



Issue 85, 5 May 2015









From the Headmaster

The Easter break finally saw our contractors gone for now (renovating 'The Tower' containing the kitchens still lies ahead), and the temporary buildings removed after four years. Only the year 13s had briefly seen the quad as it now looks when they first arrived, and had probably forgotten!



Lessons have started in the Miles Warren Building; after four long years of disruption, things are 'back to normal' - only better.

Just as we begin to enjoy an accelerating pace of construction in the city, the destruction in Nepal serves as a poignant reminder of the power of the planet. As commentators have noted, it is the quality of buildings and the density of population which ultimately defines the likely outcome of a major earthquake. We can, at least, enjoy our new buildings in full knowledge that not only are they beautifully conceived and superbly finished, but include the most modern seismic technology to withstand any future, however unlikely, events. However, we are in a better position than we might have expected a few years ago, to understand the Nepalese disaster, and today a mufti day and collection will add to our current chapel collection from Sunday, to aid the relief effort.

The buildings provided a stunning backdrop to our first rugby fixture on Upper last weekend, when our team drew with St Thomas' 19-19. The pitch was in beautiful condition, the sun shone, and the whole venue is now enhanced by the new buildings. It has always been a unique ground, but must now be one of the most attractive in the country. On the other side of the building, our new Charles Upham memorial is in place - part funded through our annual appeal. It has already been much admired. The building will be officially opened, and the memorial recognised, on 20 May. Prior to that, we would like to extend an invitation to all current parents to come and have a look round on Friday 15 May, between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

The break has given a chance to catch up with current educational discussion; topical are the developing focus on the nurturing of 'critical thinking', and also a recent focus on the successful Finnish education system which is moving away from a prescribed curriculum, allowing schools and teachers to pursue broad outcomes through whichever strategies they think appropriate. Finland has always had minimal testing and formal examinations, teaches all abilities in the same classrooms, and their education only begins at seven years old. But structural issues aside, what contributes to their apparently high quality outcomes? In Finland teaching is a high status, well remunerated profession. In 2010, teaching vacancies were over-subscribed 10:1, and all teachers have

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



Hi-tech classrooms for College

Boys and teachers who have now moved into the new Miles Warren Building are enthusiastic about their new...



Assembly Notes

Click on the photo for the Assembly Notes



Calendar Events

Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

masters level qualifications. There is no 'merit pay' - but after 15 years' service salaries are approximately 102% of the all-graduate average. International comparisons are invariably simplistic - but in Finland teacher quality and professionalism is clearly their number one priority. Before we start running Finnish flags up our educational flagpoles, however, it is salutary to note their levels of domestic violence are twice the European average, they sadly rate much higher than the UK and New Zealand in suicide statistics, and violence against women is second only to Denmark. A good opportunity for some critical thinking.

Critical thinking is not new, though rightly is centre stage in educational ambition. By definition 'the objective analysis and evaluation of an issue in order to form a judgement', critical thinking is a function of general intelligence, and a lack of it is seen most obviously in a willingness to blindly accept what one is told, or reads, or sees on the TV. So called 'reality TV' clearly is no such thing, Bear Grylls clearly isn't on his own in the middle of nowhere, and 60 minute house makeovers obviously take weeks of planning. Journalists always have an

angle, news reporters are selective, and editorial writers are only one opinion. But does all this mean that nothing should be accepted - there are no irrefutable facts? The persistent and simplistic mantra that factual knowledge is becoming unimportant because everything can be *Googled* when needed, and the ability to process information and think critically is the recipe for life success, itself deserves some higher level thinking. People who know things, people who have internalised how to do things and practised them to a high level of proficiency, people who read, who are interested in things, anything, and who want to interact face to face with people who are also interesting and interested, these are the people we should be sending out from College.

Well done to our cyclists - there should be more. I have frequently reminded all of the advantages of independent travel, even if parents do happen to be driving in to work, bringing siblings etc. The personal benefits are not just logistical and physical, they are also cycleogical.

Simon Leese, Headmaster

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.



Anzac Day service

At the annual Anzac Day service on Tuesday, Headmaster Simon Leese reminded boys of the elusiveness of peace in the modern world. In a moving sermon...



Jack Noble-Adams Karting Champion

Congratulations to Jack Noble-Adams, who became the National Champion in the Intermediate class and to Oscar Noble-Adams, who became the National Champion...



Canterbury Live - Anzac Tribute

<u>Click here</u> to view the Canterbury Live - Christ's College Anzac Tribute...



ANZAC Invitational Rugby Carnival

On 8 April 24 boys and three staff travelled to Melbourne to take part in an ANZAC invitational rugby carnival. Our boys were split up and billeted...

Latest News & Events Continued

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.



Livin' La Vida

"Livin' La Vida" a Cocktail Party in support of the Christ's College Football Tour to South America September 2015. The success of last year's 1st IX qualifying for Premier Tournament...



Angus McKenzie – Kentucky Bound

Angus McKenzie, 2013 Head of the Humanitarian Committee, who has just received two scholarships to the University of Kentucky, says his role at College...



Update on Doctor Faustus

All hell has broken loose! Such was the cry from Mr David Chambers about the up-coming production of Doctor Faustus. "We are in the middle of creating the stage...



Enrolment Tours

If you would like to attend our Enrolment Tours please click on the image above to register your interest by filling in an Enrolment Tours Form.



England Cricket Tour

The England Cricket Tour returned last week from their three and a half week tour through Singapore, France and England. A total of 20 official tour games and 4 T/20s...

An Easy way to make a real difference for New Zealanders

Have you ever considered how your bequest could make a difference to your grandchildren's education? Making a bequest is very straightforward, you don't even have to make a whole new will. After you have made provision for your family, the residual estate can be left at your discretion to College. Big or small contributions to scholarship funds will benefit the community by supporting students who wouldn't ordinarily come to Christ's College.

Would you like to speak to someone in person? To make an appointment call the Director of Development on 03 364 6851.

So far this year three visionary supporters have included Christ's College in their will.

Curriculum News



The topic of innovation has been on our minds a lot recently. As we look at our curriculum composition and structure, some of us are asking ourselves some searching questions which might best be expressed most simply as 'where to from here?' We have many notable examples of highly successful and innovative alumni in many fields from justice to

the arts, from electronic media to innovation itself.

In this last category, a small group of staff and students visited the EPIC innovation centre in Christchurch in mid-March where we were hosted by Henry Lane, College Old Boy and one of the Directors of EPIC.

If you asked me what we wanted I suspect that I'd have to offer a different answer for each of us. Personally, I want to know how we can produce even more innovative and creative people who become leaders in their fields. And when I mention fields of endeavour I have to confess to being agnostic. We might well be talking about the gaming industry or industrial chemistry, but equally we might be talking about the music industry or the law, the visual arts or languages and diplomacy.

Whatever our thinking before we went in, I suspect that all of us had had our thinking sent off in a new direction as we sat in the Ideas bank at the EPIC Centre and listened to a range of innovators before entering into an interesting, but all too brief, discourse.

At a follow up, we were introduced to the Singularity University. Take a look at the website if you really want to see where innovation in education might head.

A footnote: I mentioned the issue of getting boys to read. I recently came across this interesting article printed in Time magazine on 'deep reading'. At College we follow a 'blended learning' model, one that encompases both traditional and online activities. Reading a good old-fashioned book has definite merit. Let's not forget the joy of holding the paper, the smell of the ink, the excitement of being the first person to open the pages of that new novel. The article can be found here:

http://ideas.time.com/2013/06/03/why-we-should-read-literature/

Finally I received the following email notification from NZQA:

NZQA has developed a mobile app that allows students to plan their NCEA study programme, set goals and track their progress. The app complements the NCEA Guide app targeted to parents and employers which was launched in May 2014.

What does the app do?

It aims to do what other apps don't. Students have been involved in the design of the app from the beginning, and chose the functions that were of most value to them. Functionality within the app provides students with the ability to:

- Select and set their NCEA credit goals and targets. (We believe this is important given the flexibility of NCEA).
- See how they are tracking towards NCEA Levels one, two and three, including Literacy, Numeracy and University Entrance (UE).
- Set reminders for each standard such as when assignments are due.
- Capture results as they are achieved and cross check with the school or NZQA.
- Personalise with information such as NSN number or details about a course or standard (such as the teacher's name or timetabled classroom).
- Customise with different colour coding options and the ability to add photos.
- Use in English and Te Reo Māori.

Other features of the App are:

- It is simple, clear, easy to use and responsive
- It provides a short description for each standard
- It has its own database, which includes all standards and unit standards, and which will be maintained and updated periodically by NZQA
- It has a powerful search engine that makes it easy for students to find subjects and standards by "name" or "number"
- It is an NZQA quality assured product
- It makes NCEA easier to understand
- NZQA encourages students to look at all apps and choose the one they feel best suits them

Important points to not:

- The student is responsible for the security of his own data

 NZQA recommends a PIN number on the digital device
 (phone or tablet) being used as a minimum, and a password on the app (option provided within the app settings).
- Responsibility for the accuracy of the information introducted to the app rests with the app user. It is their information and their data.

Minimum operating systems:

iOS 7.1 and Android 4.0 and above - the newer the version the better the performance so;

Android 4.1,4.2,4.3 and 4.4

iPhone 5,iPhone 6,iPad 4 and iPad mini.

Robin Sutton, Senior Master Academic

Careers



Careers Expo - Horncastle Arena, Thursday 7 - Saturday 9 May

Year 12 will be visiting the Expo on Thursday morning. This year's Expo will launch the new World of Work hub. The space will feature interactive displays and show what students need to be work ready. The exhibit will profile the Vocational

Pathways and Occupation Outlook information in an all new engaging style for students. There is also the opportunity for parents and students to visit the Expo in the evenings.

University 101

This is a public presentation designed for school leavers, parents and teachers and aims to promote and provide informative and engaging information about university and the differences between secondary school and university.

IT TechHub Careers Expo - 27 May

You can hear from Ian Taylor about how he went from TV presenter, to IT Superstar with his software that is used in the America's Cup, Cricket and Formula One. Other presenters will also talk about why IT is a great career. There is the opportunity to talk to IT organisations in an expo-style setting before and after the presentations. Presentations start at 6.30pm, doors open at 5.30pm at Aurora Centre, Burnside High School.

UC Info Evening

For those considering university study, there is an opportunity to find out about degree information, scholarships, accommodation and more. Doors open at 6.15pm, presentations start at 6.30pm. Central Lecture Theatre Block, University of Canterbury, Arts Road - car parking, llam.

Chiropractic Career talk

For students interested in science and health, chiropractic is a fast-growing wellness profession which offers the chance to make a positive impact on people. It has a good earning potential and the possibility to be self employed, a large and increasing supply of jobs and a highly portable qualification allowing practice in many countries. Roughan Chiropractic, 316 Riccarton Rd, Christchurch. Wednesday 20 May at 7.00pm. contact recruitment@nzchiro.co.nz

College House

Two recent Old Boys will talk to those interested in finding out more about College House. This is university accommodation with a fine tradition, buildings and history. They are proud of their excellent results and are committed to a first-rate academic tutorial programme. They invite students and families to visit. Booking ahead of a planned visit is advisable. office@collegehouse.org.nz, phone (03) 364 2001.

Otago Tertiary Day

Twenty two boys attended the tertiary day in Dunedin last week. They stayed in a comfortable backpackers and planned their day beforehand. They were able to attend lectures, visit colleges/halls of residence, get to know the campus and explore the city. Even if they do not go to the University of Otago, that experience and now having other options to consider, is a good one. Victoria University in Wellington and the University of Auckland have similar days in August.

Local Tertiary Providers

This is the time when secondary school students are looking at their options for 2016. I generally advise them to look at local providers first. We have excellent tertiary institutions close by - University of Canterbury, Lincoln University and CPIT, plus other smaller providers. Some students want to get away to other cities, but many are undecided. Depending on how their studies are being financed, staying at home and maybe paying a small amount of board, might be the answer. A first year away from home can cost up to \$20,000 and this mounts up over three or four years.

CPIT Musical Arts for a Day

CPIT is looking to host students who may seriously be thinking of pursuing a musical career and to give them a taste of what it would be like to train in a music school for the BMusArts degree. Contact Sharon Moynihan ph (03) 9408063. Dates: 7,21 May, 4,18 June, 23 July, 6,20 August, 3,17 September.

Your Education

Your Education is a New Zealand-based high school exchange provider bringing a high quality exchange experience with attention and care. It is a chance to live overseas, improve language skills and experience a different culture. Bryce Park (Yr 13 Julius) participated in this programme last year. A Your Education Information Meeting is on 12 May, 6.00pm at Christchurch South Library, Colombo Street, or see Mr Sellars for further support.

Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor

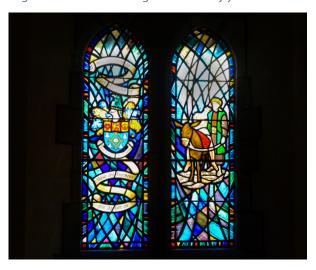
Events since the last issue:

Defence Forces - Year 13
University of Otago Liaison visit
London School of Economics visit
Otago Tertiary Open Day
Education USA adviser visit
University of Canterbury taster programme

To read about upcoming careers dates please continue to the bottom of the next page.

A donkey and a stained glass window

In 1998, a former Headmaster, Dr Max Rosser, wrote in the Christ's College Register about the installation of a two light window in the north west corner of the College Chapel. It was made possible by a \$10,000 donation from the mothers of the College who ran the Clothing Pool for many years.



The light closest to the west door depicts the College crest surrounded by the words "Whatever you do for the least of these my brothers you do for me." (pictured above left) (Matthew 25:40). Adjacent to it is a figure of the Good Samaritan assisting his neighbour. (Luke 10:25-37) (pictured above right)

The window was designed by Beverley Shore-Bennett. Initially a portrait painter, her work in stained glass began in 1969 when she was asked to design a window for the Wellington Cathedral. This began a 10 year collaboration with Millers Studios of Dunedin. Subsequently she worked with Paul Hutchins and then with Stephen Belanger-Taylor of Geraldine who executed this work. Many windows designed by Shore-Bennett have deep blue, green and purple glass joined by lead cames which add fluidity to the overall design. Another local window that is known to have survived the earthquakes is in the Church of St Mary the Virgin in Addington.

Although the figure of the Samaritan is dressed in clothes of the Biblical era, it has a striking similarity to Horace Moore-Jones' well known painting of Simpson and his donkey at Anzac. Moore-Jones was evacuated from Gallipoli in November 1915 and the painting was completed in 1918 in New Zealand. It was based on a photograph of Dick Henderson, a stretcherbearer with the NZ Medical Corps at Gallipoli. Moore-Jones has recently been commemorated by the unveiling of a statue in Hamilton, by the current New Zealand War Artist, Matt Gauldie.

Simpson and His Donkey is a story that has been enhanced many times with the telling, almost to the status of a myth. There was a John Simpson at Anzac, but his real name was John Simpson Kirkpatrick. He arrived with the Australian Field Ambulance on 25 April 1914 and befriended a donkey known

variously as Abdul, Murphy or Duffy. He became the most well known of the many men who were associated with donkeys carrying the wounded to medical aid. He was killed on 19 May 1915 and is buried at the Beach Cemetery, Anzac.

100 years since the landing at Gallipoli, in the words of Rosser "It is entirely appropriate that this window, flooded with light from the North, should serve as a perpetual reminder to the boys of their social obligations to others".

Sources:

Clayworth, P. 2012 The man with the donkey – an Anzac from South Shields http://blog.teara.govt.nz/2012/05/01/the-man-with-the-donkey/
Miller, B. 2010 Beverley Shore-Bennett http://www.roymiller.co.nz/
Park, S. 2010 Passing of Stephen Belanger-Taylor window maker http://newzealandglass.blogspot.co.nz/2010/08/

Rosser, MJ 1999 New Window for the Chapel Christ's College Register No 261 Toti 2015 www.toti.co.nz/he-tangata-project/sapper-horace-moore-jones Walsh, GP Kirkpatrick, John Simpson (1892-1915) Australian Dictionary of Biography

http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kirpatrick-john-simpson-6975/text12119

Jane Teal, Archivist

Upcoming careers dates:

7 May - Careers Expo in Christchurch, Year 12 to attend

7 May - College House presentation, 12.45pm Richards House

11 May - University of Auckland, Christchurch Parent Information seminar, 7.30-9.00pm, Legends Lounge, Addington Raceway.

12 May - Otago Polytechnic Liaison visit

12 May - Your Education - Exchange Programme Information Evening

13 May - University of Canterbury Information Evening

13 May - Helicopter Flight Training Information night, Garden City Helicopters, 515 Memorial Ave, 6.30-8.00pm. Registration is required

15 May - Victoria University liaison visit

20 May - A career in Chiropratic

20 May - Waikato University Open Day, 9.00am-2.30pm

22 May - CPIT Liaison visit, Year 12

22 May - University of Waikato Open Day

25 May - Law Seminar - University of Otago

26 May - University 101, Public Presentation, Burnside High School, 7.30pm

27 May - TechHub Careers Expo, Aurora Centre, cnr Greers Rd, Memorial Avenue

5 Jun - CPIT - Have a Go day

15 Jun - International College of Hotel Management (ICHM), Adelaide, visit

18 Jun - CPIT Open Day

25 Jun - Victoria University, Christchurch Information evening

9 Jul - Yoobee, ACG School of Design Open Day

28 Aug - Study @ Victoria University Day

29 Aug - University of Auckland Open Day