



Issue 111, 13 September 2016

From the Executive Principal

Last weekend I had one of those New Zealand experiences that was a first for me. I attended the interhouse clay bird shoot at the North Canterbury Clay Target Club. It was a magnificent day, with snowcapped mountains in the distance, and an enthusiastic group of boys competing with energy and skill. Final winners were the School House juniors. What was



even more special about the event was the way the club enabled this activity to take place and how parents, some of whom were Old Boys, participated to help make things happen.

In this first phase of my time as Executive Principal, I have been so pleased to see the positive and constructive engagement of two of our most important support groups: our parents and our Old Boys. I have seen parents providing "behind the scenes" support at so many of our activities, and their enthusiasm and input enables so much to occur. In addition, our Parents' Association manages more traditional events like our mid-winter drinks and the upcoming Pink Lunch. Having parents constructively and positively involved with College helps us align our purpose and is much appreciated by staff and boys alike. Our Old Boys' Association (CCOBA) has been wonderfully supportive this year and College will directly benefit from two new initiatives approved at the association's most recent meeting. First, a formal CCOBA Scholarship has been created and awarded to a boy who will start at College in 2017. This scholarship provides support to an extent that enables a boy to attend College who would not otherwise have been able to do so and is a wonderful example of what College seeks to expand in the years ahead. Second, it is my pleasure to announce the CCOBA plans to begin an art collection that will be gifted to College to assist teaching and learning programmes and enhance the general aesthetic of the campus. This is a wonderfully exciting initiative and will add significantly to the ambience of College. CCOBA members have also been fully engaged in our College Conversations programme and have provided wonderful leadership in our community engagement visits across New Zealand and in Australia. A school such as College relies on its community to support its values and its purpose - and parents and Old Boys are an integral part of our community.

You may be aware of a difficult matter College has been dealing with over the last two months. This involves an accusation of racial abuse at a rugby match earlier in the year. Racism in any form is unacceptable here at College and this matter has been addressed with great seriousness by all involved. At this point in time, following the claim being upheld, the matter remains in the hands of the CRFU judiciary and, rather than allow people to be confused by how this emotive

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



A creative boost

Art teacher Kate Kempthorne-Smith says it was a big call to take out the darkroom, but the spacious new photography studio installed in its place has opened up...



Assembly Notes Click on the photo for the Assembly Items



Calendar Events Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

issue may be presented by the media, I thought it appropriate to release College's most recent press statement:

"The school awaits advice from the legal representative of the boy and family involved, together with any sanctions from the CRFU, before deciding our next actions. Our absolute focus throughout this matter has been the right to natural justice and due process, and to support the boys and families involved.

Racism in any form, on or off the field, contradicts the foundational Christian values of the College".

Garth Wynne, Executive Principal



From the Chaplain



Synod

The meeting of the Canterbury and West Coast diocesan synod took place early in September. Thanks to College's lay representative Angus Dysart-Paul, youth representative Vincent Kenworthy (who will be our voting lay representative next year) and Mr Nick Sutcliffe, who played the organ when we, along with St

Margaret's College, led the morning prayer on the Saturday.

At synod, we oversee financial decisions, hear reports and discuss a variety of aspects of church life. Much energy, sadly, continues to be expended on debates about blessing committed same-sex couples – a subject on which many Anglicans are unable to move forward, or even allow others to move forward. Meanwhile, I note with delight the launch of the College Tuis, the official alumni group for gay, bisexual and transgender Old Boys.



From left: Vincent Kenworthy, Rev. Bosco Peters, Mr Nick Sutcliffe and Angus Dysart-Paul

Centre for Ethics and Spirituality

On Thursday 8 September Rev. Ron Hay spoke on *Finding the Forgotten God – credible faith for a secular age*. He has done a great deal of research and published a book on this topic and his presentation generated some interesting discussion.





Look out for our next event on Thursday 27 October at 7.30pm, when Director of Anglican Advocacy Rev. Jolyon White will present *How do you know what's right? The options for stopping the importation of slave-labour produced goods.*

This is not simply browbeating you and I about the choices we make when we go to the supermarket, this is a discussion at a whole new level. It is about how we can respond as a nation. Different countries are currently looking at options to legislate around this issue and I can see great relevance and connection with, for example, studying economics. I urge you to put this event in your diary now and look forward to seeing you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CENTRE FOR ETHICS AND SPIRITUALITY

Thursday 27 October, 7.30pm, Chapman Room

Rev. Jolyon White on *How do you know what's right? The options for stopping the importation of slavelabour produced goods.*

BOOK HERE NOW

In the classroom

In Year 11, NCEA work is currently being marked, and we will end the year with a variety of interesting topics, including a deeper look at different world religions.

In Year 10, we have been learning about six world religions and considering different philosophical understandings of religion, science and ethics.

In Year 9, we have just finished studying the relationship between science and religion, particularly focusing on the Genesis stories. Now we are learning more about Anglicanism, the foundation of our school.

In Chapel

In Chapel we are continuing the thread of mindfulness from the perspective of Christian contemplative practices. Within this thread, we celebrated Mother Teresa of Calcutta. I described meeting her when she visited Christchurch, and spending time in her Home for the Dying in Kolkata. In 2006, I set in motion the complex process of having her added to the Anglican Calendar, which took five years.

For about 50 years Mother Teresa had no sense of the presence of God, and that fits with our current focus on mindfulness and contemplative practice. If you are depressed, have doubts, no sense of God's presence, or find prayers are not being answered, you are not alone. This is the experience of many before you, including Mother – now Saint – Teresa.

Yours in Christ, **Rev. Bosco Peters, Chaplain**

Friday 28 October 12pm The Dining Hall

TICKETS \$45 includes a donation to Breast Cancer Research

Guest Speaker - Natalie Rooney, Silver Medalist for Women's Trap at Rio Olympics 2016

BOOKING TICKETS ESSENTIAL BY TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER

BOOK NOW

Curriculum News



Kia ora koutou katoa

Recent school examinations are now complete and results have been handed back to the students. These examinations are very important for a number of reasons: first, they provide an excellent benchmark of the student's progression; second, they allow students the opportunity

to practice the skill of examination technique in an authentic context; and third, they provide us with a derived grade for students who are unable to attend end of year examinations.

Students need to heed the advice and feedback provided by their teachers. The upcoming holidays provide an excellent opportunity to enhance and further develop their knowledge for end of year examinations.

Striving for personal excellence must be the goal of all our students. In Ancient Greece they spoke of the idea of arete - a word that means virtue or being the best you can be, reaching your highest potential. In Greek culture, the notion of excellence is closely linked to the idea of fulfilment, the act of living up to what you are capable of becoming and realising your purpose in life. While not everybody can be first in class, everyone does have within them the promise to be the very best that is possible for them. Excellence is a journey not a destination.

Nga mihi nui

Joe Eccleton, Director of Studies



Thursday 27 October Centre for Ethics & Spirituality - How do you know what's right?

Friday 28 October - The Pink Lunch

Book here now

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.



Science in action

Year 11 student Henry Foster says he chose to take applied science and technology because it "stood out from the other subjects. It looked like something interesting, something new." Science and...



The spirit of the Sevens

Over 40 teams from all 10 Houses were pumped and ready to play at the annual House Sevens rugby tournament on Saturday 3 September. It was a beautiful day, and players, parents...



Whiria te tangata – weave the people together

The theme for International Languages Week this year was based around the idea of different languages and different cultures...



Ngane Punivai chosen for rugby development camp

First XV Captain Ngane Punivai has been chosen for the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Development Camp...



Food for thought

Over 120 guests gathered in the Christ's College Dining Hall on Saturday 3 September for our Father and Son Breakfast. This is a new initiative which we plan to hold on House Sevens....



A sobering message

Emergency medicine specialist Dr Scott Pearson gave a presentation to Year 13 students about the dangers of alcohol abuse on Friday 3 September. This event was coordinated...

Careers



Course planning – three universities

AUT, Otago University and Victoria University are all coming to College for course planning this week. This will allow the boys to check the courses they plan to take next year, to talk about accommodation and to ask any questions.

Accommodation applications

By now, most boys will have applied for university accommodation and Common Confidential Reference forms have been completed and submitted. Thursday 15 September is the closing date to be considered in the first round of allocation to halls. It is recommended boys accept the accommodation offered to them.

StudyLink – student loans and allowances

The first step in applying online is to check out www.studylink. govt.nz. Students will need their RealMe login or RealMe Verified Identity, their IRD number, bank account details, email address, the name of the education provider at which they will be studying, and approximate course start and end dates. Applying early allows enough time for all steps in the application process to be completed before courses begin. This needs to be done now.

Bond University - liaison visit, Tuesday 18 October

Two representatives from Bond University, one from the faculty of Health Sciences and the other, the Executive Director of Sport, will discuss the university's medicine, health sciences and allied health degrees, and its elite sports programmes. Based on the Gold Coast, Bond is Australia's first private not-for-profit university. It ensures student funds are invested directly into the student experience. Bond attracts some of the brightest and most ambitious students who are eager to embark on their careers and make a significant impact in their chosen industry. Bond University has been named "Top of the Class" for student experience, for the 11th consecutive year, in the latest edition of *The Good Universities Guide*, released Monday 29 August.

Events since the last issue:

- Ara Construction and Allied Health taster
- Defence Careers Experience, applications closed
- University of Waikato Scholarships closed
- University of Auckland and Otago University, course planning
- Massey University and Lincoln University, course planning
- Yale-NUS Singapore, liaison visit

Christchurch Medical School – Open Day, Sunday 18 September

The Medical School is the University of Otago campus in Christchurch. Students will be able to explore opportunities in the health sector; talk to young people doing postgraduate health research; tour the high-tech Simulation Centre, where health professionals practice procedures on mannequins; and tour the Brain Research Institute and laboratories, where they can see what working as a researcher would be like.

The Woodhouse Scholars Programme – Biological Science

Up to five Woodhouse Study Grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded to secondary school students from South Canterbury who intend to undertake a course in biological science at either the University of Otago, University of Canterbury or Lincoln University. The scholarship programme was established in honour of Lieutenant Colonel Dr Philip Randal Woodhouse OBE, DSO, MC (and Bar), supported by South Pacific Sera (SPS) Limited. SPS is at the forefront of applied bioscience in New Zealand and its directors aim to provide educational opportunities and open up career paths in the biological sciences.

To enter, an 800-word essay is required. More information is available from Mr Sellars or at <u>http://woodhousescholar.org.nz/</u>apply/

Please continue to page 7 for more careers events and upcoming careers dates.



Upcoming careers dates:

- 13 Sep Defence Forces information evening, HMNZS Pegasus
- 13 Sep Auckland University of Technology (AUT) course planning, 1.00pm
- 14 Sep University of Otago, course planning (Health Sciences), 2.30pm
- 14 Sep Victoria University, course planning
- 18 Sep Christchurch Medical School, Open Day
- 18 Oct Bond University, Gold Coast, Queensland, liaison visit
- 18 Oct Southern Institute of Technology Open Night, 60 Waterloo Road, Hornby, 5-7pm

Victoria University – Actuarial Science

We live in a world in which we are ever more conscious of risk, whether from natural hazards, such as earthquakes and storms, or personal factors relating to health, disease and lifestyle, or uncertainty in financial markets, investments and asset management. The need to analyse, forecast and manage risk is increasingly important. Actuarial Science is about finding ways to assess and mitigate risk, and concerns the models and methods for undertaking this analysis, which come primarily from economics and finance, mathematics and statistics.

Yale-NUS College

Located in Singapore, and co-created by Yale University and the National University of Singapore, Yale-NUS College aims to redefine liberal arts and science education for a complex, interconnected world. It brings together a diverse group of students, faculty, staff and supporters, dedicated to building a community in which living and learning are intertwined, and habits of creativity, curiosity and critical thinking are encouraged. Its innovative curriculum integrates knowledge from across disciplines and around the world.

Yale–NUS is an intimate liberal arts college, dedicated to undergraduate education. It draws on the resources and traditions of two great universities, and upholds the principles of free exchange of ideas and respect for diversity. A senior admissions counsellor (and former New Zealand teacher) recently visited Christ's College. She reads all applications from New Zealand students and would welcome you for a campus visit if you happen to be in Singapore. If you would like to learn more about Yale–NUS College, please feel free to contact her directly at <u>lauren.schroeder@yale-nus.edu.sg</u>.

Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor

Meet our team

In today's edition we feature Director of Drama David Chambers and PA to the Bursar Shari Clunne.

THE BEST PARTY IN TOWN



For Director of Drama David Chambers, life is an adventure. He believes we only grow by expanding our comfort zone and by constantly raising the bar on risks we are prepared to take.

He says the safest place to do that is in the theatre because, although life is not a rehearsal, drama gives a person the chance to practise and test out ideas.

"The wonderful thing about school is it gives you a chance to fail and, from there, you can develop another strategy so you don't fail next time.

"My role is to give boys the courage to risk failure. This is a tricky thing, because teenage boys are often uncomfortable about making fools of themselves. However, it's great to help them become more comfortable about taking risks and moving outside of their comfort zone. Drama gives boys the chance to try new stuff like singing, dancing, movement and mime, and the brave are prepared to take the risks.

"For example, the brave were prepared to join the new Co-motion dance company, with the chance to explore their physicality. This has been enormously satisfying for the boys and for me as a teacher. But it needs the boys to realise that if it's going to happen, it's up to them. I can give help and guidance, but only they can do it. Sadly, some boys put up barriers and stay in the safe grey zone and so miss out on the colour and the joy that comes from trying something new."

David was Head of Performing Arts at Aranui and Linwood high schools prior to 1997, when he was invited to set up the drama department at College. At the time, he had a strong vision about what the department should be.

"In my application I said that school should be the best party in town and we need to make it so. I said there was no point in appointing me if it was not intended for drama to be part of the curriculum throughout the school. At that time, drama was mostly about productions, so this was quite a radical move.

"We now have one of the highest percentage pass rates in Scholarship drama in the country. I put this down to the range of performance opportunities we have been able to use to expand the boys' experience. These include speech and drama lessons, singing in the choir, the opportunity to direct and produce House plays, working with directors from other schools in our co-productions and working with some of our talented Old Boys, who come back as mentors and role models.

"With my colleagues, we have built an expectation of success through hard work and discipline. Some boys come to drama thinking it will be an easy option, but they quickly learn the subject isn't an easy ride. It requires self-reliance, self-discipline and lots of time."

David says his greatest joy comes from watching boys discover the satisfaction and highs they get from seeing a project through, from realising they can do things they had not thought they were capable of.

MANAGING A BUSY LIFE



Shari Clunne loves her job as PA to Bursar Colin Sweetman. "I love the variety of the work I do, the upbeat nature of the people I work and come in contact with, and the gorgeous building we work from. Colin is someone who moves at 100 miles an hour, so I just make sure I'm moving at that speed too, and we work together really well."

As a qualified legal executive, Shari previously worked as a legal secretary, but had decided she wanted a change of direction. Now, having been in her current position for nine months, she says she is delighted she made the move.

It is a busy position, as Shari combines her HR role for non-teaching staff with preparing all documents and communications for the College Board of Governors. College is currently changing some of the HR processes around induction and she works with key staff to ensure information gets through to the right people. Shari is secretary of the College Health and Safety and ICT committees and part of an ad hoc committee with the Canterbury Museum, which is looking at addressing safety issues around the shared cycle–pedestrian footpath along Rolleston Avenue.

She is also studying for a graduate diploma in HR from Massey University. "I have always been interested in HR, so the study is a natural evolution. It certainly keeps me on my toes, but I am handling it all with careful planning."

In a 15-year labour of love, Shari recently completed a 300page history of her family. This involved a huge amount of research through county record offices in England, Wales and South Australia before Ancestry.com digitised these resources. She has done the research, writing and typesetting of the book on her own, which she says was a "massive undertaking."

"I am very proud of the work, which has revealed my ancestors as hard-working, resilient and skilled people. The big thing, however, when researching family history is that you have to be prepared for what you find and some of the information may surprise you. Especially in hard economic times before welfare systems were in place, people really struggled to survive. If you had no money you were regarded as improvident and completely at fault for being in that situation."

Shari also finds time for Elizabethan crewel embroidery projects, her massive book collection and lots of walking with her family.

Kristi Gray, Christ's College Writer

Always on the go



Christ's College PE and Health Department, from left: Rob Clarke, Matt Cortesi, Henry Smith and Matt Thatcher

There is no denying the PE and Health team is always busy ... and trying to get them all in one place for a photo proved to be a bit too much of a challenge.

In addition to teaching PE and Health classes, Head of Department Matt Cortesi is also Housemaster of Harper House and Master in Charge of football. Rob Clarke is Director of Sport and an Assistant Housemaster. Matt Thatcher is Assistant HOD and an Assistant Housemaster, while Henry Smith is a Deputy Boarding Housemaster and MiC rowing. Add to that the fact that they take part in a number of tours, tournaments, trips and events, as well as coaching teams, it is no wonder at times they feel a bit stretched.

But Matt Cortesi says, "I'm really proud of the fact that the PE guys are so involved with so many areas of the school. They're not only engaged in the activities of a large number of boys, but also have plenty of contact with parents, other staff and coaches."

Matt says the aim of the team is to make the subject engaging, relevant and to provide a strong learning experience. "Our goals are about inherently teaching attitudes, values, teamwork and interpersonal skills. We also aim to get an understanding of movement and how the body operates when a person is physically active."

Year 9 and 10 students do three periods of PE and Health each week, which consist of two practical and one health lesson. The course covers skill development and game awareness, as well as aiming to instil a lifelong habit of being active.

In the senior school, PE and Health is an academic subject and, on average, there are 15–25 boys working at Level 3 in Year 13. PE and Health can lead to a wide range of career or study options, including health sciences, strength and conditioning trainers and coaches.

"We encourage boys to consider PE as an academic subject which is as important as the other subjects they take," says Matt. "Some boys come in thinking it will be a soft option, but they soon find out it's not and is as rigorous as any other subject at this level. "Most boys enjoy being active and like the practical nature of PE. Boys who do academic PE usually do well in it because it's something they're interested in and for which they have the passion. Many of them are good sportsmen, so get good grades because they have an understanding of and interest in what we are teaching."

Matt and his team are always looking at innovative, creative and interesting ways to tweak their courses to suit the needs of the boys they teach.

"Every year we change the topics to make sure they're relevant. For example, this year we looked at the Olympics and we've used the Rugby or Cricket world cups to get boys considering fitness programmes. This year there's interest in US sports and the fitness testing around the NFL Scouting Combine. We're going to challenge our boys to do the test, then write a fitness programme that would get them closer to the benchmark for NFL selection.

"We're actually doing much the same things as we've done before, but by giving it a new spin it meets the boys' interests and engages them."

Matt says ideally they would like to move further towards the flipped classroom model – where the boys do the theory at home, watching videos, researching and reading, and then do practical applications in the gym – but he admits that with limited gym space this is not always possible.

"We work hard to make our resources work and ensure our programmes are as engaging as possible to cater for all levels across the curriculum," says Matt.

Kristi Gray, Christ's College Writer

From the Archives: Preserving the past for the future

Digitisation is a word that circulates amongst archivists regularly these days. Quite simply, it means taking an object like a photograph, and capturing it into a digital file.

The benefits of this are twofold: wear and tear on the original item is decreased and the resulting digital file can be more easily transported, via a computer, CD or DVD.

In the last five years Christ's College has digitised the first and second Board Minute Books and is currently part way through having early sports photographs processed by New Zealand Micrographic Services.

The decision to digitise the photographs was based on the increasing risk of losing the images of the boys that appear in them. Poor chemical fixing is one culprit in this loss. If the fixer is exhausted it does not do its job properly and images will darken over time. Or, if the fixer is not washed off properly it causes the photograph to yellow. Additional research has shown oxidisation of the silver salts in the gelatin that was applied to the paper is another factor in image deterioration. The choice of photographic paper and the mounting of photographs onto acid card also adds to their degradation. While the cause of the brownish splotches, known as foxing, is not entirely known, it appears to be as a result of a fungal growth. Physical abrasion and poor framing add other risks.

These two photographs are examples of how these problems combine to create photographs that need attention.



Christ's College First XI 1896



Christ's College First XI 1897

So, we have saved them for now – and access will be much easier for those researching their past. Given the cost that has been incurred, however, a charge of \$35.00 (inclusive of GST) will be made for each copy. In addition, we must always be aware that computer hardware and software changes over time, so we have to put back up measures in place to ensure today's achievement is not lost in the future.

Jane Teal, Archivist