

In Black & White



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

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From the Headmaster

Last week saw three nights of Dr Faustus, much enjoyed by audiences captivated by another remarkable College production. My personal congratulations to director Robyn Peers and all the cast and company, for what was a hugely memorable experience.



The first night was particularly memorable for what will be known henceforth as the 'incense incident' - we were delighted our smoke detection system worked perfectly. I had some concerns (from his choice of postcard) that the chaplain might come back with grand ideas from the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela, in northern Spain, where such things are elevated to a whole new level. I am sure he will take the hint. In our little diversion, what was remarkable was how effortlessly, after a short rewind, the cast swept the audience back into the plot; the evacuation had no impact at all on the enjoyment of the evening. The interruption also, as I learned later during a touchline conversation on Saturday, gave a brief opportunity to attend to a stage curtain malfunction, which threatened to impact on the production. The occasional theatre enquiry 'is there a doctor in the house?' might have been 'is there a retired stage technician in the house?' Fortunately there was, so a special thanks to Pat O'Connor.

Our *Red Baron* restoration continues to generate interest, and last week I was able to meet with Mr John Bunker who built the plane some 40 years ago. A joiner at Hays, the floats for the procession became a focus of most of his adult life, and it was a privilege to chat about his many extraordinary creations.



Mr Simon Leese with Mr John Bunker who built the Red Baron.

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



Year 9 Scholarship Awards for 2016

Click on the above photo to view a list of our Year 9 scholarship award winners for 2016...



Assembly Notes

Click on the photo for the Assembly Notes



Calendar Events

Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

Further, I was contacted by Mr John Eivers who was heavily involved in the parade with Air New Zealand, who brought me one of best pictures of the Red Baron when it was obviously brand new. Practically, multiple replacement parts are being created and the plane will shortly start to be revived.

The matter of a school banning padded jackets led to an article in the Press under the headline 'School uniforms are used to control and intimidate'. It acknowledged the origins of school uniform, the elimination of outward differences in wealth and perceived status, and discouraging 'competitive dressing'. The author goes on to disparage the use of uniforms on many levels, some of them interesting, some of them contrived, and some just silly. One of the main advantages of a uniform is it largely eliminates the need for endless negotiation, and resulting irritation, about what is acceptable and what is not. Even within our range of uniform, we have attempts at individuality; we appear to have weathered the low-riding compulsion (the singular most unappealing, impractical and uncomfortable affectation most of us can remember), and currently taking in trousers in an attempt at a 'hipster' look is pushing its luck. There will always be some for whom superficial demonstrations of 'individuality' are an easier avenue than something more substantial.

Given the intention of school uniform is to eliminate shallow exhibitionism, the question then arises about adorning the uniform with badges, patches and other impedimenta intended to differentiate. At College we have minimal additions - sports colours, Gold Badges and metal buttons, with even the Head Prefect's badge relatively understated. There is some variation in ties for prefects, and for outstanding academic achievement. We have sports caps, a largely emblematic device for sporting participation. Why do we not have the myriad other symbols of activity and achievement favoured by other schools?

It is a good question, and one which perhaps has an historical as well as a philosophical answer. Firstly, because we

never have, but perhaps that reason strays into the second consideration, being whether the College has ever favoured such emblems. I would like to think we instil modest self-confidence; an inner sense of accomplishment that does not need external validation. By way of illustration, in the last week alone, I have found out things about three boys at College I didn't know before - extraordinary dimensions to their lives, defining remarkable personal quality. What badge would I give them? Even if I had one, I suspect they would not want it. For some schools, the blazer is a walking record of achievement - the wearer is clearly a young person of talent, energy and contribution. But I ask whether conspicuous outward marks of 'doing' decrease our celebration of simply 'being'? Are we at risk of outward trappings of rank and achievement being confused with the more substantial, but less easily evaluated personal qualities? I don't have an answer to this, but wonder at what stage young people can be weaned from extrinsic recognition and on to a more solid diet of intrinsic motivation and self-validation.

These thoughts are well exercised in our annual Leadership Day for year 12 students taking place today as I write. In seven years this has grown from our year group plus about the same number from other schools, to today's extraordinary total of 600 young people meeting together from schools all over Canterbury. As the first plenary speaker noted, you can not learn meaningful leadership from a book; the essence is personal qualities. I have no doubt some of the young people present are already destined to be influential in their adult lives, and others will already be so. And many of them may not have accumulated too many badges.

A short break lies ahead. I wish all glorious winter opportunities, but ask if at all possible the ski-fields contribute a minimum of plaster casts to term 3.

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.



Instrumental Music Evening

Christ's College is holding an informal music evening on Friday 31 July at 7.30pm in the Chapman Room. This will be an opportunity to gather and socialise, with refreshments...



Emerging Leaders 2015

Awakening awareness of students' personal leadership abilities is one of the aims of this year's one-day Emerging Leadership Conference for Year 12 students on Tuesday 30 June...



Annual Quad Rugby Tournament

The Annual Quad Rugby Tournament has been held in some form since 1890. From 1890 to 1924, Christ's College, Wellington College and Wanganui Collegiate...



Euro 2016: Drama/Art History Tour

Bonjour. There has been a positive uptake of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity (in April 2016). College Senior Management fully endorses the tour...



Successful season for Dr Faustus

More than 1000 people attended College's 2015 senior production Dr Faustus over its three-day season. Drama director Mr David Chambers says...



Badminton Success

The top College badminton team of Luke Gellen, Jeffrey Lai, Jason Guan and Ralph Chiang competed in the Canterbury Secondary Schools' Championship...

Curriculum News



I had long believed that there was an ancient Chinese 'curse' that said "may you live in interesting times". It seems that that is not correct, there is no evidence for its origins at all. However, the saying lives on and maybe it has some value, although perhaps not as a 'curse'. I think that we do live in interesting times, and at College we'd like to believe that

we are very good at highlighting just how interesting these times are.

We are hosting what promises to be a fascinating and stimulating public address by Salim Ismail, leading global thinker on innovation and founder of Singularity University. The event is being organised by 'Eventbrite' in conjunction with Callaghan Innovation, and the organisers say this:

"Callaghan Innovation presents Salim Ismail, author of Exponential Organisations, Founding Executive Director of Singularity University, sought-after business strategist and entrepreneur.

We are in the midst of a business transformation that hasn't been seen in one hundred years, mainly driven by disruptive technologies and globalisation. However, our organisations are still linear: they evolved a century ago for an era of economies of scale and relative stability and predictability. It's time for a new model, the 'Exponential Organisation' that leverages openness, transparency and abundance in a new way - the future will be owned by this new breed of business."

You can book tickets here:

<http://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/mind-altering-substance-tickets-17474127586>

We are also in the process of organising a visit and public address from Mr Peter Beck, founder of Rocket Lab in Auckland, early in term 3. At this stage we are planning to host Peter on Tuesday 28 July at a function that will most likely take the form of a lunchtime address for boys and interested parents. We'll let you know as the details are settled.

We are tremendously excited to be able to play our part in bringing such amazing people to Christchurch and to help encourage our boys to be lateral, critical and creative thinkers in these 'interesting times'.

To pick up on another recurring theme, it is often said that our language defines our world, and our language is defined by what we read. We continue to push our boys to read and to read more as we encourage them to expand their own worlds. In my own case my TBR (To Be Read) pile continues to expand and at the moment it's the paper books taking control. In

the realm of books I have several possibly odd affectations: I collect non fiction and New Zealand fiction in paper format, and all other fiction electronically on my Kindle. The world of New Zealand fiction goes from strength to strength, and my latest eagerly awaited purchases are the new novel by Patricia Grace (her first in ten years) titled 'Chappy', and a book that has been around for a wee while now, 'Mr Pip' by Lloyd Jones. These have joined a selection of non fiction books that have been added to the collection over the past few months. My reasons for buying most fiction on Kindle revolve around lower prices, easier storage (that's a post earthquake thing for those of us who still live on the east side of town) and ease of handling when holding the books as I suffer from arthritis in several fingers. But there is just no substitute for the smell and feel of paper. There is now some interesting research around the issue of reading electronically and on paper, with current evidence supporting better engagement when readers read in paper. Interestingly this doesn't appear to be an age related thing.

However it doesn't really matter what we read, nor what physical format that reading takes, as long as we are reading. Do you have a TBR pile? Does your son have a TBR pile? What a great topic for one of those casual conversations over dinner, a long black or the drive home from the 'footie' match.

Finally, next term we begin the process of course planning for 2016. Our course selection evening is scheduled for Tuesday 4 August in the assembly hall. Heads of department, along with representatives of UC, Lincoln and CPIT, will all be on hand to offer course advice. We'd hope to see as many of you as possible at the course selection evening. We are also working on the 2016 Curriculum Handbook which will list and describe the courses available for the year. This will be available on line by the start of term 3. Boys will then be asked to select subjects for 2016, and the real work begins as we use the data to begin construction of the 2016 timetable.

In the mean time, happy reading.

Robin Sutton, Senior Master Academic



South American Football Tour

Click on the photo above to learn how you can help support the Christ's College South American Football Tour.

Careers



Russell McVeagh Law - School Leavers Scholarship

Applications are available via their website, www.summerclark.co.nz, and close on Friday 3 July at 5.00pm. For online applications students will need to submit electronic copies of: 500 word cover letter, school testimonial, reference, their CV, their academic records to date, a passport sized photo.

International College of Hotel Management (Adelaide)

Gerald Lipman talked to a Year 11 and 12 class about changes in technology, qualifications, the growth of China and the increasing growth of India. He explained the difference in the economies between both countries. He mentioned the importance of studying languages in this global environment and the increasing number of tourists who will be wanting to stay in hotels. He outlined what ICHM offers in terms of study and work placement and that students who have their Bachelors degrees from ICHM go into other areas of management as well as Hotel Management. For further information contact Mr Sellars who has visited the College or their website www.ichm.edu.au

University Halls / Colleges applications

In Term 3, students will complete their application online and will get email confirmation that their application has been received. They can then log on any time to check their status. They also request that a Common Confidential Reference Form (ccrf) be completed by the school. Housemasters will complete this form and forward it to the Accommodation Centre. Students will be able to apply for accommodation at several universities and make their final decision in October. Applicants will be advised by 7 October if they have an offer or are on the waiting list.

Studylink Info for Students

Studylink is a service of the Ministry of Social Development, administering Student Allowances, Student Loans, and assisting students to get the finance and support they are entitled to. For more information refer to: studylink.govt.nz or phone 0800889900

Health is more than just Medicine

Medicine is not for everyone. If you want to make a difference in health in general, there are also many pathways to get you there. These include (and are not limited to) nursing, health promotion, optometry, pharmacy, psychology, lab science, biomedical science, medical engineering, food science to name a few.

University of Melbourne - Degree structure

At Melbourne students will start studying towards an undergraduate degree. They can choose a specific major (key study area) from day one or keep options open to discover new and exciting possibilities along the way. Once this degree has been completed students could head straight into the workforce and begin their career, or pursue a professional qualification at masters level through a graduate course work degree. These degrees include: Architecture, Dental Surgery, Engineering, Journalism, Law, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Science, and more. They could also do a graduate research degree.

Electrical and Electronic Engineering Scholarship - \$15,000

The University of Canterbury are offering the UC Electric Power Engineering Centre Scholarships to students who will be studying at UC. Up to eight scholarships are awarded annually. Applicants must be studying Level 3 Mathematics and Physics. Applications close 15 August. Visit www.epecentre.ac.nz for videos, study guides, and handy tips for electrical systems in the NCEA Electrical Systems Guide.

Just the Job Online

The Just the Job library of career videos extends from Medicine to Farming to Social Work to the New Zealand Defence Force and many more. With over 250 videos it's the ideal place to sample a day in the life of a particular industry. All the videos are about 7 minutes long and are arranged in VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS headings. Just the Job is the number 1 video resource for career seekers in New Zealand today. Have a look at www.justthejob.co.nz. Dave Mason Productions has worked closely with Careers New Zealand, Ministry of Business, Innovation and employment, Ministry of Primary Industries and the Industry Training Organisations.

Scholarships Database

A useful resource for viewing scholarships is "generosity New Zealand". This was previously called "Breakout". The resource should be available anywhere on the school campus. The link is: <http://fis.org.nz/databases/BreakOut.php>. Students type in certain criteria and possible scholarships that they might apply for appear.

Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor

To view events since the last issue and upcoming careers dates please turn to page 6.

School Holiday Exam Seminar for Senior Students

International author, speaker and trainer, Patrick Sherratt, will be presenting his interactive and entertaining exam-preparation seminar to senior students (and their parents), from the Christchurch area.

In this two-hour presentation, Patrick will offer a five-step approach to prepare for exams while building in solutions to many of the common challenges students face in the lead up to exams. If you have problems getting motivated to study, procrastinate, get distracted easily, have a poor memory or suffer from exam nerves, this will be a "must-attend" seminar for you!

Past students have highly recommended this presentation:

"Amazing Seminar. This has completely changed my outlook on school exams and the preparation process associated with it."

"Amazing! It was totally me. I found the seminar described the faults I had with school work, habits and focussing and showed me ways to fix them. Thank you so much!"

Held at St Bede's College, Papanui, in the school hall on Sunday 26 July (2.00 – 4.00pm), the seminar will cost \$20 per person.

Registrations are required. Please email your interest to: helpwithexams@gmail.com

For more information about Patrick's work, please visit: www.passingexams.co.nz or www.howtopassexams.com

Students and parents welcome.



Save the Date – Black & White Ball 2015

The Christ's College Parents' Association will be holding their annual Black & White Ball on Friday 11 September. There will be more information about this fantastic event in the coming weeks.

Careers Continued

Events since the last issue:

- CPIT Open Day
- New York University Abu Dhabi, liaison visit
- UC visit, Year 12
- University of Otago, Information evening
- Victoria University, Christchurch Information evening

Upcoming careers dates:

- 29 Jun** - Broadcasting School - CPIT, Information Evening
- 3 Jul** - Russell McVeagh Law scholarships applications close, 5.00pm
- 6 Jul** - Massey University, Engineering & Food Technology Camp
- 6 Jul** - University of Waikato, "Experience Waikato Sessions", 6/7 July
- 9 Jul** - University of Canterbury - UC, Open Day (school holidays)
- 9 Jul** - Yoobee, ACG School of Design Open Day
- 13 Jul** - CPIT - Holiday Workshops, 13 July - 17 July
- 14 Jul** - CPIT - Broadcasting Holiday Workshop
- 15 Jul** - Lincoln University Open Day (schools holidays)
- 16 Jul** - Broadcasting School - CPIT, Information Evening
- 1 Aug** - Students can apply online for accommodation at Universities
- 4 Aug** - CPIT - Nursing and Certificate in Pre-Health & Science, Information session
- 4 Aug** - University of Melbourne liaison visit, 12.50pm
- 4 Aug** - University of Melbourne Information Evening
- 6 Aug** - AUT, course planning meeting
- 7 Aug** - AUT, presentation to Year 12
- 14 Aug** - Lincoln University, liaison visit
- 15 Aug** - UC - Emerging Leaders, Foundation Sports and Bright Start Scholarships - applications close
- 15 Aug** - University of Otago, Scholarships applications close
- 15 Aug** - Media Design School, Auckland, Open Day
- 16 Aug** - University of Melbourne Open Day, 10.00-4.00pm
- 25 Aug** - University of Auckland Scholarship applications close
- 26 Aug** - University of Canterbury Course planning, 2.45pm
- 26 Aug** - University of Otago Course planning, 2.45pm
- 27 Aug** - CPIT, Open Day & Industry Expo
- 28 Aug** - Study @ Victoria University Day, Wellington
- 29 Aug** - University of Auckland Open Day
- 1 Sep** - Application deadline for CPIT's Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Radiography)
- 9 Sep** - University of Otago course planning, (Health Sciences) 2.45pm
- 16 Sep** - Victoria University Course planning
- 30 Sep** - Apply for accommodation at university Colleges before this date
- 30 Sep** - Broadcasting School - applications close