

In Black & White



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

Issue 91, 12 August 2015



From the Headmaster

I have the title for my book. It will be called 'The Boy on the End'.

It arose when the Chaplain and I were discussing the uptake of communion at our Chapel services, and the degree to which the boy on the end of each pew influences what happens next. It occurred to me this simple situation is a metaphor for our much wider ambition for the boys at College. Are they growing towards being 'the boy on the end' - the young man, who by his quiet actions and independence, encourages positive response in others? This column in the last couple of editions has generated a lot of discussion about modesty, and humility. In recent weeks I have had numerous conversations with parents about the vicissitudes of farming, and about the need to expect things to go wrong and plan for them, and not to get too comfortable with optimistic expectations. It is important for the boys to understand their lives at school are partly about standing out from the crowd now, but only if it builds their ability to do the same, in the right way, in the future.

I recently had the opportunity to look down on the city centre from the top floor balcony of the council offices, courtesy of the Mayor. Looking eastwards, the empty spaces were foreshortened and the numerous cranes at work created an impression of great industry which perhaps somewhat flatters the reality. To the west things are better; significant commercial properties are going up, and hopefully tenants are waiting. By night the centre of the city remains all but deserted, with scattered clusters of socialisation breaking the monotony. Last week, we ventured back to the new location of *Smash Palace* beyond the High Street - not to everyone's taste, but what an icon of post earthquake optimism it has been, always with a unique atmosphere and with the most friendly and hospitable ambiance. Former Mayor Gary Moore *et al* should be in the New Year honours for services to Christchurch resilience. Our wonderful office cleaner told me that when she was a teenager she would go down into the Square on any Friday night and would not see anyone she didn't know; somewhat ironically, I told her that would be true today. But few can have missed the wonderful work going on in the Arts Centre precinct and, despite its delays, the Art Gallery is on the mend. The various new buildings, if mostly predictable externally, offer fresh new environments for people to work, with all the optimism that brings.

I am feeling somewhat schizophrenic at present. I have just been re-drafting the new students' joining instructions for my next school, based on their previous version. Whilst the context is completely different, the notes could apply equally well to College (with the possible exception the references to make



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



Mr Graeme Christey wins 2015 ISNZ Honours Award

At the recent ISNZ conference, Mr Graeme Christey was recognised for his outstanding service to boys' education.



Assembly Notes

Click on the photo for the Assembly Notes



Calendar Events

Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

up and stud earrings.) They refer to matters of uniform, the use of cars, home-school communication etc - the normal stock in trade for all schools. The statements of principle vary very little, wherever the school; it is the manner of the implementation that matters. I had an interesting conversation recently about our use of 'Each boy at his best' as a descriptor of the school; it is absolutely the intention and the commitment to achieving it is unwavering. How dangerous it would be if a school ever blindly believed its infallibility. Of course there will be, at any time, some boys who are not at their best - sometimes, but not always, for reasons which are beyond the school's control, and it is our role to try and help them.

Recently to improve academic monitoring, we introduced more frequent progress grades, and at the same time encouraged staff to be scrupulously objective, particularly with the 'effort' grades. For many they followed an end of term internal assessment period when a heightened level of focus might have been in evidence, into a more 'leisurely' start to Term 3. In full reporting, I have also countered a certain reluctance to use grades which accurately align with the comment being made. This developing strategy may have created the impression of a marked change in performance. The boys of course have an easy remedy for indifferent 'effort' assessments..... On the subject of reports, a full report is due at the end of this term. I hope you will understand that on this occasion I will not be able to complete them in the usual way, but will be alerted to any needing a particular response.

The 'Red Baron' project is well underway, under the expert leadership of Mr Kevin Harris. The damage was so severe that some sections are being remade from scratch, showcasing the capabilities of both our staff, boys and our computer controlled fabrication machinery. Some pictures illustrate the progress made so far. For those not familiar with this restoration, the aircraft is a much loved feature in the annual Christchurch Santa Parade, and was badly vandalised at its storage location some months ago. The elderly original builder (40 years ago) Mr John Bunker, believed it was unrepairable but is understandably delighted to be proved wrong after we took this project on as a community service. My thanks to those working on it, particularly Mr Harris.



Hard work continues in the repair of The Red Baron.

My special congratulations to our Big Band and Jazz Combo for their successes at Southern Jam. For our very young Big Band to be marginal runners up to the significantly senior STAC ensemble bodes well for future years, and to have the largest number (5) of any school selected for the 'All Stars' was outstanding, and a record. This weekend, Collegium heads to the Blg Sing Finale; hopefully they will all get there, the male contingent having clearly failed to make the St Margaret's congratulatory hoarding on Papanui Road!

In response to a question from a prospective entrant a couple of years ago about the House selection process, a reference to 'the sorting hat' started something. Lesson? Be careful what you wish for when the drama department gets involved.



College Staff with Headmaster Simon Leese wearing "the sorting hat".

The selection of school leaders for 2016 is underway. Housemasters are, this week, providing their leadership nominations, after which I will be looking in detail at their applications. The Year 12 cohort offers great promise for the future.

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.



Schola Cantorum at the airport

Schola Cantorum entertained Singapore Airlines passengers at Christchurch International Airport last weekend. They were celebrating Singapore's 50th year of independence...



Christopher Brown wins Bronze

Year 12 student Christopher Brown won a Bronze Medal in the International Olympiad in Informatics last week, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan...



Year 12 Maths Competition Winners

The team of Hamish Thomas, Young Sung Jung, Jared Chin and Scott Harris won the Year 12 Mathematics competition at Burnside last night....



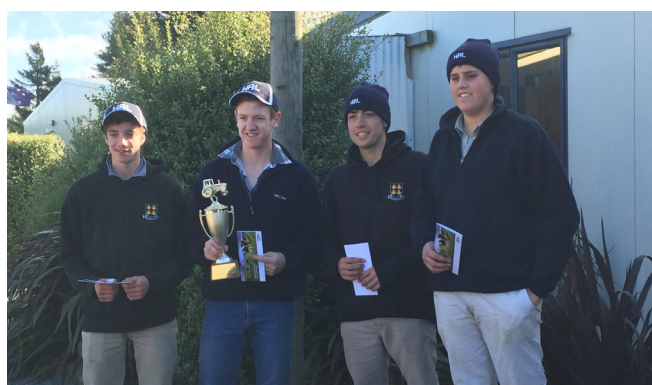
College Big Band Wins

College musicians returned from the Southern Jam Jazz Festival with a gold award for the Big Band and a silver for the Jazz Combo...



French outside the Classroom

Continuing our tradition of taking as many opportunities as possible to experience French/Francophone culture, the Year 12 French class sampled wonderful desserts at the Torenhof Belgian café...



Agricultural Skills Day Competition

The Christ's College team of Tim Fox, Dean Gardiner, Will Pinckney and Will Rutherford won the Agricultural competition...

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.



French Exchange Opportunity

Christ's College students get the opportunity to experience life with a French family for a period of eight weeks. Applications close end of week 7, Friday 4 September 2015..



Boarders Leadership Weekend

The Year 12 Boarders have just completed a successful leadership weekend programme with the emphasis on "Making it Happen"...

BLACK & WHITE *ball* 2015

'Please join us to say farewell to Simon and Jane Leese at this incredible event'

Entertainment - Dance the night away to Headrush
Friday 11 September from 7.30pm, on The Quad

Table of 10 \$1600.00 and Individual tickets \$170.00
To pre-order your table or individual tickets please email
blackandwhiteball@christscollege.com

Curriculum News



Thank you to everyone who came along to the Course Selection evening last week. We were really pleased with the turn-out but realise we will need to extend our space next year. We hope you found the evening useful and that you had a chance to catch up with the teachers you needed to. If you still have questions about your son's choices

next year, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Feedback about how we can make the evening even better is also most welcome. The boys have until this coming Friday to make their subject choices for next year. Anyone who misses the deadline will be at risk of not getting his first choice of subjects. If your son is still unsure of what to take, I strongly encourage him to talk about these choices with his current teachers and HODs. Mr Chris Sellars is also an excellent person to talk to, in terms of career paths and future options.

One of the commonly asked questions on the evening was "How does NCEA work?" The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) has a really useful website specifically designed for parents, which can be accessed via this link: <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/understanding-ncea/>

NZQA has even developed an app designed for mobile devices – phones and tablets – in order to help parents and employers

better understand NCEA. The information about this app can be found on the above link as well.

In less than a week our senior students have their trial examinations. These are an important assessment as not only do they provide teachers, students and parents with a snapshot of how well the boys are doing at this stage in the year, they also help provide derived grades for students if they are not able to sit the end-of-year examination(s). It is therefore very important that your son takes these exams seriously!

The examinations start on Monday 17 August and run to 24 August.

Session times

Session 1 8.30 – 10.30 AM

Session 2 11.00 – 1.00 PM

Session 3 2.00 – 4.00 PM

Boys are required to be in the examination for two hours and those students who are undertaking portfolio subjects have been allocated time during the week with their subject specialists.

Please see examinations timetable [here](#).

Ms Chris Rayward, Acting Senior Master (Academic)



**CHRIST'S COLLEGE FOOTBALL
TOUR FUNDRAISER**

SCARED SCRIPTLESS WITH THE COURT JESTERS

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST, 7.30PM

**AT CHRIST'S COLLEGE SCHOOL OBT
(OLD BOYS' THEATRE)**

TICKETS \$20
R RATING: R16
GA SEATING

To purchase tickets email mcortesi@christscollege.com

**CHRIST'S COLLEGE VS
ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE
DEBATE**



**“THIS HOUSE BELIEVES THAT
FASHION IS FOR
THE FOOLISH”**

FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST - 5PM - OBT

Will the boys be able to outwit and out-fashion the girls this year?? Come along to support our fabulous, fashionable debaters!

Careers



University Halls / Colleges applications

Boys have started to apply for the Halls/Colleges at various universities. They will be given the opportunity to apply for a Common Confidential Reference Form (ccrf). They can indicate on that ccrf all the universities where they will be applying for accommodation. The

ccrf only needs to be done once, but they still need to apply for accommodation at each hall separately. By October when places to halls are offered they should have an idea as to which university they will accept.

Year 11 & 12

Year 11 and 12 have both had a careers presentation recently. The power point presentation for Year 12 highlighted tertiary institutions (both universities and polytechnics) and their specialty areas. They all received a booklet which indicates subjects that are required for various tertiary courses. Year 11 were given thorough explanations about NCEA Level 1, while Year 12 were told of the importance of this year's grades for their Halls and scholarships applications, next year, for 2017.

Course Planning Sessions

The upcoming career dates indicated above are a chance for those going to university next year to clarify their courses for 2016. Courses are the subjects or papers they will study. Most students will take 7 or 8 courses, spread over the two semesters. Most boys have had a session with Mr Sellars and understand this. They know which degree they intend to study for. The liaison staff are there to fine tune and check their choices.

Scholarships Available - Generosity NZ

Boys are able to access this site from around the College campus. Generosity was previously called BreakOut. To access this: go to <http://generosity.org.nz>. Click on the LOGIN button, Click on the image which will be below -givME. The following message will appear....Welcome to givME, Lets begin

Got A Trade Got It Made week - BCITO Construction Tour

During the week Friday 21 - 28 August, BCITO are holding a one day national event. It is on 27 August and involves a structured day tour of up to three building and construction related settings. This day is promoting trades and apprenticeships.

University of Auckland - Courses & Careers Day, 29 August

Free breakfast for travellers: On campus 8.00 - 9.30am. Parents welcome. To reserve your place email spo@auckland.ac.nz
Auckland Airport Airbus: You can catch this bus into the city. For a free ticket email spo@auckland.ac.nz

University of Otago - change in scholarship eligibility

Many of Otago's scholarships previously only available to domestic students are now available to international students. International students may wish to apply for Otago's Entrance Scholarships at the same time as they apply online for their academic programme. Contact: international.marketing@otago.ac.nz

Vocational Pathways

Vocational Pathways is a curriculum framework which helps students plan how they can achieve NCEA Level 2 (or equivalent qualifications) and move onto further study, training or work. For example, the Primary Industries Vocational Pathway enables students to learn more about the industry and opportunities available within it. www.youthguarantee.net.nz/vocational-pathways/

Chef Apprentice Programme

Applications are now open for Sky City's 2016 Chef Apprentice Programme. Applicants must be NZ citizens or permanent residents. skycitycareers.co.nz

Latitude NZ

Latitude NZ is receiving enquiries from people wondering if they are too late to apply for a position in their international volunteering programme. They still have positions for 2016 in almost all their destinations. www.latitude.org.nz

Projects Abroad

The High School Projects are an opportunity to experience volunteering overseas this summer. Students travel for two weeks with a group of like-minded 16 and 17 year olds. This is for students who want to see the world, make new friends, understand a new culture or gain an insight to a potential career. Projects run from 6-19 December and 3-16 January to Cambodia, Fiji, Sri Lanka, Nepal and the Philippines. Projects range from, care and community, conservation and community, healthcare, disaster relief. www.projects-abroad.co.nz info@projects-abroad.co.nz

Education USA Information Session

We are hosting at College an information session with representatives from Columbia, Duke, Georgetown, Northwestern and Princeton. Sunday, 30 August, Chapman Room, Christ's College, 4.00 - 6.00pm. Advanced registration is required and space is limited for the programme. register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/us-universities-information-session-tickets-18047689124>

Please continue to page 6 for careers events since last issue and upcoming careers dates.

Miss Laura Knight - English tutor, 2013-2015



Warm smile, big laugh, quick wit, super-hard working, plenty of initiative, and entirely professional to boot. These are just some of the many attributes of Miss Knight, with whom the English Department has been working with closely for the past two years. Sadly, her time with us is soon to be over, as she is heading back to the UK to catch up with friends and family, and to pursue a career in the arts/theatre sector.

Miss Knight arrived in New Zealand in July 2013, a recent graduate from Lincoln College, Oxford, where she completed a BA in English language and literature. She arrived to an English Department that was spread to the four winds and teaching out of portacombs. The tutor's office was a tiny tin "rabbit hutch" (Mr Willcox's words) out beyond the black stump of the Gloucester "squat". Her resilience and adaptability was immediately evident, however. Colourful, quirky postcards soon adorned the cold steel walls, and poems and books littered her desk. Laura threw herself into getting to know the boys, staff and NCEA/Scholarship programmes. She is a quick learner and great communicator.

The thing that has impressed me the most about Miss Knight is her ability to relate to a wide range of folk. While her main role centered around running the Scholarship English class and junior extension classes, she was also involved in English tuition, school trips (such as the Y9 and Y10 camps, and Biology excursions into Arthur's Pass), cake-making, scuba diving, dance supervision... and the list goes on. It didn't take long for boys to be queuing up for tuition with Miss Knight as she was clearly knowledgeable and had a knack of explaining complex ideas and processes in a way that students understood.

The English Department sincerely appreciates all the hard-work and effort that Miss Knight has put in over these last two years. We have thoroughly enjoyed her consistently positive, good humour and calm presence. She will be sorely missed!

Finally, we extend a warm welcome to the new English tutor, Mr Nye Williams-Renouf, who will begin his time with us in Week 5 of this term.

Ms Chris Rayward, Acting Senior Master (Academic)

Careers continued

Study @ Victoria Open Day - Friday 28 August

There will be a Study @ Victoria Open Day booklet either sent to students or available from the Careers room, now in the ICT building. Halls of residences are also open on Thursday evening, 1.00 - 5.00pm. Check the accommodation guide for hall addresses. There will be a free looping bus which runs between the three campuses (Pipitea, Te Aro and Kelburn). There is also a free airport shuttle on Friday morning for students, parents and teachers arriving on flights arriving between 7.00 - 9.00am. www.victoria.ac.nz/opensday

Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor

Events since the last issue:

- Subjects options evening
- University of Melbourne liaison visit, 12.50pm
- University of Melbourne Information Evening
- Auckland University of Technology (AUT), liaison visit, Year 12

Upcoming careers dates:

- 13 Aug** - CPIT Year 10 Challenge
- 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, 2.00-5.00pm, Madras Street
- 27 Aug** - BCITO, Big Construction Tour (selected students)
- 28 Aug** - Study @ Victoria University Day, Wellington
- 29 Aug** - University of Auckland Open Day
- 30 Aug** - American Universities Information session at College - 4.00pm
- 1 Sep** - Application deadline for CPIT's Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Radiography)
- 9 Sep** - University of Otago course planning, (Health Sciences) 2.45pm
- 9 Sep** - Lincoln University course planning
- 15 Sep** - University Halls/College applications should be completed
- 15 Sep** - Victoria University, School Leavers Scholarships close
- 16 Sep** - Victoria University Course Planning
- 30 Sep** - Apply for accommodation at university Colleges before this date
- 30 Sep** - Broadcasting School - applications close