

# In Black & White



CHRIST'S COLLEGE  
CANTERBURY

Issue 92, 25 August 2015



## From the Headmaster

Last week was about privacy. Not about car parking. There was a lapse of judgement and foresight. Which of us hasn't had one of those? Being thoroughly irritating is not, so far, a capital offense. No one enjoys negative media intrusion, and the boys have learned a lesson about inviting critical comment, and about prejudice. But should a strong school be so worried about its 'brand' and such trivial media attention?



Some years ago in the UK, a Channel 4 documentary series was filmed about Ampleforth College, a Catholic Benedictine boarding school in North Yorkshire. One or two 'stars' started to emerge amongst the boys, who drew more attention as the series progressed. In amongst pictures of monks sneaking a quick cigarette behind the kitchens, we were treated to the progressively less inhibited behaviours of some of the inmates. Those of us following the series grew increasingly anxious for the poor school. It could barely have got worse, but then it did. The local pub was shown as the regular haunt for underage drinkers, a situation if not ignored then condoned by the College, the publican and presumably the local police. The school's applications increased. The physically remote, socially exclusive and somewhat stuffy institution was in fact seen to be far far more 'normal' than it might have appeared, populated by fun loving, slightly anarchic and very entertaining individuals. It was much more accessible than many had supposed.

Our few days of exposure over the parking issue produced huge numbers of 'comments' in digital media, the vast majority downloading their prejudices free of all accountability in a riot of denigration. There was a time when a letter to the editor was an exercise in determination and inconvenience - not so today. No effort, no cost. No thought, no consequences. The commentators had no knowledge of the individuals, nor insights into their lives, no personal connection whatsoever, and yet they felt free to vilify them. Should we care about that? After all, they asked for it.

No they didn't, and yes we should. Is it the digital age which has made us all so self-focussed and self-important? We have so many avenues in which to sound off, to share our spontaneous reactions, and let others know how significant we believe our opinions are; we move away from community and towards a fractured association of egotists. I recently visited a beautiful home where smooth, rounded riverstone had been painstakingly cut, and the cut faces

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

**Don't miss out! Book your tickets today!**

Email: [blackandwhiteball@christscollege.com](mailto:blackandwhiteball@christscollege.com)



## Assembly Notes

Click on the photo for the Assembly Notes



## Calendar Events

Click on the photo to view Calendar Events

formed the wall surface - inner beauty and drama revealed, within individual stones otherwise anonymous, worn smooth over thousands of years by the flow of water and rubbing against each other. People should be the same - smoothed out through rubbing along with others, and keeping their inner structure hidden until broken out for a meaningful purpose. When it is it can be useful, even enjoyable - but unless done with care and skill, better left hidden.

During an appraisal interview recently, the other side of 'individualisation' was discussed - whether attempting to differentiate the learning experience to a high degree with a focus on measured outcomes was, whilst academically self-evidently valuable, philosophically desirable. The staff member involved, who is at the forefront of digitally supported learning, commented that the value to him was less in the measured outcomes, but in the enhanced knowledge of the individual and his learning circumstances. Progress, then, is as ever about connection and engagement; individualised learning is not 'new'; those who think it is, perhaps were not doing a particularly impressive job previously.

Last weekend Jane and I attended the CCOBA event in Auckland, kindly hosted by Stephen and Margaret Gilbert. It was a delight to meet up with so many friends of the College once more, and we look forward to the 40 Year On reunion shortly. It meant we were unable to be at the last 1st XV match of what has been a testing season, but am pleased it went well. I have been very grateful for those who have contributed constructively to the review of our rugby programme, and

some recommendations have been made which are being considered internally and urgently. The recent tragic air show accident in the UK, was on a road I know very well indeed. In the early shots on the TV one could glimpse a view of the chapel of nearby Lancing College - a magnificent, almost cathedral-like, building standing alone in the school's wonderful rolling parkland setting. Lancing is a prominent school in the south of England, distinctive in a number of ways. They don't play rugby being one of them. We are determined to maximise our opportunities, and to interrogate the underlying motivations behind the energetic discussions of this term. Having enjoyed a ride in a lift with (not many) of the Taranaki Bulls last weekend, there is the inescapable reality that rugby is a contact sport where kilos count! Our players have given their all this year, and their achievements are significant.

As this newsletter is published I am en route to Malaysia for a week, where a new school year is beginning. The last two weeks back in Christchurch see us out every night, including The Black and White Ball on 11th. Preparations are well in hand, and I am sure will be another great occasion. Two of the other nights out are at the ReACTION House Drama Festival, on 10th and 16th of September. Please don't miss these evenings - they are for the boys, by the boys, and always hugely entertaining. Over the years we have been treated to some remarkable drama; the best has been of major production standard, and all the product of hard work and creativity. I hope to see you there.

**Simon Leese, Headmaster**

**10<sup>th</sup> SEPT | 16<sup>th</sup> SEPT**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Enjoy an entertaining night of House Drama**

**REACTION**

**2015 Christ's College House Plays Festival**

Thursday 10 September 6.00pm Assembly Hall

● Julius ● Flower's ● Corfe ● School ● Condell's

Wednesday 16 September 6.00pm Assembly Hall

● Richards ● Rolleston ● Harper ● Jacobs ● Some



# 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.



## Joe Hutchinson to represent NZ

Joe Hutchinson is one of two top New Zealand students of German selected to represent NZ at the IDO (Internationale Deutscholympiade)/German Olympics...



## College Cycling Success

The College Cycling team competed on Wednesday night in the annual Christchurch Schools Team Time Trial Competition. The U20 Team won silver in the Litloff Cup competition..



## Debating Win

Our Senior A team of Matthew Moore, Hamish Thomas and Angus Dysart-Paul continued their strong run this year winning the final round of the Canterbury inter-school competition...



## Farewell to The Oxford Scholars

The Oxford Scholars will leave College this Friday 28 August after a one month stay. It has been a busy schedule with weekly concerts at College...



## German student hockey exchange

This is the start of what is hoped will be a long and productive exchange between Christ's College and a German school called Gymnasium am Moltkeplatz...



## Collegium win Bronze at The Big Sing

Congratulations to Mr Robert Aburn, Mr Nick Sutcliffe and the members of 'Collegium' for winning the Bronze medal at The Big Sing Finale on Saturday night in Wellington...

# Curriculum News



As you read this senior trial examinations have been completed, and boys will be progressively receiving their marked examination papers back from teachers. At the risk of being as repetitive as a cracked record (does that simile still make sense?) these papers are pure gold (a simile and a metaphor in the same sentence, it must be Sunday night as I write this). The single biggest mistake people make when revising for examinations is to revise the material that they know already. These papers provide an outstanding catalogue of things that each boy doesn't know. They are by definition completely individualised, and will be comprehensive, as each paper will have completely assessed a specific achievement standard.

Each boy ought to receive feedback for each of his papers, but of course this feedback will do nothing at all for any boy's achievement if he does not act on it. You may find it useful to discuss examination results with your son(s). I don't recommend finger pointing, rather simple conversations that show interest and pose questions. Please also remember that the same applies to any assessment task in any year group. So boys in Years 9 and 10 should be just as alert to the opportunities that tests and assignments present upon return.

This all begs the question of how best to learn content. I would almost bet money that many boys will find that they simply have gaps in their content knowledge. Our examination system emphasises thinking, but you have no doubt read my words many times now - we can't think in a vacuum. We need to have information on which to base thinking. There are some very powerful techniques and I was fascinated by how I automatically fell into several of these when expected to learn content for a coming examination myself. I followed three steps.

I began by 'chunking' the information I needed to know. That is, I broke it down into bite sized pieces.

I then created a mind map representation of the important information for each 'chunk'. A mind map is a very powerful visual representation of information that requires an understanding of inter-relationships if it is to be accurate.

I then used the old tried and true technique of repetition. I re-wrote the mind maps, using colour wherever possible, each time refining the mind map to reflect my growing understanding. I talked through the mind maps out loud (I think our two dogs thought I really had finally gone mad).

I used two further study principles termed primacy and recency. We tend to remember the things we learn first and last in a specific study session. Therefore rather than sit down and tackle one long study session (say two hours) we are better off breaking our study sessions down into shorter periods like 20 to 30 minutes. That gives us more starts and finishes in our

study programme. I made sure that each study session was around 20 minutes long, and each time I sat down to do some work I tackled the hard things first, and reviewed them last.

There are many more simple study techniques, but anyone who has these in the repertoire is much more likely to be successful at learning essential content knowledge.

Boys have submitted their 2016 subject choices. Work now proceeds with our decision making and planning processes that will produce the 2016 timetable. We begin by looking at any courses for which student numbers are so low that we cannot offer the course. In most years we find one or two courses in this situation. We then determine how many classes will operate and how we will staff them. It is inevitable that there will be some subject combinations that just will not work and each year we find between 15 and 25 boys are approached with the bad news that they need to re-choose subjects. On the other hand this means that most boys do get their first choices. It is in everyone's best interests to maximise the number of boys who get their first choices. If your son gets a call in late November telling him that he needs to re-choose, rest assured that we will have worked really hard to avoid that situation if at all possible.

Oh, and by the way, yes those study techniques worked for me yet again. I mastered the content.

**Robin Sutton, Acting Deputy Headmaster**

**SCARED  
SCRIPTLESS  
DAYS TO GO  
GET IN QUICK!!**

**CHRIST'S COLLEGE FOOTBALL  
TOUR FUNDRAISER**

**SCARED SCRIPTLESS WITH THE COURT JESTERS**

**FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST, 7.30PM**

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

**TICKETS \$20**  
**R RATING: R16**  
**GA SEATING**

To purchase tickets email [mcortesi@christscollege.com](mailto:mcortesi@christscollege.com)



# Careers



## University Halls / Colleges applications

Most boys have applied to their preferred Universities for a position in a College / Hall. They should do this by 7 September, to allow Housemasters to complete the confidential reference form before 15 September. When they apply for their Common Confidential

Reference Form - (ccrf) they can indicate on that, the different universities they are applying for.

## Course Planning Sessions

These have started this week and allow students 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 planning session with Mr Sellars and understand this. The liaison staff are here to fine tune and check their choices.

## Education USA Information Session, 30 August

We are hosting at College, an information session with representatives from Columbia, Duke, Georgetown, Northwestern and Princeton. Sunday, August 30, 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>

## Education USA Information Session, 16 September

The U.S. Embassy are touring around New Zealand with admissions representatives from 10 American universities conducting "mini fairs". These are informal fairs and last approximately 45 minutes. They will be at College on this date. The universities are: Arizona, Indiana, New York, Missouri, Savannah College of Art & Design, Foothill De-Anza College, Yale, University of Southern California. There will also be a Compliance Officer from a Big 10 University to talk about sport scholarships. Names of interested boys to be given to Mr Sellars.

## Lincoln University Global Challenges Scholarships

Feed the world, protect the future, live well: they're Lincoln University's causes - a response to the global challenges facing the planet today. This includes climate change, food production and security, depleting resources, urban sprawl, the loss of biodiversity, and pollution. These scholarships are for those who want to play a part in making a difference, who understand the problem and want to be part of the solution. Apply for the scholarship through the application system, MyLinc, when you apply to study at Lincoln.

## Sussed - Study Link

Students thinking about further study after they leave school have a lot of choices to make. Sussed Online is a great way to get thinking about what it will cost to live and study. Parents

and students are encouraged to check out, [www.studylink.govt.nz](http://www.studylink.govt.nz). The sooner students complete the Sussed Online tool, the better off they will be. Research has shown that 90% of students who complete Sussed Online agree that they had a clear understanding of their entitlements, while 78% said they were encouraged to only borrow what they need from the Student Loan Scheme.

## Introduction to Health Sciences Seminar

A fourth year medical student at the Christchurch School of Medicine is planning to run a programme for interested students over weekends in December. The aim of the one-day session is to provide prospective health science students with an advantage for their first year of study in what is a competitive environment. It includes insight into the HSFY course, the UMAT exam, general exam and study tips and an opportunity to learn some basic clinical skills. Time: 9.00am - 5.00pm. Cost: \$50-\$60. Please let Mr Sellars know if you are interested.

## Cadetships - Earn while you learn

Cadets complete a diploma, or sometimes a degree, while working in industry. Some qualifications completed by cadets include: NZ Diploma in Engineering, National Diploma in Surveying, Diploma in Design Technology (CAD Draughting), Diploma in Information Technology, Diploma in Horticulture, Bachelor of Information Technology. Who offers cadetships?- Engineering and construction companies including AECOM, Aurecon, Beca, Downer, Fulton Hogan, Higgins, MWH and Opus. Entry: requirements vary, but generally you'll need 40-60 credits at NCEA Level 2 in maths, science and technology subjects.

## Economics and Finance Graduates

Economics and finance provides a foundation for careers in professions such as accounting, business, government and politics, finance and insurance, information technology, law, management, marketing and tourism, public policy, teaching and education. The government is the first employer for many new graduates with degrees in economics and finance, and whose academic achievement demonstrates this. Local authorities, economic consultancies, stockbroking firms and large corporations also employ graduates.

## Study @ Vic Day - This Friday

Boys have been making their own arrangements for travel to, and accommodation in Wellington this week. By now they should have received a booklet to help their planning for the day - Friday 28 August. I have spare copies in the careers room. I will be in Wellington on Thursday night and Friday, and will meet up with the boys on Friday morning. My phone 0272689437.

## Chris Sellars, Careers Advisor

**To view Events since the last issue and Upcoming careers dates please continue to page 6.**

# From the Archives:

## A parcel from Australia

A day in the life of the College Archivist is never dull; emails, phone calls, last minute requests, long term projects, arrangement and description and best of all – parcels.

I knew this one was coming, but that didn't decrease the delight when it arrived – a black velvet First Fifteen football cap, with somewhat tarnished silver braid, the dates 1911 and 1912, brown lining, the inevitable Ballantyne's label and the name tape "J Loudon" in Indian Ink. It was time to find out some more about the original owner.

John Robert Loudon was a boarder at College from 1907-1912 as his parents lived at Leeston. Although it appears that he was in two houses, "Dudding's" and "Flower's", they were actually the same, because at that time whenever a new Housemaster took over, the name of the House changed. Aged 13, he was placed in the Upper 4th Form and gradually worked his way to the Upper 5th Form, leaving when he was 18 years old.



*John Robert Loudon in the 1912 First XV*

By combining the information in the Form Lists and the Christ's College Register it is very clear Loudon had an aptitude for French and Mathematics, but it was on the sports field that he really shone. In the first term of 1909 he was playing in the 2nd XI, in the second term he was captain of the 3rd XV, and in the third term he was playing for the First XI. In 1910 he lost in the semi-finals of the Fives competition to the boy who eventually won while in 1911 he came 3rd in Putting the Weight (shot put) at the Athletic Sports. He also shot in various Cadet Competitions and rose through the ranks to Lieutenant by the time he left College at the end of 1912.

1912 was a sad year for College with the death of the long standing Chaplain and former Headmaster, Francis Augustus Hare as well as the death of the Headmaster Christopher Hudson Moreland. It was the year when AE Flower held

everything together. JD Loudon played his part too as a Prefect and Member of the decision making Games Committee. He had the highest batting average and third highest bowling average in the first term, and as an 11 stone 4lb full back he played an important part in both the Christchurch Boys' High School and Otago Boys' High School games. Not content with that, Loudon came first in both the Putting the Weight and Throwing the Cricket Ball at the Athletic Sports.

On 2 July 1915 Loudon enlisted in the Canterbury Mounted Rifles, Number 7/1688 and was gazetted 1st Lieutenant. 1916 saw him attached to the Light Trench Mortar Battery until 1 December 1919 when he embarked again for New Zealand as Officer in Charge of the Troops on SS Ruapehu.

**Jane Teal, Archivist**

## Careers Continued...

### Events since the last issue:

- CPIT Year 10 Challenge
- Lincoln University liaison visit
- Media Design School Auckland Open Day
- University of Melbourne Open Day

### Upcoming careers dates:

- 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 Constructon 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
- 31 Aug** - Applications for teacher education programmes 2016 required
- 31 Aug** - Lincoln University, closing date for Sports Scholarships and Excellence Scholarship
- 31 Aug** - Lincoln University, closing date for Future Leaders Scholarship
- 1 Sep** - Application deadline for CPIT's Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Radiography)
- 1 Sep** - AUT Scholarship applications close. [www.aut.ac.nz](http://www.aut.ac.nz)
- 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** - Broadcasting School - applications close