved can be mitigated with good sense and care - but the benefits are unarguable. I will be setting up an inducement strategy shortly, but in the meantime let's see as many on two wheels as possible!

**Simon Leese, Headmaster**

## From the Chaplain



It has been great to have already met so many new students and their parents.

**Taizé** - There is a village in France, called Taizé, where young people gather in their thousands. They camp around an ecumenical (multi-denominational) monastery to discuss issues, join in simple services,

and have fun together. This Wednesday (11 Feb) evening, three of the brothers from Taizé (including the leader of the monastery) are in the Cardboard Transitional Cathedral on Latimer Square. Please encourage your son to consider joining other young people there from 7pm for discussion followed by a simple service.



**Baptism/Christening** - If your son is not baptised (christened), please encourage him to consider being baptised at our service here on Friday 27 March, in Chapel with the choir at 6:15pm. Baptism is accepted across all mainline denominations.

**Confirmation** - A Confirmation group begins meeting on Wednesday evenings from 25 February, from 7:30pm to 9pm. This will be together with St Margaret's College students. It is open to any interested Year 12 and 13 students. The bishop

is also prepared to confirm mature Year 11 students as there may be a particular reason why this year works better for someone than the next couple of years. The group is led by Canon Lawrence who is well known to the school. Students considering confirmation can come along and see if this is for them. I will also be speaking at Chapel about this.

**Otago Course** - Any able Year 13 students interested in doing Religious Education may like to know that Otago University has a course (a stage one paper) for the first semester specially designed for Year 13 students. This year that course is on ethics. It can be added to any degree done in the future. Last year we also worked in partnership with another school and offered some Level 3 NCEA Religious Education standards. That also might again be possible this year if there are any students interested.

**Chapel** - I remind you that parents and family members are always welcome to come and join us at Sunday Chapel services. Evening services have the choir, morning services are followed by simple refreshments. I also remind you that the Anglican Church encourages all the baptised to receive communion. That means there is no distinction made between denominations - Methodists, Presbyterians, Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholics, whatever... all are just as welcome to receive communion as Anglicans. If you or your son do not identify with a particular denomination - remember, you are just as welcome. And those not receiving communion are encouraged to come up for a blessing.

I am always very happy to talk about anything written here, or in fact any aspect of our school community life.

Yours in Christ,

**Bosco Peters, Chaplain**



# Latest News & Events

Click on the photos below to read the full story then click the go back arrow in your browser to return to In Black & White.



## Welcome to our Year 9 Students

On Monday, we welcomed the new Year 9 students to their first day of College. The boys visited their Houses, attended a Chapel Service with their parents...



## 2015 Scholarship Awards

Somes Scholarship Finn Brokenshire Sumner School Nicholas J Lidstone Medbury School Joshua Stevenson Medbury School Somes Exhibition Gus M Coates...



## 2015 Prefect Induction

On Monday 9 February, Headmaster Simon Leese inducted the 21 2015 prefects. Each prefect received two prefects ties which are worn on different occasions...



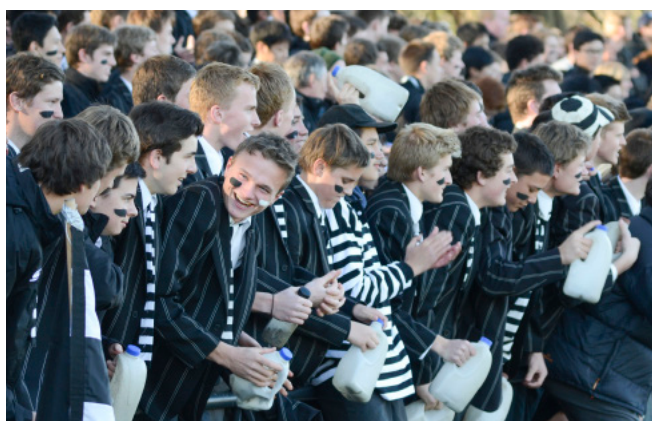
## Trans-Tasman Cricket Festival

Visiting Christchurch after four years was a sobering experience for teams competing in the 2015 Trans-Tasman Independent Schools' Cricket Festival...



## 2015 Orientation Handbook

Click on the photo above to view a pdf version of the 2015 Orientation Handbook.



## 2015 Parent Handbook

Click on the photo above to view a pdf version of the 2015 Parent Handbook.





## Speech and Drama Accolades

21 boys won highest honours plus and distinction grades in the co-curricular speech and drama examinations during 2014. Over 25% of all candidates...



## Welcome to our New Staff Members

We are thrilled to announce our new staff members for 2015. Ms Marsh who is teaching English is no stranger to College life. Her father, grandfather, great uncle...



## Help Support College Cricket

Support the Christ's College England Cricket Tour by attending their *Tales of the Cricket World Cup* event or purchasing Paddy Borthwick wine. Learn more by clicking the photo.



## Polo Have a Go Open Day

SUPA invites school students to come along and experience the exciting and fast growing game of Polo. Riding experience is not essential. Come and participate...



## Oarsome O'Fare Fundraiser

The 2015 Oarsome O'Fare Rowing Club fundraiser will be held on Friday 13 February with heaps of great items up for auction. To check the list or make an absentee bid, click the photo.



## Term 1 Boarding Activity Programme

Click on the photo above to view a pdf version of the Term 1 Boarding Activity Programme.

# Careers



## General Studies Programme - Year 12 & 13

These sessions will again continue for Years 12 & 13 on alternate Fridays. Tertiary providers will give presentations and there will be motivational speakers and sessions on leadership. Interviews with Year 13 boys will be the priority during Term 1 and they will occur during

their study periods. Boys, or their parents can contact Mr Sellars anytime by phone or email, or visit him in the Careers room in the front office of Richards House.

## University Entrance requirement

All students who intend to go to university next year will need all of the following to be awarded University Entrance:

- Attain NCEA Level 3- achieve 14 credits at Level 3 in each of three subjects from the approved list of subjects.
- Achieve UE numeracy - 10 credits at Level 1 and above from specific achievement standards or three specific numeracy unit standards.
- Achieve UE literacy - 10 credits (five in reading and five in writing) at Level 2 and above from specific standards.

## NCEA Level 2 grades

A reminder to Year 12 boys that the grades they achieve this year (2015) are used for University Hall/College selection and the awarding of scholarships in 2016 for their first year of tertiary study in 2017.

## Defence Careers Experience 2015

For many years now, the New Zealand Defence Force has invited selected secondary school students to experience aspects of life in the Defence Force through the Defence Careers Experience (DCE). The first DCE will be held from 13 April - 17 April and will target Officer, Intelligence Officer, Systems Engineers, Electronic Warfare Operator and Communications Systems Operators. The second DCE will be held from 28 September - 2 October. This will target technical and non-technical trades. Both courses will be held at the Burnham Military Camp. Defence Careers will cover accommodation and meal costs. Applications for the first camp are to be received by Friday 6 March. See Mr Sellars by Friday 27 February if interested.

## Otago Tertiary Study Open Day - 28 April

This is on the first Tuesday back in Term 2. I am organising a group of 20 genuinely interested boys to travel to Dunedin on Monday 27 April and returning on Tuesday evening. We will be staying in backpacker accommodation. Some parents may wish to take their sons themselves. We are not allowing boys to travel to Dunedin in their own vehicles. Because this involves a day and a half out of school I want boys to think about this carefully. I will contact all of Year 13 by text message.

## Lattitude Global Volunteering & GAP year placements

An information night - 25 February. The information night allows Lattitude staff, returned volunteers, and parents of returned volunteers to give short presentations and are then available to answer questions. This is aimed for those looking for options for 2016.

**Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor**

### Upcoming Careers Dates:

#### Term 1

- 13 Feb** - General Studies Year 12 - careers introduction & expectations
- 20 Feb** - University of Canterbury Liaison visit
- 6 Mar** - Lincoln University Liaison visit, Year 12
- 13 Mar** - University of Auckland Liaison visit
- 20 Mar** - Defence Forces - Year 12
- 27 Mar** - University of Otago Liaison visit
- 28 Apr** - Otago Tertiary Open Day, Dunedin
- 7 May** - Careers Expo in Christchurch

## Have you got some ideas on social events for parents?

The Christ's College Parents' Association warmly invites existing and new members to meet to discuss the social events for parents for 2015 at the Headmaster's home, 16 Armagh St, on Monday 16 February at 7.30pm.

New parents of the school are most welcome to come along. Any enquiries please contact Lynley Smith 021 239 8178.



*Parents enjoying the 2014 Pink Lunch, an event organised by the Christ's College Parents' Association*

**Lynley Smith, Christ's College Parents' Association**



# WWI Commemoration and Reunion Weekend

As a mark of respect for the many old boys who served in World War I, a commemorative chapel service will take place on Sunday 1 March 2015 at 9am, and will be followed by morning tea.

Like many institutions around the country, Christ's College was profoundly affected by the war. In 1913, the roll of the school was approximately 300. Old boys and staff who served numbered 665, of these 124 were killed in action, 11 died from illness and 165 were wounded.

All are welcome to join us - current boys, old boys and their families.

## Reunion Weekend

This year's Reunion Weekend is fast approaching. The following activities are on offer:

AGM - Thursday 26 February, 5pm in the OBT  
Old Boy's Race - Friday 27 February, 3pm on Upper  
Cocktail Party - Friday 27 February, 5.30pm in the Dining Hall  
Tour of school, year group photograph and lunch - Saturday 28 February, 11am  
World War I Commemorative Chapel Service - Sunday 1 March, 9am in the Chapel

Please contact Justine if you would like more information [ccoba@ccoba.com](mailto:ccoba@ccoba.com) or 03-379-6738.

**Justine Nicholl, CCOBA**

## Reid Edmond Selected for NZ Karate Team

Reid Edmond has been selected for the 2015 New Zealand Karate Team. He was also selected for the team in 2014. Below is a list of Reid's 2014 results.

### Canterbury Championships

1st in Under-16 fighting (kumite)  
2nd in Under-16 Kata (sequence of moves)

### Southland Championships

1st in Open Kata  
1st in Under-19 fighting  
2nd in Under-19 Kata

### NZ Open Championships

1st in Open fighting  
1st in Heavy weight Under-16 fighting  
3rd in Under-16 Kata

### National Championships

1st Under-16 fighting  
1st Under-16 Kata

# Library Matters

"Harry — I think I've just understood something! I've got to go to the library!"

And she sprinted away, up the stairs.

"What does she understand?" said Harry distractedly, still looking around, trying to tell where the voice had come from.

"Loads more than I do," said Ron, shaking his head.

"But why's she got to go to the library?"

"Because that's what Hermione does," said Ron, shrugging.

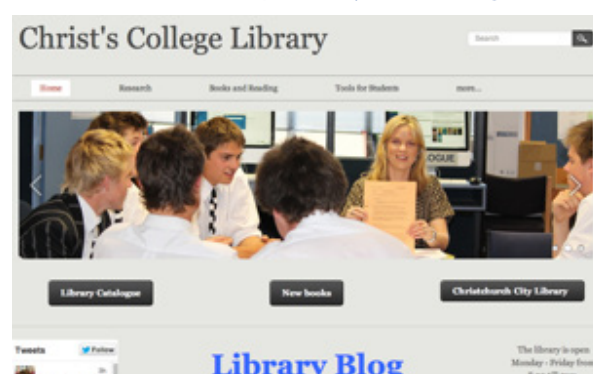
"When in doubt, go to the library."

— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Welcome to our Year 9 students of 2015 and to their parents! The librarians and I like to think of the library as the most important space in the school – it is certainly the most homely and with the addition of beanbags, it is also very comfortable.

Below is a quick overview of how your son can access the library from home and use it to help him access information for learning and the latest book releases.

1. The Website – <http://library.christscollege.com/>



The website has links to databases, alternate search engines and a variety of subscriptions that we pay for to support learning. It also has links to:

- eBooks via our eBook platform <http://christs.wheelers.co/>
  - the library catalogue
  - Lists of must read books
  - Citelighter – our online bibliography creation tool. <http://www.citemaker.com/christscollege.nz/>
2. You can also follow us on twitter – [@cclibrary1](https://twitter.com/cclibrary1)
  3. There is even a library blog <http://librarychristscollege.wordpress.com/>

You are welcome to pop in any time to discuss your son's reading with us and we will be happy to talk to you about suitable books for your son to read. Better still send your son our way and we will give a personalised tour of the books. Just for your information, there is no limit to the books that a boy can borrow from the library and the loan period has been extended to a term to allow for their busy lives.

**Lisa Trundley-Banks, Teacher/Librarian**

# From the Archives

In the Avon River, at Cass Bay, at Scarborough, in the Lyttelton Dry Dock, at Corsair Bay, in the College Baths, at QEII and back to the College Baths again – the College Swimming Sports have been held in a number of places since the 1850's.

It is believed that the boys swam in the Avon River when the College was at St Michael's and continued to do so when they moved to the Rolleston Avenue site.

In 1866 when the swimming races were formalised, the Avon was deeper and cleaner. Upstream and downstream races were organised based on age and there was also an area fenced off known as the Kid's Hole where it was possible to do headers into 10-12 feet of water.

The 1884 opening of baths designed by the architect Frederick Strouts on site, meant that swimming could be taught more formally and the boarders had another warmer weather recreational activity.

This did not however detract from swimming elsewhere. From 1895-1932 there was the annual day long adventure to Corsair Bay. It involved a train trip, either a long walk or a trip in a small boat and a picnic. This use of the bay began long before its 1906 formal opening as an official bathing place, although the



*Corsair Bay Picnic 1907 Lusk Album CCPAL/1*

Christ's College Register in 1907 did remark favourably on the increased amenities that would ultimately include a shelter, bathing cubicles, a swimming enclosure, shop and jetty. During this time the swimming sports were divided between the shorter races in the baths and the longer races at the bay.

Although the College pool was later extended to 33 1/3 yards it still had one major drawback – it was freezing – an upgrade was necessary. Part of the proceeds of the 1990 College Fair were contributed towards the cost and in 1994 a heated, covered 25m pool was opened by the then Prime Minister, J B Bolger. The fence that had become part of the pool surrounds in 1911 was incorporated into the Sir Miles Warren design.



*The Swimming Pool mid 1920's*

The QEII pool, that had been built for the 1974 Commonwealth Games, was an important part of the College Swimming Sports. It was possible to bus the whole College there in House groups to cheer on the competitors. The 2011 earthquake has meant that the sports have returned once more to the College Pool. Heats are now run over several days, and unfortunately spectators are limited. 2015 will be the third year of records being set and broken in yet another venue.

**Jane Teal, Archivist**

## SCIRT Works

McConnell Dowell, as part of SCIRT, are currently repairing earthquake damaged sections of Fendalton Bridge. As part of this work, there have been changes to the layout of Fendalton Road (at the intersection of Harper Avenue and Deans Avenue). To do this work, we have closed off the footpath and pedestrians must now go around our work site. We have also removed the cycle lane and cyclists are now asked to merge with traffic.

SCIRT works on Fendalton Bridge: Please take extra caution when driving or cycling around Fendalton Road bridge. The temporary traffic management means cyclists have to merge with traffic. We ask that both cyclists and motorists take extra caution when going through the work site.

**McConnell Dowell**