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P24 David Natusch



Cover photo

Tour to Nepal, Service Trip

Navigating the AI Revolution

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOYS' LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT



It's hard to pinpoint the exact moment it happened, but somewhere between late 2022 and early 2024, something quietly significant took place: artificial intelligence stopped being a concept of the future and became something students started using every day. It didn't arrive with the fanfare of a new device or policy, it just quietly found its way into the classroom and onto our screens, and now it's everywhere.

AI-powered tools like ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini haven't merely supplemented traditional search engines like Google, they've overtaken them. Where students once had to scroll through pages of search results to piece together an answer, they can now type in a highly specific question and get a complete response that's coherent, well-structured, and disturbingly accurate. And even more unsettling, they can ask AI to write their answer in the style of a 14-year-old Kiwi schoolboy who lives in Waipukurau and attends school as a weekly boarder at Lindisfarne College. They can ask AI to include casual phrasing, the odd grammatical slip, and just enough spelling mistakes to convince Sir or Miss – all in the name of avoiding the excruciating pain of writing (they are boys after all), and nailing that Excellence grade!

From Copy and Paste to Copy and Pretend

The internet has always been a double-edged sword for education. When Google became the go-to research tool, there was still a learning process involved. Students had to wade through information, identify what was relevant, and interpret it in their own words. But with that came the rise of plagiarism. Every teacher knows the sinking feeling of reading work that doesn't sound like the student who handed it in. Tools such as Turnitin, Lockdown Browser and Digiexam were introduced by schools and universities to deter students from stealing others' words and ideas or catch them red-handed!

But with AI, we've entered a new phase. It doesn't just find the information, it packages it perfectly, instantly. The thinking has effectively been outsourced. And while that may seem convenient, especially for boys who will often take the path of least resistance, it bypasses the very skills we're trying to teach them: critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity. Oh, and let's not forget the character traits of hard work and perseverance – more on that later...

Assessment in an AI World

This has huge implications for assessment. If the work handed in isn't the student's own, how can we confidently award credit, and more importantly, how do we maintain fairness for the students who do work authentically?



NCEA credits aren't just numbers. They can determine awards, scholarships, and access to higher-level courses. The credibility of those achievements rests on the authenticity of the work submitted. That's why schools and tertiary institutions will need to think carefully about how assessment is designed, with more emphasis on in-class tasks and oral work that truly reflects student understanding.

Opportunity in Disguise

But let's not forget the flip side. AI has enormous potential to support learners, especially those who are falling behind. Imagine smart, personalised learning tools that adapt in real-time to a student's needs, breaking down complex concepts, offering guided practice, and providing instant feedback in a language and tone that makes sense to them. If harnessed properly, this technology could accelerate progress for the students most at risk of being left behind.

It's one of the great opportunities of our time: to use these powerful tools to level the playing field in education and other fields such as health. But it's also got the potential to cause immense harm if used irresponsibly. Artificial Intelligence is like Superman; it has the potential to save the world, but in the wrong hands, it can just as easily become the villain.

The Literacy Puzzle

All of this is happening against the backdrop of a well-documented crisis in boys' literacy. Too many of our young men aren't reading widely, and what they do read is often short-form content that demands little deep thinking. Their online diet is all fast food and no fibre, punchy click-bait, video captions, chat threads. This kind of consumption doesn't build vocabulary or comprehension. And now, AI threatens to remove even the small amount of reading and writing they were doing for school.

We need to stay the course on promoting reading as a daily habit, not just because it builds literacy, but because it grows empathy, imagination, and understanding.

This Is a Values Issue

At Lindisfarne College, we talk often about developing young men of character. In the face of a technology that can do so much of the work for them, it's going to come down to character more than ever. When a student is alone with a device and asked to make a decision about whether to do the work himself or ask AI to do it, he's not just making an academic choice, he's making an ethical one.

That's where our College values of being Honest and Respectful, Striving and Achieving and our Christian Character flags of Integrity and Courage, must come into play. We want our boys to earn their success, not have it handed to them on a plate by a robot. These values aren't just slogans on a wall. They are the anchors we return to when the right path isn't the easiest one. The choices our boys make now, about how they use technology, will shape not only their learning but the kind of people they become.

A Quiet Revolution and a Personal Confession

There's a reason we're calling this a revolution. AI is not just changing the tools we use; it's changing the nature of learning itself. And we are only now beginning to understand what that means.

If you're not yet convinced of how powerful this technology is, let me finish with a small confession. I used AI to help write this article. I fed in my ideas, the structure I wanted, and asked it to generate a draft. I then edited, revised and rewrote until it sounded like me, because it had to sound like me.

I consider myself to be an experienced and reasonably sophisticated writer. But what Marvin (the affectionate name I've given to my trusty AI assistant) managed to produce in five seconds and that we then collaborated on for about 45 minutes, would have taken me many hours of drafting and redrafting and to be honest, we've done a better job together than I could have done on my own. That's both exciting and a little bit scary.

I feel the sudden urge to go and do something that Marvin won't be doing anytime soon. I'm off to take the dogs for a walk.

**STUART HAKENEY
RECTOR**

2025 PREFECT



TEAM

HEAD PREFECT CHRIS PROCTOR



I'm humbled to serve as Head Prefect for 2025. Starting off as a weekly boarder in Year 9 was a big change from Waipawa Primary in CHB. As nervous as I was, it only took a few weeks until the College became my second home, staff became family, and the boys became my brothers. Coming to Lindisfarne was the best thing that could have happened to me.

Over my time at our College, I've learnt that to be a young man of Lindisfarne means to be part of something greater than yourself, a band of brothers. It means to live out our values every single day and strive to take every opportunity that is given to us. Since Year 9, I've been able to achieve my Gold Academic Tie and attain University Entrance and several scholarships. I've been lucky enough to be involved in several school productions, performed in the symphonic band, and got involved with public speaking and debating. I love heading out with the adventure racing team and have been privileged to captain our 2nd XI Hockey team in the last season. It's these opportunities that have helped me grow into the young man I am today.

I am beyond proud to walk in the footsteps of those who've come before me and excited to serve my brothers in 2025. I'm lucky to work alongside a dedicated team of prefects who work hard for our boys. It is my duty and promise to lead our College with drive, passion and conviction. I hope to ensure that our community remains strong and connected, growing men of good character who are empowered to live a life of success and significance: a life less ordinary. I hope to play my part in ensuring that our boys are ready to take on the world.

DEPUTY HEAD PREFECT ANGUS SCOTT



It is a real honour and responsibility to have been chosen as Deputy Head of School for 2025, something I do not take lightly. This role gives me the chance to give back to a place that has shaped so much of who I am, and I'm excited to serve the College in this new capacity.

I am a boarding student at the College, despite living less than 20 minutes away, just outside of Havelock North. Although this is my first year boarding, living on site, with all of my peers, has been something I have cherished and for which I will forever be grateful.

While at the College, I have been involved heavily in the sporting cornerstone, playing cricket and rugby. These sports have taken me all over the country, and I have thoroughly enjoyed the experiences these sports have given me. I have also broken out of my comfort zone by taking part in the House rock band and small House choir. In terms of my leadership role at the College, I have been given an opportunity to lead, and show loyalty to those who have given me the role.

It has been a challenge juggling leadership with my other co-curricular commitments, but not a challenge that I have shied away from. Going forward, I hope to continue to be a positive role model, improve our College with my role on the Student Council, and see out my final year with the same group of boys who've been in it with me since Year 9.

HEAD OF BOARDING PREFECT THEO KING



I am extremely privileged and excited to be Head of Boarding. I started as a weekly boarder in Year 9, and was very nervous; a College with 520 boys was very different to my little country school of Takapau Primary, which had only around 140 kids. Boarding at Lindisfarne, however, is one of the best things that could have happened to me. It has allowed me to get involved in every aspect of the school and take as many opportunities as I can. The culture around our boarding house is one of a kind. The support you get from peers and teachers to achieve your goals is incredible. Because of this, I have immersed myself in all cornerstones of the college. During my journey at Lindisfarne, I have been awarded my Academic Tie in Level 1 and Academic Colours in Level 2, and hope to gain Excellence endorsed in Level 3 this year. I love my involvement in the school bands as first trumpet and taking part in school productions with both Iona and Woodford. Being a member of the Senior A Tennis and 1st XI Hockey teams has been a great opportunity to represent the school, and the school spirit on the sidelines of those games is incredibly uplifting when wearing the red jersey.

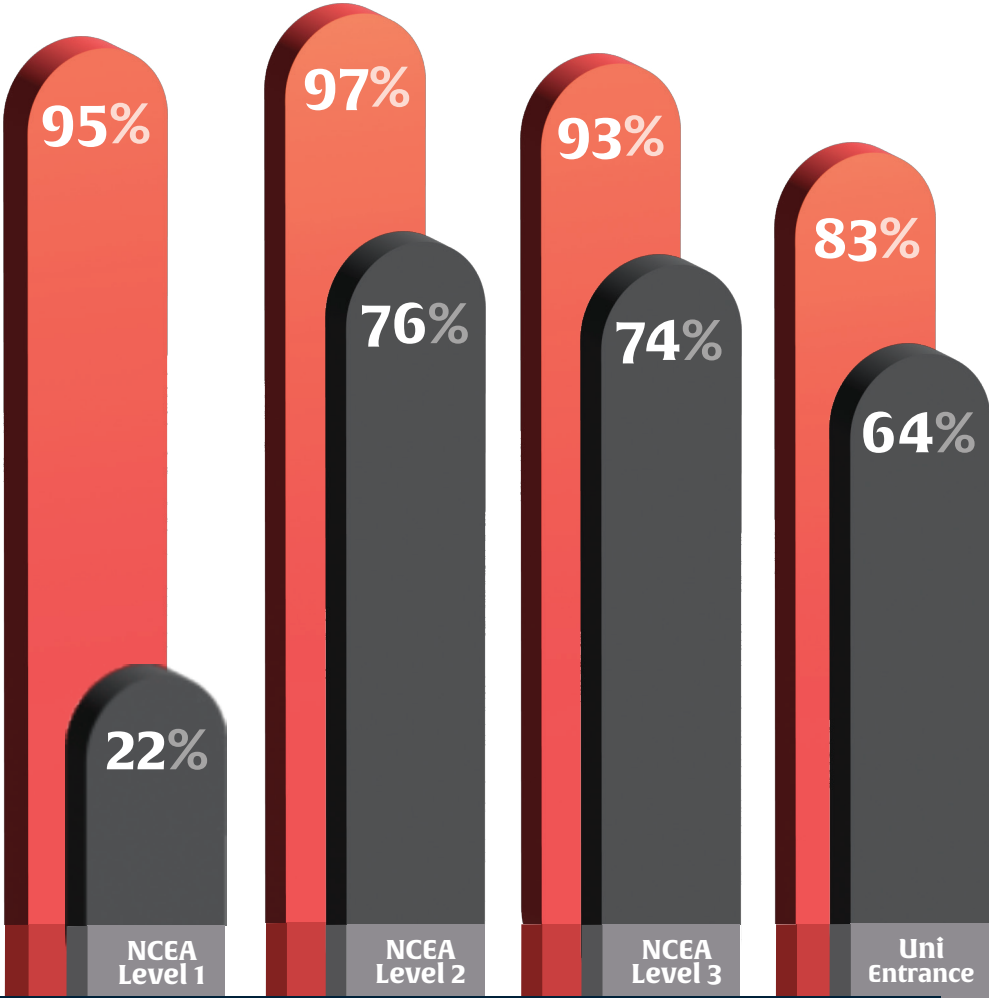
My goal for the hostel this year is to make it a place where we push each other to grow, step outside our comfort zones, and seize any opportunity that comes our way. When one of us does well, we all do well – because brotherhood is built on support, encouragement, and belief. I want the sense of brotherhood to be stronger than ever in our boarding house.

I, along with all the boarding prefects, hope to have a positive impact on the lives of all the boys of the College and encourage them to make the most of their journey at Lindisfarne.

Raising the Bar

Lindisfarne NCEA pass rates compared to other single-sex boys' schools nationwide

- Lindisfarne College
- Single-Sex Boys' Schools with fewest barriers to learning



LEVEL ONE NCEA

Overall GPA - Best 5 subjects
Academic Tie with Distinction
(Top 3 in year group)

Joshua Vossen-Chong - 92.8
Noah Hemmingsen - 95.5
Jasper Jamieson - 95.9

LEVEL TWO NCEA

Overall GPA - Best 4 subjects
Academic Colours with Distinction
(Top 3 in year group)

Matthew McPhail - 95.5
Chris Proctor - 96.4
Josef Oosthuizen - 100

LEVEL THREE NCEA

Overall GPA - Best 4 subjects
Academic Tie with Distinction
(Top 3 in year group)

Philip Larkin - 93.36
Cameron Strong - 95.5
Harry Cassidy - 96.69



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Top of the Class

NZQA SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS



2024 Year 12 Scholarship Recipients

LR: Josef Oosthuizen, Alex Boustridge, Chris Proctor, Matt McKendry

One of the highlights of the academic year is always the announcement of the Scholarship results. The New Zealand Scholarship examination is a prestigious and demanding test of high school students' capabilities and it requires a much deeper and more sophisticated understanding of the subject matter than even NCEA Level 3. Only the top students in the country enter for this examination and the pass requirements are extremely high.

In 2025 a total of 16 boys earned 20 Scholarships across 10 subjects. The boys who achieved Scholarships are Chris Proctor x3 (Year 12), Harry Cassidy x2, Cameron Strong x2, Ronan Brier, Alex Boustridge (Year 12), James Dowley, Oscar Ellis, Freddy Hoggard, Te Ā Kruger-Taylor, Armaan Kumar, Carl Marshall (Outstanding), Matt McKendry (Year 12), Jack Morison, Jacob Parbhu, Josef Oosthuizen (Year 12) and Will Turner. Carl Marshall's Outstanding Scholarship in the field of photography is particularly praiseworthy. It is also encouraging to note that of the 16 boys who achieved Scholarships this year, a quarter of them were Year 12 students which gives strong indications for future success in Scholarship.

The achievement of Scholarships by our students is not only an indication of their hard work and application but is also a mark of distinction on their academic records and may improve their chances of gaining further financial awards or acceptance into highly competitive courses of study. The Scholarships awarded to Lindisfarne students for 2025 range across all subject areas from languages to science and demonstrate the rigor and effectiveness of teaching and learning at Lindisfarne. Congratulations should go to all the students involved for their hard work and application and to the teachers who equipped their students to achieve in these demanding examinations.

Mrs Sarah Duncan, Assistant Rector in Charge of Curriculum, commented on the Scholarship results, "We are thrilled once again with the success of our students in the New Zealand Scholarship examinations. This is the highest academic recognition available to secondary school students in the country. It requires students to showcase exceptional abilities in critical thinking, abstract reasoning, and the application of broad concepts so this accomplishment is a significant achievement. Carl Marshall's Outstanding Scholarship in Photography is particularly notable as only 10 students from over 3,000 entries across the country were successful."

***“He had a way
of engaging and
encouraging Old Boys,
staff, and whānau to
stay involved,”***

Reverend Allan Hawea





A Tribute to Pere Maitai

Te Whāiti Nui Ā Toi Scholar, Broadcaster, Leader, Friend

The Lindisfarne College community remembers with deep affection and gratitude the life of Pere Maitai one of our distinguished Old Boys (1973–1975), and a treasured supporter of the College. Pere was a man of warmth, humility, and conviction, whose life spoke not only of success, but of lasting significance. His legacy is etched into the heart of the College, particularly through his leadership and advocacy for the Te Whāiti Nui Ā Toi Scholarship and his enduring love for the whānau it created.

As one of the first recipients of the Te Whāiti Nui Ā Toi Scholarship, Pere arrived at Lindisfarne from Nūhaka in the early 1970s, stepping into a world far removed from his own, at a time when few Māori boys walked the halls of what was then a Pākehā-dominated school. The transition was not without challenge, but Pere flourished, quickly becoming a quiet pioneer. He would go on to forge an influential career in Māori broadcasting and television, helping to amplify the stories of his people with integrity, insight and cultural sensitivity. As former Rector Ken MacLeod reflected, *"He helped open the world and challenges of Māori to the country in a respectful, wise, purposeful and relational way."*

An example of this was Pere's work as cultural advisor on the acclaimed documentary *July's Legacy*, which addressed smoking-related illness among Māori women. Pere facilitated access to people and places, respectfully guiding the production team through tikanga Māori, ensuring the final piece honoured the story and the community it represented.

For his close friend and fellow Te Whāiti Scholar, Reverend Allan Hawea, it was Pere's loyalty and dedication to the College, and to those who followed in their footsteps, that stood out most. *"He had a way of engaging and encouraging old boys, staff, and whānau to stay involved,"* Allan recalls. *"He would phone people, talk to people, encourage people. That was his way."* Pere made it his mission to reconnect former scholars with the College and to

support the scholarship kaupapa in both word and action, turning up, speaking up, and offering quiet encouragement where it mattered most.

Whether it was over a deep kōrero or a shared glass of merlot, his preferred drop, Pere's company was marked by good humour, thoughtfulness, and a sense of genuine care. *"A great and humble communicator,"* Allan said. *"He was a special friend. I miss him."*

In his later years, Pere served as Chairman of the Te Whāiti Nui Ā Toi Scholarship Committee, stepping into the role when Sir Rodney Gallen's health declined. As Conrad Waitoa, a current committee member, shared: *"Pere carried a quiet strength that never sought recognition but whose influence was deeply felt."* He understood that supporting Māori boys at Lindisfarne was not just about providing financial aid, but walking alongside them, encouraging them to stand tall in their identity. *"He balanced high expectations with immense compassion and a formal dress code,"* Conrad smiled. Pere held firm to the values of whānau, whakapapa, and the responsibility that comes with opportunity.

In a moment that perfectly captured his style, Pere once received a call from Sir Rodney, informing him it was time to serve the scholarship. Pere tried to respond, only for Sir Rodney to end the call with *"You start today."* Years later, Pere made the same call to Conrad and fellow Old Boy Andre Bell. *"It was one-sided,"* Conrad said. *"I had no say. That was Pere, humble, decisive, always*

putting the kaupapa first."

Pere's deep pride in the success of his fellow Te Whāiti alumni was never more evident than when he attended the 70th Reunion and watched The Honourable Justice Sir Joe Williams, New Zealand's first Māori Supreme Court Judge, deliver a powerful address. Pere was beaming with pride. It was at this event that Sir Joe gifted the College a whakataukī that Pere loved and that now hangs in our Assembly Chapel Hall:

He Motutapu, he whare wānanga
He whare wānanga he māra toa i
Whakatupuria hei ara ngākau ki te ao
A Sacred Isle is a house of learning
A house of learning is a garden to grow
warriors, for they are the highway to the
heart of the world

That whakataukī captures the very essence of Pere's life. He was a warrior of words, of wisdom, of wairua, nurturing others, especially rangatahi Māori, to find their place in the world and to walk forward with pride.

To his whānau, to those who served alongside him, and to all who were shaped by his guidance and aroha, we offer our heartfelt thanks. Pere was a true son of Lindisfarne. His life reminds us that a good man does not chase acclaim, but builds legacy through quiet deeds, enduring relationships, and steadfast service.

Moe mai rā e te rangatira. Moe mai, moe mai, moe mai rā.

Tour to Nepal

AN INSPIRING JOURNEY

The Lindisfarne College trip to Nepal which has taken place seven times over the last 22 years is unusual for a school trip because it does not involve a sports team or subject area. Instead, it gathers a group of travellers who are linked only by their desire to step out of their comfort zone and experience something new. Nepal certainly presents our students and staff with a totally different world and an eye-opening experience.



After a hiatus of seven years, a Lindisfarne group consisting of 18 students and four teachers, flew into Kathmandu where their initial reaction was shock at the colourful chaos and noise. From the creative electrical solutions to the policemen directing streams of traffic with loud whistles, there was a lot to take in. From Kathmandu, the group travelled for nine hours on very uncomfortable roads to reach the foothills of the Himalayas before flying into Lukla, known as the world's most dangerous airport, and starting the trekking part of their journey. Everyone was accommodated in spacious eco tents each night and was extremely well-fed and cared for by the team of sherpas. For 10 days the Lindisfarne group walked into the mountains, reaching an altitude of 5000m and creating lasting impressions, as Elliot Wickham describes,

"Once at the top, my mind was on how beautiful and peaceful it was. Then it hit me! Never in my life would I reach this height again!"

One of the dominant impressions of the trip from both boys and staff was the awe-inducing beauty of the Himalayan mountains. Because of the wonderful weather, the group was able to get clear views of iconic Himalayan mountains such as Lhotse and Ama Dablam as well as Sagarmatha (Mount Everest). Every day

they woke to the incredible majesty of the surrounding mountains. Some of the boys' comments give an indication of the wonder the mountains induced:

"Before we knew it, we were being looked down upon by massive mountains that were truly an immense spectacle,"

Niko Sawyers

"Nothing can beat drinking a hot chocolate in a snug puffer jacket looking out over the highest mountain in the world," Jasper Jamieson

"We woke to see a majestic mountain view," Henry Bull.

The trip was certainly not without its challenges as several boys suffered from altitude sickness, headaches, tummy troubles and minor injuries. Other boys found the insubstantial swinging bridges which spanned deep gorges, a challenge. One of the highlights of the trip for Mr Dunlop, who led the expedition, was to see how the boys responded to these difficulties by carrying each other's packs and leading their mates across the swaying bridges. *"It was fantastic to see the camaraderie between the boys and their willingness to help each other and share the load, quite literally!"* said Mr Dunlop.

There was also an important element of service to the trip as the boys got involved with the Sagarmatha Next which is a project to recycle the abundance of litter found on Sagarmatha. The Lindisfarne boys competed to see who could pick up the most litter as they trekked. They also visited the school set up by Sir Edmund

Hilary and throughout the trip, gave out sports equipment and clothing to children in the villages they passed. For Daniel Hoffmeister one of the highlights of the trip was playing football, volleyball and handball with children and teenagers they met. *"Even though they smoked us at volleyball,"* recalled Daniel.

One of the most important aspects of this trip was the opportunity to experience a different world. For many boys, this was their first engagement with a culture and way of life that was substantially different from New Zealand and for many it was a humbling experience. There were many interesting conversations (thanks to Google translate) with young and old along the route. Jasper Jamieson summed it up by saying, *"The style of life is so different and religion plays a different part from what we know. I also found the poverty and lack of access to resources confronting."* To better inform their experiences, on the last day of the trip in Kathmandu, the boys learnt from their guide about the two dominant religions in Nepal, Hinduism and Buddhism and visited both a Hindu temple and Buddhist stupa.

There is no doubt that this year's Nepal trip lived up to expectations and, in spite of the physical challenges, those involved would recommend it, without hesitation, to future travellers.

***“Nothing can beat
drinking a hot chocolate
in a snug puffer jacket
looking out over the
highest mountain in the
world,”*** Jasper Jamieson





Mamma Mia

WHAT A SHOW!

This year's combined Lindisfarne and Woodford production of Mamma Mia! adds to a long list of successful shows directed by Kathy Atkin at Lindisfarne. Every year Kathy agonises over choosing the right vehicle for a high school musical and every year, the sold-out audiences demonstrate that she has delivered another foot-stomping, hand-clapping, heart-pounding success!



Mamma Mia! has been around for a surprising amount of time, having debuted in London in 1999, but it has lost none of its exuberance and audience appeal and the teenage cast of this production threw themselves into their performances with a level of energy and commitment that would have graced any professional stage. The story of Mamma Mia! is ridiculously implausible but it is merely there to act as a vehicle for the songs and to transport the audience to the fun, glamour, romance and excitement created by the evocative rhythms and lyrics of ABBA.

The story pivots around Sophie, played with a delightful freshness by Ava Ross, but many of the most powerful songs were delivered by Sophie's mother, Donna (Lucy Boere) whose strong voice and presence on stage made her entirely plausible as a hard-working single mother. Donna's longtime friends and fellow girl-group members, Tanya and Rosie, played by Briar De Punt and Claudia Kilsby were a great combination and provided a lot of the best comedy. Claudia, in particular, displayed perfect comic timing and merely had to walk on stage to elicit a laugh!

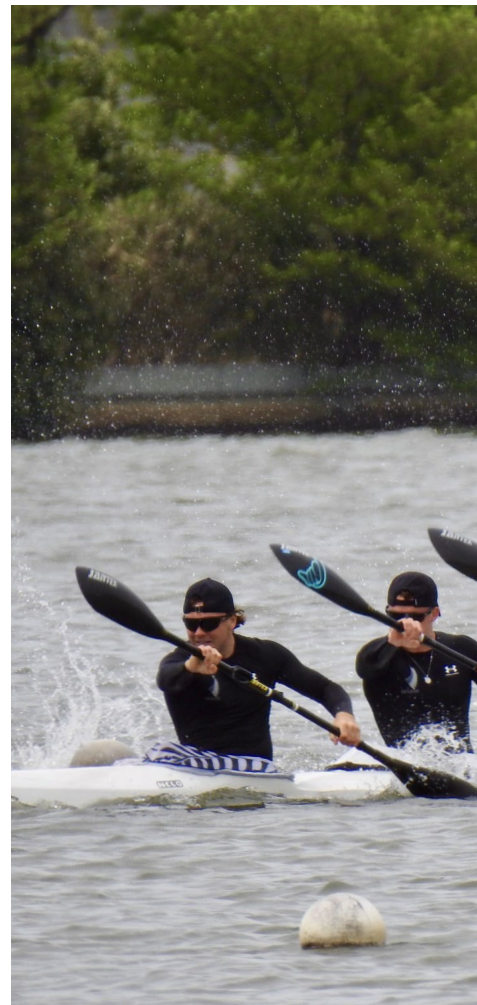
The three possible fathers, Sam (Te Awarangi Puketapu-Pene), Bill (Chris Proctor) and Harry (Noah Rogers) all shone when they had their moment in the spotlight and delivered performances

loaded with personality. Te Awarangi's performance of SOS was wonderfully sincere, while Chris looked like a seasoned professional as he maintained his Aussie accent while singing "Take a Chance on Me" and being chased around the auditorium by a very enthusiastic Rosie! Noah's impeccable English accent is the perfect demonstration of "less is more" and his nostalgic duet with Donna, "Our Last Summer" was a surprising highlight.

Josh Vossen-Chong was a great foil to Sophie's feminine enthusiasm and their romance was a still point amid the chaos and colour on stage. Adding to that chaos and colour were the unforgettable performances of Frank Gilligan and Beck Allen as Eddie and Pepper. Both Frank and Beck are new to the stage but rapidly became favourites with the audience for the sheer exuberance and energy of their performances. Frank's back flip and Beck's outrageous flirting will surely be recorded in Lindisfarne legend! All the leads were incredibly well supported by an excellent and well-drilled ensemble who maintained the energy of the show throughout. This was largely due to the outstanding choreography of Emma Smith. It is quite astounding to watch the excellent dance numbers with so many people involved and know that many of the boys involved have never danced before!

Kathy Atkin is always supported by an immensely talented crew and their hard work helps to make her productions shine. The convincingly authentic set, designed and constructed by Simon Wellum and his team, instantly transported the audience to a Greek island while the amazing costumes by Gaenor Clarke and Pam Knight, echoed the fun and exuberance of the ABBA songs. Mamma Mia! Would be nothing without the music and, although they remained hidden from sight, Band Director, David Selfe and his band were a powerful presence on stage. Between Stephanie Atkin for the leads and Jane Pierard for the ensemble, they delivered polished vocal performances from largely inexperienced performers. With George Ebbett leading the technical team, Darryl Mitchell on props and Steph Atkin and Dan Pooley as Assistant Directors, Kathy Atkin certainly had the perfect crew, combining skill, experience and passion. Producer, Joanna Cakebread and Assistant Producer, Flemming Kristensen also helped to keep the wheels rolling smoothly

Everybody loves ABBA and nowhere was this clearer than in the incredible encore of Waterloo which had the entire audience on their feet and singing along! What a great show!





Matt McKendry

RESILIENCE IN ACTION

Taking part in a world championship event is a demanding and stressful situation, requiring huge reserves of resilience and mental strength. When that difficult situation is compounded by illness, it is easy to understand how some athletes would struggle but when Year 13 kayaker, Matt McKendry, faced this situation at the Asia Pacific Sprint Championships in Japan, he was able to draw on untapped depths of courage and tenacity to succeed against the odds.

After a demanding training regime and selection process, Matt was chosen as one of 16 paddlers, aged between 15 and 21, to represent New Zealand at the sprint championships. Matt describes the lead-up to the event, *"Preparing for the sprint championships was one of the toughest challenges I've ever faced both mentally and physically. I trained over 18 gruelling months including difficult and cold winter sessions. Most days had double trainings, one on the water in Clive in the early morning and another in the gym in the afternoons. Qualification trials were held with a series of regattas and trials at Blue Lake in Rotorua and when Canoe Racing New Zealand announced their squad, I was thrilled to find my name among the selected athletes. The NZ team then stayed on after Nationals to go into camp. I spent my 18th birthday in this camp which was particularly challenging. I didn't have the typical 18th birthday experience, but I got to wear the fern on my chest and represent my country which is something not many people get to do."*

Unfortunately, all this training could have gone to waste as when Matt arrived in Japan with the team, he had developed a chest infection, vertigo and nose bleeds. In addition, poor weather meant that three days' racing had to be compressed into two. Matt had to push himself to the limit to make it to the starting line of each race but the exhilaration of being in an international competition buoyed him up. In the K1 1000m, Matt was coming first at the halfway mark but the toll on his body was immense and he finished 4th in this race. In spite of the disappointment, he knew that he had given everything he had and had to be brought in by the rescue boat after blacking out on the finish line. At this point Matt needed to call on all his reserves as his next race was only 45 minutes later. As Matt describes, *"The feeling of racing a team boat is different to racing a K1. When in the team boat, you know you're in it together and whilst I was physically drained from my K1 race, I did my best and was fortunate enough to come away with the bronze medal."*

By the next day's racing on Sunday, Matt was feeling no better but convinced the team manager and nurse that he was fit enough for the junior mixed relay of two boys and two girls. Matt raced third and managed to sustain the lead that the team had developed but after finishing his leg, he blacked out again and had to be brought in by the rescue boat. It was only when he was recovering in the medical tent that he realised that the team had won. Matt had to be helped onto the podium by his team mates but it was a glorious moment and one that he will never forget. Matt was forced to pull out of the regatta at this stage which was a major disappointment but he was enormously encouraged to receive the following message from world champion kayaker Aimee Fisher: *"To race with absolute courage and grace, that's always the goal right. Nothing left out there. So proud of you. Most people wouldn't have survived and shown up the way you did day in day out."*

Matt reflected on his experience at the in Japan,

"I realise now that it was never just about the race itself. It was about the thousands of moments leading up to it. The solo early mornings, the blisters, the self-doubt, and the times when quitting seemed far easier than continuing. I couldn't have done it alone."

Matt goes on to say *"My family, friends, coaches, HPSNZ, Mr Brown, the LFC kitchen staff, Mr Harland, the Nurses at school, and Aimee Fisher, all played vital roles and I am very grateful to them all."*



SPORTS EXCHANGES

SCOTS, RATHKEALE, WHANGANUI & ST PAUL'S



The first two terms have been busy and rewarding for our Lindisfarne sports teams, who have represented the College across a number of sports exchanges. Here's a look back at the results, the players, and the moments that stood out.

St Paul's Summer Exchange

Our summer exchange against St Paul's Collegiate School featured tennis, golf, and cricket, with strong results across the board.

In tennis, our players came back from behind to secure an impressive 8–4 win. The team showed focus and adaptability, particularly in the turning points of the doubles matches.

The golf team, which included two Year 8s, a Year 9, and a Year 13, faced a senior St Paul's lineup and delivered a commanding 7–1 result.

The Colts Cricket team competed across two formats, winning the T20 match on Sunday before narrowly losing the 40-over game on Monday.

The 1st XI Cricket side took part in a three-day match: St Paul's batted first, reaching 322/5. Lindisfarne replied with 225/9 declared. On Day 3, the team rallied to limit St Paul's to 58/1, completing a turnaround and securing the result to bring the trophy home.

Colts Cricket The Colts cricket team also emerged victorious, posting a formidable 284/7 and winning by 187 runs.

Scots College Summer Exchange

In tennis, the team faced a tough challenge after trailing 3–1, but strong doubles performances by Theo King and Oscar Green, and Campbell and Cooper Ellingham helped close the gap. The Ellingham brothers came back from 9–5 down in the super-tiebreak to win 12–10, a remarkable effort. Although we finished just behind with a 4–5 result, the team played with skill and focus throughout.

In cricket, our 1st XI were outstanding: Scots batted first, reaching 160/9 declared. Andrew Wakefield (4/5) and Tom Raggett (3/35) led the attack. Lindisfarne replied with 275 all out. Riley Lennox top-scored with 118, and Archie

Absolom added 55.

Scots' second innings was wrapped up for 118, and we chased down the four runs required without losing a wicket, winning by 10 wickets. Wakefield again stood out with 3/22, supported by Presley Kupa (2/5).

HIBS Winter Exchange

Our Intermediate School boys faced Hutt International Boys' School (HIBS) in a wonderful display of sportsmanship and friendly competition.

The games were played in great spirit, with HIBS taking home the Karika Family Trophy this time round. HIBS secured the rugby match 41–31 and the football match 4–0, while the hockey showdown finished in a thrilling 8–8 draw.

Congratulations go to all the players who gave it their all on the field, and a special mention to our Players of the Day: William Kilpatrick for rugby, Gabriel Miranda for football, and Fletcher Whiteford for hockey.

We'd also like to say a big thank you to the staff, coaches, and managers who



supported and guided our teams, and to all the parents and friends who came along to cheer on the boys.

Whanganui Winter Exchange

The weather didn't hold back but nor did our teams. In classic exchange fashion, the rain fell, the tackles came thick and fast, and our boys stepped up.

1st XV Rugby set the tone with a strong 36–15 result.

2nd XV Rugby followed up with a well-earned 29–22 win.

U15 Rugby had a challenging match, finishing with a 17–37 loss.

1st XI Football delivered a confident 5–0 win.

Colts Football showed composure in a 5–1 win.

1st XI Hockey maintained control throughout their 4–0 victory.

Colts Hockey had an excellent performance, finishing 10–1 ahead.

Lindisfarne retained the Whanganui Exchange Shield for 2025. A huge thank you must go to Whanganui Collegiate for

their generous hosting and to all those who stood in the rain to support our players from the sidelines.

Hereworth Winter Exchange

Hereworth School joined us for our annual winter exchange, and while the scoreboard favoured our visitors across all matches, the day remained a great example of what school sport is all about.

Many of the games were decided by narrow margins, and throughout the day our students played with determination and respect. The post-match gathering, complete with lunch, speeches, and badge-swapping, reinforced the value of these shared occasions.

Players of the Day:

Hockey: Reeve Fan-Robertson

1st XI Football: Ben Hunt

2nd XI Football: Vann Rabbitte

Rugby: Robbie Lewis

St Paul's Junior Winter Exchange

We welcomed students from St Paul's Collegiate School – Hamilton for our Junior Winter Exchange, which gave many of our Year 9 and 10 boys their first taste of inter-school competition.

Colts A Hockey impressed with a solid 5–2 win.

U14 Rugby performed strongly, finishing 66–20 ahead.

Junior A Football played well in a close contest, going down 2–3.

Scots Winter Exchange

Our annual Winter Exchange with Scots College was held at Scots in Wellington this year, where the weather certainly lived up to its wintery reputation! The exchange featured competitive fixtures across hockey, football, and golf, with our boys giving it their all on and off the field.

Results:

1st XI Football: Lost 3–6

1st XI Hockey: Won 3–0

Top 5 Golf: Lost 3½ – 4½

A GENERATIONAL BOND

THE FRANCIS FAMILY AND LINDISFARNE

Lindisfarne has been very fortunate to have established ongoing connections with many families over the history of the school, but the record of the Francis family stands out as exceptional in its demonstration of service to the College.



AC FRANCIS 1962 Scots Exchange



JAMIE FRANCIS



KIM FRANCIS 1995

Mr Arthur Charles Francis arrived at Lindisfarne with his wife and five children to take up the post of Rector in the third term of 1958. He came from Scots College with a wide experience of boarding schools in New Zealand and a great reputation. Those early years of the College were difficult ones, with challenging financial circumstances, but Arthur set about creating a solid foundation for the future development of the College, introducing many things which were absorbed into the Lindisfarne tradition. His own family thrived in the environment at Lindisfarne and became an integral part of College life.

The positive influence of the Lindisfarne community can be seen clearly in Arthur Francis' parting words to the College in 1970: "The high aspirations which I had for Lindisfarne when I assumed office in 1958 have not all been realised and looking back I see so many things that I might have done so much better. But, one of the family's happiest memories will be the spirit of close cooperation from all sections of the College, which has been evident over the years and to all those people, members of the College Council, members of the Staff, boys, Old Boys and parents who have stood with us, we extend our sincere and heart-felt thanks."

James, or Jamie, Francis continued his father's close association with the College. During his schooldays (62-66), he was well known as an outstanding sportsman. In his final year, he was Head Boy and captain of the cricket, tennis, rugby and athletics teams. Later, Jamie returned to Lindisfarne as part of the teaching staff and over the next 38 years, progressed through the roles of teacher and Head of Department to Deputy Rector and in the years before his retirement, Sports Director. James also coached sport in almost every discipline, often stepping in to take teams where no one else could. Tessa, Jamie's daughter recalls that her Dad was the go-to person for everyone and this meant lots of out-of-hours work which never seemed to faze him. James was president of the Lindisfarne College Old Boys' Association (1997-2000) and his encyclopaedic knowledge of Old Boys was frequently called on by others.

In recognition of his immense contribution, Jamie was selected as one of the College 70th anniversary Notables: an honour reserved for those who have made a significant and lasting impact. When Jamie passed away in 2023, there was an outpouring of love from the Lindisfarne community. Former students, past parents and colleagues shared heartfelt memories and tributes,

a powerful reflection of the deep and enduring influence he had on generations of young men and the College as a whole.

Jamie's family, Kim, Simon and Tessa grew up at Lindisfarne and enjoyed using the College facilities in the holidays and socialising with the other resident families. Tessa recalls that Jamie and wife, Ali, were a great team, "Mum supported Dad in all of the different roles he took on, as well as taking care of everything at home if he was at school, on a trip or dealing with something." Advancing Lindisfarne was a joint effort for Jamie and Ali. Kim recalls that The Francis' landline was Lindisfarne's after-hours number so Jamie would often be on the phone dealing with all kinds of issues from the mundane to the serious. Jamie also seemed to enjoy the times that the groundsman was away as he was in charge of mowing the fields and cricket pitch on the tractor.

Kim (91-95) and Simon (95-99) both attended Lindisfarne where, like Jamie, they excelled in a wide variety of sporting disciplines and went on to be College prefects and in Kim's case, play in numerous College bands. The College has certainly changed since their time, with many new buildings and improved facilities. Kim is delighted to see the resurgence of the Pipe Band which was



at a very low ebb in the 90s, and the growth in the number of football teams. All of the Francis family are pleased that the traditional values that Lindisfarne has supported have remained a constant at the College, as has the strength of the community.

Evidence of the Francis family legacy can be seen all around the College: in the rose garden outside the chapel, in the A.C. Francis Intermediate Block and in the A C Francis music trophies awarded every year to the best senior and junior musicians. In recent years Kim and his husband, Jeremy, have supported the performing arts at Lindisfarne with a generous pledge that has benefitted all aspects of the performing arts including scholarships, music trips and band equipment. Their willingness

to give back to Lindisfarne has played a key role in elevating our performing arts offering to the impressive and highly regarded level it enjoys today.

Members of the Francis family have filled the roles of Rector, Deputy Rector, teacher, Head of Faculty, coach, supporter, student and benefactor. They have lived at the College and been immersed in every aspect of its activities and in many regards have put the interests of the College above their own. It is the dedication and ongoing commitment of families like the Francis's which exemplify the Lindisfarne ethos and give the College much of its essential character. We are immensely grateful to them and all the supportive families in our community.

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Great Gatsby COLLEGE BALL

On the evening of 24 May, the atrium and gym were transformed into a dazzling ballroom for the 2025 Lindsfarne College Ball.

With the theme The Great Gatsby, the venue came alive with chandeliers, glowing light walls, and sparkling decorations, perfectly capturing the glamour and grandeur of the Roaring Twenties.

The evening began with Parent and Friends organised year-level pre-balls, where students, their dates, and families gathered to share in the excitement before making their way to the venue. The grand entrance set the tone for what would be a memorable night. Guests were treated to a beautifully presented two-

course meal, courtesy of our talented kitchen team. A standout detail was the dessert, a decadent brownie with ice cream, served alongside an edible ball ticket, a creative and fitting touch!

As the formalities wrapped up, the dance floor quickly became the heart of the evening. Thank you to Old Boys, George Ebbett and Jaisun Chauhun, for their expertise with the lighting, sound and music.

Special thanks go to the Prefect team, aided by Mr Howlett and Miss Scerri for bringing the event together.

Theo King
Head of Boarding







Oars in the Water

EYES ON THE FUTURE

Rowing is a sport which fosters resilience, discipline and teamwork, all qualities which fall squarely within Lindisfarne's core values so it is very pleasing to see that the sport is undergoing a revival at the College. This year a record number of teams entered the North Island Secondary School Championships and the Maadi Cup, both held at Karapiro. Maadi Cup, the rowing nationals for schools, is an amazing event which attracts entries from 160 schools and 2300 rowers, making it one of the largest school sporting events in the southern hemisphere.

The Lindisfarne rowing team consists of Ashton Bell, Angus Brier, Charles Cropper, Noah Layton, Jack Litherland, Angus Lovell, Ashton Scott and coxes Eiden Novak and Henry Cato (who stepped in for the NISS championships when Eiden was participating in the bagpipe nationals). At the NISS championships, the Lindisfarne teams made it to five A finals and in the much tougher Maadi Cup, they made it to five B finals, winning the U18 novice coxed quad sculls B final.

These results indicate the potential that the team has as many were competing in older age groups. More notable, however, was the camaraderie and good spirit of these events with Hawke's Bay rowers turning out to support each other throughout the championships. Noah Layton, who has been rowing for only a year has noticed how much support the

Hawke's Bay teams give each other, *"The people involved in rowing are really great and our coach supports a fantastic team spirit. It's always fun to spend time with other rowers," said Noah.*

Apart from the camaraderie of rowing, the sport develops an outstanding discipline and team ethos and can be of much broader benefit to the boys involved. Jack Litherland, who started rowing when a teacher said to him, "You look like a rower", acknowledged the transformative effect of the sport when he said, "Rowing has changed me. Before I started rowing, I only wanted to spend time on the farm. Now I am meeting lots of great people and developing new skills and confidence."

Team Manager, Sam Chatfield, also emphasises the positive effects of

rowing and points out that the coach of the junior rowers, Sam Cropper, is encouraging boys to build on their rowing options and to develop skills and capabilities which are useful beyond the competitive aspect of the sport. Sam Cropper's knowledge and experience have been of great value to the team and he is pleased with their progress, saying, *"The boys showed an amazing level of commitment and passion this season which in turn made the coaching role so much more rewarding. I'm extremely proud of their efforts and top 10 results."*

For many of the boys in the rowing team, this is their first competitive season. Ashton Bell could not row last year because of injury but despite the intensive training which often involves early morning and afternoon sessions, Ashton has really enjoyed the rowing



season. As he explains, "It's a really social sport and I've made lots of friends through rowing. I love anything to do with water sports and it's great being out on the water in a boat. Rowing also opens up new opportunities for university study and scholarships. There are often scouts from local and international universities at rowing events."

Rector, Stuart Hakeney, is delighted that rowing is developing again. As he explains, "I have been passionate about getting a rowing programme up and running at Lindisfarne because it

is a sport that can literally change lives. The discipline and commitment required present a genuine challenge for young people and there is a wonderful sense of accomplishment when success starts to come. That success comes in many forms. Rowing builds grit and resilience. There's nowhere to hide when you are out on the water on your own and if you're in a crew with other rowers, the boat doesn't move without genuine teamwork.

"The Hawke's Bay Rowing Club has been incredibly supportive of the College and Sam Cropper and Marcus Smith from

the club have been outstanding. I'm also grateful to Sam Chatfield who has taken on the role of Teacher in Charge at Lindisfarne. His positive, supportive and passionate approach is another critical factor in the success of our inaugural 2025 programme."

With such a wealth of talent and some crucial support, the Lindisfarne rowing team seems poised for a great future.



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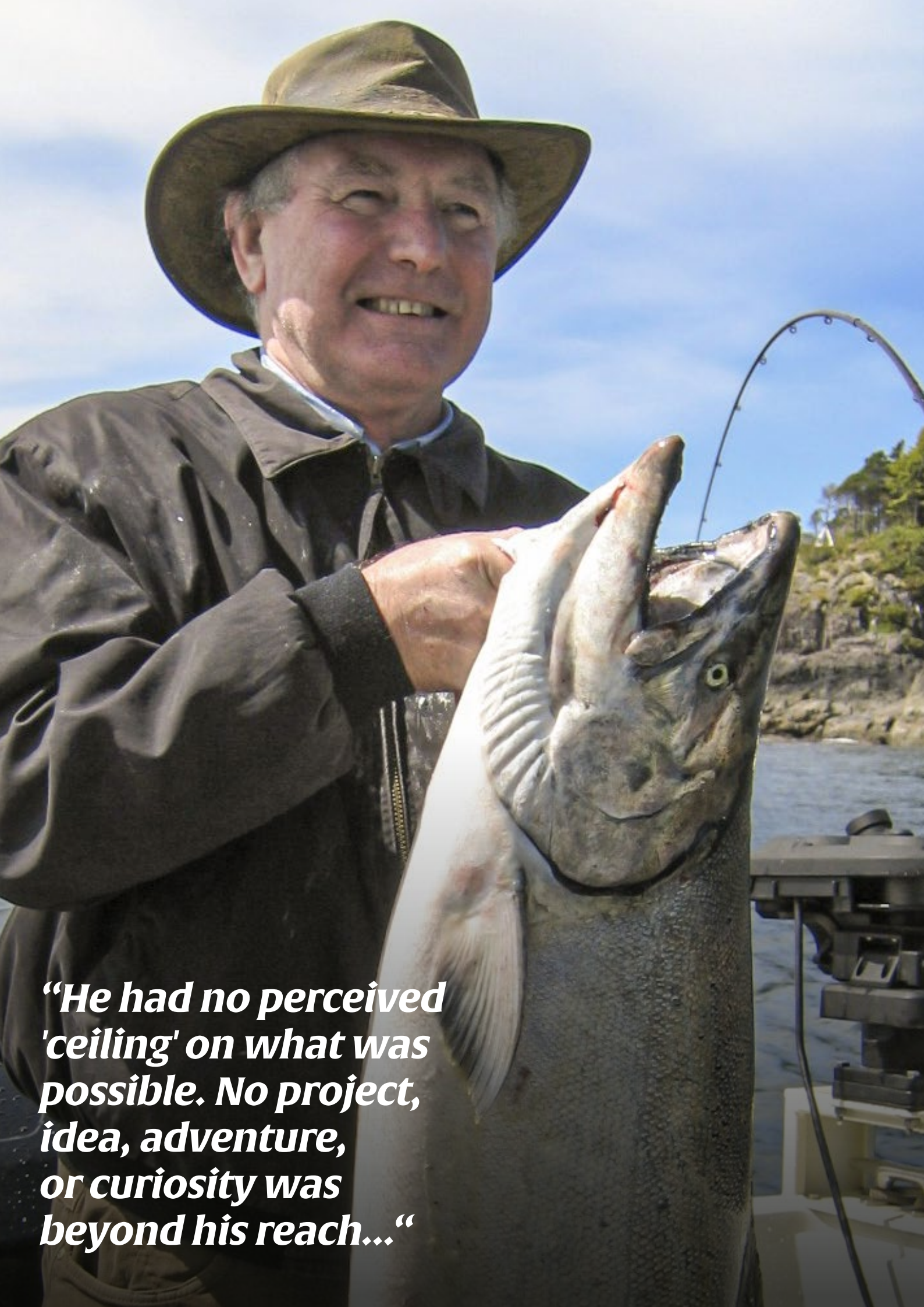
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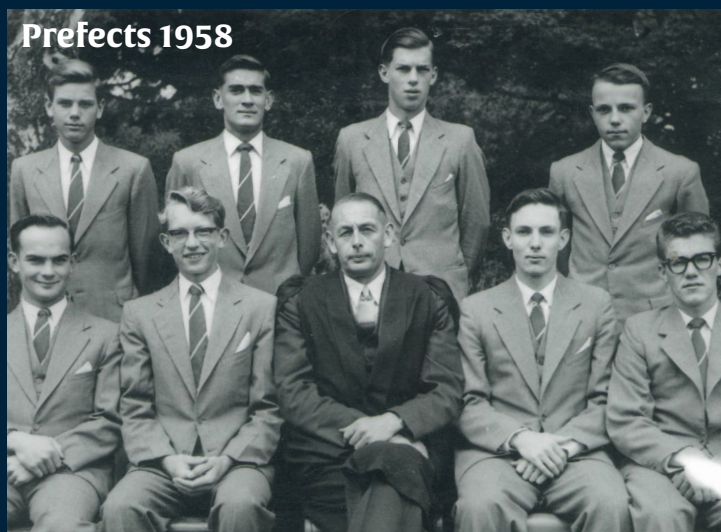


***“He had no perceived
'ceiling' on what was
possible. No project,
idea, adventure,
or curiosity was
beyond his reach...”***



Shooting Team 1957

BR: D M Ibbotson, D H Mossman, S A Williams, J M McCarthy
FR: R G Carey, W H Cox, Mr CS Crockett, **D F S Natusch**,
 A Meech



Prefects 1958

BR: R M Carter, R H Horwood, J H Falloon, P B S Dickenson
FR: RA I Nairn, R F Galbraith, Mr AC Francis (The Rector),
D F S Natusch, J H Waugh

David Natusch (54-58)

RHODES SCHOLAR

Lindisfarne College has a very proud academic heritage and many students have gone on from the College to achieve considerable academic distinction. This tradition was established early on with the first two Duxes of the College, Tony McKnight and David Natusch achieving PhDs and illustrious careers. David Natusch died last year in October and it seems fitting that we should recall his achievements and significant contribution to society.

David attended Lindisfarne College from 1954 to 1958. His parents were great supporters of the College from the beginning and on one occasion, hosted the entire school at their farm in Maraekakaho for a Guy Fawkes' evening. This was recorded in one of the earliest Chronicles: "A huge pile of rockets and crackers was waiting for us and each boy was given a bag of crackers kindly supplied by our hosts". We can only hope that schoolboys in the 50s were more safety conscious than they are now!

David was involved with all aspects of College life and even contributed essays to the early editions of the Chronicle. He achieved representative honours and Colours for rugby, cricket and athletics and won prizes for Science, Geography, English and Scripture. In his final year at Lindisfarne, David was Head Boy and Dux and was awarded both the Charles Upham and the Isabella Siteman Scholarships. The Isabella Siteman Scholarship was awarded on the basis of the University Entrance Scholarship examination for which David was the first Lindisfarne College candidate. The Lindisfarne Chronicle from 1958 states, "*Throughout his school career, David Natusch showed the same enthusiasm and high endeavour in all the opportunities of*

school life and gained corresponding success."

David went on to study at Canterbury University where he received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science majoring in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics. He was also awarded a University of Canterbury triple Blue for his sporting prowess. In 1963, David was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to undertake a PhD at Oxford. He is the only Lindisfarne student to have earned this prestigious scholarship. David graduated from Oxford with a Doctor of Philosophy in 1966. In 1970 he received a Fullbright Scholarship and went on to study and work in the United States. David subsequently occupied high-profile and prestigious academic positions in America and Europe and was involved with significant scientific achievements, in particular, the work on nuclear magnetic resonance which led to the invention of the MRI machine.

David's work was wide-ranging and extensive and he contributed to projects as diverse as NASA space modules and the risks associated with burning some fossil fuels. His work led to lecture appearances around the world and the publication of 105 scientific articles

and five books. After 1981 David lived in New Zealand but continued to work internationally for organisations like the UN, WHO, World Bank, and APEC. Outside his professional life, David showed the same enthusiasm for service and new skills and became a Justice of the Peace and a marriage celebrant as well as President of the New Zealand Rhodes Scholars Association.

The many tributes at David's funeral revealed that he was a loving and engaged family man who had a great sense of humour. One of his most persistent characteristics was his curiosity and thirst for knowledge. This is expressed in comments by his grandson, "*Papa had no perceived 'ceiling' on what was possible. No project, idea, adventure, or curiosity was beyond his reach. He would follow his nose into the strangest of places and grasp every opportunity as it came. Undeterred by convention, he truly believed that all things are possible, and acted on this belief every day."*

David Natusch's curiosity and belief in what is possible is in perfect alignment with the values that Lindisfarne upholds and is a great way for current students to pursue a life of 'Success and significance'.



Thank you to our Rugby Partners

2025 season snapshot



Leaders of Tomorrow

POWERED BY PURPOSE

Some of the most important learning moments in our lives come in situations which occur outside the classroom. Real education should provide opportunities for students to be inspired or enlightened in different settings and by different people. Just a glance through a Highways magazine serves to illustrate that students at the College are given constant opportunities to be inspired or expand their world view whether this is through an amazing tour or a chance to give back to the community through service. Guest speakers are another strand in the tapestry of available experiences and so far this year, the College has had the opportunity to welcome two outstanding speakers who have inspired and informed our students.

The first of these was Nathan Wallis who spoke to students and parents about the development of the teenage brain. Nathan kindly agreed to do an additional session for the students involved in the Leaders of Tomorrow programme and this opportunity attracted many of the boys who had signed up for the programme. Nathan was able to give the boys involved tips and strategies to help them understand how their brains are wired and how this impacts their capacity to lead and fulfil their true potential.

This term, Chris Proctor managed to persuade James Laughlin to come to Hawke's Bay specifically to speak to the boys involved with the leadership programme. James is a high-performance leadership coach who works with CEOs and high-profile groups like Canterbury Rugby. He has a very popular podcast, Lead on Purpose in which he speaks to leaders from around the world and tries to distil the essence of their success. James himself is a seven-times world-champion pipe drummer and draws on his own experience to guide and mentor others to achieve their full potential.



James Laughlin with Chris Proctor

James encouraged our boys to become "Possibilitarians" who always see the opportunities and potential in a situation. He had numerous tips and suggestions about how they could review their own performance and keep improving.

The boys were intrigued by the high-profile people that James has worked with but also had numerous thoughtful questions about leadership in action. James commented later that he was very impressed at their level of engagement.

The leadership programme, Leaders of Tomorrow, which was involved with both these speakers is the brainchild of last year's Head Prefect, Fergus Morunga. Fergus felt strongly that leadership ability was not innate but could be taught and nurtured and he wanted all senior students to have the benefits of leadership experience as he did. Fergus and this year's Head Boy, Chris Proctor have devised the student-led programme between them and Chris has worked tirelessly this year to get interesting speakers to talk to students and inspire them to take up the mantle of leadership.

It is very exciting to see this student-led programme take off with such impressive speakers. Congratulations to the boys involved for their enterprise and initiative.



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Senior Winner
August Popadich, Year 11

Photography Competition

CELEBRATING AUTUMN THROUGH THE LENS

Students were recently invited to explore the theme 'Autumn in Nature', capturing the quiet transitions, rich colours, and natural beauty of the season through photography. Open to all year levels and not limited to Art students, the competition attracted over 60 entries, reflecting a wide interest in creative expression across the College. Judged by members of the Art Department, the submissions demonstrated a diverse range of perspectives, strong compositional choices, and technical skill. We are pleased to recognise winners from both the junior and senior categories, as well as highly commended entries in each. The standard of work was impressive, and we congratulate all who took part in showcasing their unique view of the season.

Junior Winner

Felix Bromhead, Year 9



Highly Commended

Wyatt Holmes, Year 13



Harjoban Kullar, Year 7



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A Life Changing Opportunity

MONTGOMERY BELL EXCHANGE



This year marked the return of the Montgomery Bell Academy Exchange for the first time since the pandemic. The programme offers two Year 12 Lindisfarne College students the chance to live and study in the United States for a month, immersing themselves in the culture of one of America's leading all-boys schools. Frank Gilligan and Ben Pringle were the first to take part in the revived exchange, accompanied by Deputy Rector Mr Howlett, making the most of every moment at Montgomery Bell Academy (MBA) in Nashville, Tennessee.

The programme is about so much more than travel, it's a chance to grow as a person, build lifelong friendships, and develop a global perspective.

Frank and Ben quickly adapted to life at MBA. From day one, they were struck by the size and quality of the school's facilities, including a gym the size of Mouat Block and an indoor turf field. "There was always something to do," Frank said. "The teachers were great at getting everyone involved, and the students really looked out for us. It felt like home."

They embraced school life, relishing the American-style lunches with pizza, chicken burgers, Powerade, and lemonade on tap, and enjoyed a full social life outside the classroom. Their host families warmly welcomed them and provided extraordinary opportunities, Frank's host family even took him to Washington D.C. and the beaches of Florida.

"Seeing the White House, monuments, and museums was incredible. I'm extremely grateful for the experiences I had,"

Both boys highlighted the strong feeling of brotherhood at MBA, which made it easy to connect with the students and develop friendships that they continue to maintain. The exchange wasn't just about the school to the boys, it was also a deep dive into American culture. From attending lacrosse games to sampling plenty of fast food, Frank and Ben soaked up life in Nashville. "It was awesome to see how families, friends, and the wider community work together over there and to compare that to life here in New Zealand."

One of the key lessons they took away was to grab every opportunity that comes their way. "We both learnt so much about ourselves and what it's like to live on the other side of the world," Frank reflected. "We've made lifelong connections, and it's an experience we'll never forget."

Frank and Ben strongly encourage younger Lindisfarne students to consider this exchange when the opportunity comes up in Year 12. As Frank shared in his assembly speech, "Many other schools in Hawke's Bay don't offer experiences like this. If anyone is interested, Ben and I would be more than happy to answer your questions."

For the month of June we welcomed two students from Montgomery Bell Academy, Maxwell Beauchamp and Luke Johns, into the Lindisfarne community. Both boys quickly adapted to the Lindisfarne Way and fully embraced life in our College. They were



warmly enveloped by the school, attending sports exchanges and taking up every opportunity offered to them. Thanks to the generous hospitality of the Gilligan and Pringle families, Maxwell and Luke also enjoyed some incredible adventures around New Zealand, including exploring the South Island, soaking up our kiwi culture.

This exchange is a unique opportunity that creates lifelong friendships, opens minds, and offers unforgettable experiences for students from both sides of the world. It's a partnership we are proud to continue, knowing the impact it has on shaping confident, globally-aware young men.

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Driven by Altitude

SAM DEVESCOVI (18-22)

For many people, becoming a pilot is a lofty dream, cherished in youth but never realised in maturity. Old Boy Sam Devescovi, however, has seen that dream fulfilled and has not only learnt to fly himself but is now teaching other people to achieve the same ambition.

Sam was the classic little boy who wanted to learn to fly when he grew up. As he explains,

“Aviation runs deep in my family with my father being a helicopter pilot and my uncle a private jet pilot. Being a pilot was always my lifelong ambition and working in the industry now is truly a dream come true.”

Going straight into aviation when he left school in 2022, Sam signed up for a Diploma in Aviation for which he was able to study locally at Air Hawke's Bay. The two year flying course resulted in a Commercial Pilot's License and from here he was able to go on and take a range of further qualifications giving him additional ratings and expertise. Sam describes how this created further opportunities,

“I graduated from Air Hawke's Bay in November 2024 and after graduation was offered a job at the Academy, which is what I'm doing now, working full-time as a Flight Instructor.” This new role has meant that Sam is now teaching other Lindisfarne Old Boys, such as Jonty Bothamley, to fly.

Sam was amongst a group of recent Old Boys who returned to the College in Term Two to provide some guidance and advice for Year 13 students who are approaching the end of their school careers. One of the points that Sam highlighted was that although the pilot training was rigorous and demanding, with tests every two weeks, he was happy to put in the work because he was studying something he really loved. Sam also noted that being at Lindisfarne helped him succeed, “Lindisfarne prepared me for my studies and career by helping me establish good habits such as presenting myself professionally and neatly at all times, as well as learning to talk and be around people from many different backgrounds and cultures.” Being one of the few students from his year not to go to university required a

period of adjustment for Sam, as he explains, “I didn't realise until I left, the quality of mates I had at school. Being in Hawke's Bay and not at university with most of them hit home how much I enjoyed being around them and what they mean to me.” In spite of this period of adjustment, Sam is very happy with his decisions and would advise current students to enjoy school while they can and not to rush into going to university just because all their friends are doing that. Sam says, *“Take that GAP year or work until you find what you want to do or what you are passionate about. And when you do find what you want to do, be careful with money. I can't believe how much money I spent when I was living at home!”*

Great advice from Sam, following his own path has obviously taken him exactly where he wanted to go.




Public Speaking

STRONGER THAN EVER

Across many New Zealand schools, the art of public speaking is quietly fading. Fewer students are stepping up to the microphone, and opportunities to develop this essential life skill are becoming rarer. But at Lindisfarne College, it's a different story. Public speaking is not just surviving, it's thriving. Here, it remains a proud and popular tradition that continues to capture the interest and imagination of our boys.

Public speaking is a skill that life will inevitably call upon, whether delivering a best man's speech, pitching an idea, or rallying support for a local cause. At Lindisfarne, we recognise the life-long value of learning to speak with clarity, conviction, and courage. We provide our students with numerous opportunities to develop and practise this vital skill, and the results are inspiring.

Appealing to the boys' natural sense of rivalry, several annual events allow students to showcase and hone their public speaking abilities. Competitions such as the Churchill Oratory, Impromptu Speech, and Bible Reading draw impressive numbers each year. It takes enormous bravery to stand and speak in front of peers, but our boys rise to the challenge, impressing guest adjudicators with both the quantity and calibre of entries.

What's especially rewarding is watching boys grow and improve over time. This year's Impromptu Speech competition was won by Chris Proctor, an accomplished speaker, but it was second-place winner Beck Allen who

exemplified the spirit of Lindisfarne. After entering previously, Beck returned stronger, more confident, and significantly improved.

Public speaking is woven into the Lindisfarne learning journey. At Year 10, boys can opt into Communicating and Leadership, a course designed to develop confidence through social and informative speeches. As speech and drama teacher Kathy Atkin explains, "Boys learn to express themselves and speak from the heart in an extempore style. This helps them to recognise their own strengths and abilities." For many, this is just the beginning. A significant number of students choose to further their skills through private tuition, with some achieving qualifications at diploma level.

Māori oratory is a specialised, performative style of public speaking that holds a proud place at Lindisfarne. Every year, our boys participate in the prestigious Manu Kōrero competition, delivering speeches in te reo Māori and English. Under the guidance of

Māori teacher Pomare Sydney, Lindisfarne students have achieved consistently in both categories, developing not just as speakers but as leaders connected to Te Ao Māori.

Debating is another hugely popular avenue for public speaking at Lindisfarne. It's introduced from Year 9 and nurtured through inter-house competitions and school teams that compete regionally. Debating teaches boys to build logical arguments, work collaboratively, and consider diverse perspectives, skills that extend far beyond the podium. Ms Carroll, Head of Languages, highlights the impact:

"It fosters critical thinking, confidence, and effective communication, all skills essential for students' academic and personal growth."



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House Events HALF YEAR ROUND-UP

It's been an action-packed two terms, with students showcasing determination and talent across a number of House events.

Swimming Sports delivered impressive performances with Hamish McLaren (Year 8) setting the first Intermediate Long Plunge record at 18.94m, while Archie Cole (Year 9) broke a 31-year-old junior record with 18.6m.

Individual Champions:

Intermediate School 1st Hamish McLaren, 2nd Levi McEntee, 3rd Flynn Webber

Junior 1st Archie Cole, 2nd Owen Booker, 3rd Thomas Birkett

Intermediate 1st Sam Skidmore, 2nd Liam

McEntee, 3rd Monte Douglas

Senior 1st Wyatt Holmes, 2nd Matt McKendry, 3rd Beck Allen

House results: 4th - Oswald, 3rd Cuthbert, 2nd Durham and 1st - Aidan House.

Athletics Day saw more records broken with Oscar Fitness broke the Intermediate 3000m record (12m 59s). Durham secured the overall title with a win in the final Senior 4x100m relay. **Individual champions were:**

Intermediate School 1st William Kilpatrick (D), 2nd Gabrielle Miranda (C), 3rd Ben Hunt (D)

Junior 1st Spencer Bruce (C), 2nd Archie Cole (C), 3rd Owen Booker (D)





Intermediate 1st August Popadich (O), 2nd Gus Munro (D), 3rd Waiariki Hunia (D)

Senior 1st Austin McDougall (C), 2nd Charlie Wenley (D), 3rd Angus Scott (D)

The House Haka Competition saw Durham and Oswald tie for 1st, followed by Aidan (3rd) and Cuthbert (4th). Thanks to guest judge and Old Boy Te Otāne Huata for his fair judgement and feedback on the day.

Cross Country concluded the term with Aidan taking top House honours. Winners:

Intermediate School: 1st Magnus Jones, 2nd Oscar Fitness, 3rd George Wickham

Junior: 1st Oscar Wilding, 2nd Owen Booker, 3rd Milan Te Heuheu

Intermediate 1st August Popadich, 2nd Titus Dunnett, 3rd Patrick Hoyt-Swinburn

Senior 1st Noah Hemmingsen, 2nd Hamish Butler, 3rd Ben Boere

House results: 1st Aidan, 2nd Cuthbert, 3rd Oswald, 4th Durham

House Music A huge amount of effort went into rehearsals, and it was fantastic to see so many boys stepping up and giving it their all. Adjudicators Joe Christensen and Old Boy Callum Wallace had the tough job of selecting winners from a day of passionate

performances. Oswald took out both the Rock Band and Solo sections, while Durham claimed the Instrumental Ensemble. Aidan impressed across the board, winning the Small and Full House Choir categories, as well as the Walk-On-Off Award.

In the overall standings, Aidan came out on top with 45 points, followed by Oswald on 39, Durham on 37, and Cuthbert on 27.





President's Report

LCOBA

The LCOBA calendar year kicks off with the College vs Old Boys summer sports fixtures in the first two weeks of Term 1. A T20 cricket match was held on 30 January. Despite rain, a 16 over match was completed with Old Boys batting first to reach 117-5 in 16 overs. Notable performances with the bat were: Sam Cassidy with a hard hitting 45no; Lovepreet Padda 27, and Sam Devescovi 10. The 1st XI comfortably ran down the total reaching 118-6 in 13.4 overs for a 4-wicket win. Notable Old Boy bowling performances were: Marcus Sisam 2-5; Harry Cassidy 1-10 and Finn Reid 1-13. Thanks to: recent Old Boys returning to play; Hamish Hay and Charlie Sisam for overseeing proceedings; Rob Hay and Milarn Smith for organising the fixture.

In tennis, the following results were achieved in a first to nine games format: Jono Fall and Jackson Lambert beat Theo King and Ben Boere 9-3; Andrew Shand and Andrew Ellingham beat Freddie Walker and Campbell Ellingham 9-2; Steve Greer and Phil Mitchell beat Otis Hoggard and Wilbur Coates 9-3; Howard Pedersen and Kim Cooper beat Cooper Ellingham and Max Gaddum 9-3. This produced a 4-0 win by a very strong Old Boys' tennis team. Thanks again to Rob Hay and to College Head of Tennis, Mr Greg Fall, for organising and hosting the fixture.

Committee meetings are primarily spent deciding: a) what College projects to fund from the income we generate, and b) what events we want to run during the year. On the former, one small way we assist is via the LCOBA scholarship to the son of an Old Boy for the sum of \$1000 per year for three years. Accordingly, in any given year there are three boys across three different year groups, receiving the scholarship. This is a discretionary (no application) scholarship with the recipient decided by a panel of staff, independent of LCOBA. Current recipients are: George

Dorward, (son of Nick 91-95), Josh Snijders (son of Peter, 79-83) and Lachie Butler (son of Will, 90-94).

Continuing on the topic of finances; as a result of prudent fiscal management by our Treasurer, Matt Carney, a surplus of approximately \$8,000 in our coffers was donated to the College to spend on refurbishing the Old Boys Pavilion. This building is used for a variety of purposes and we know the refurbishment will be particularly welcomed by the cricket fraternity who are regular users of it over the summer months.

In terms of events, this year we will be hosting an All Blacks vs Springboks test match evening in the auditorium on Saturday 6 September. This event will be open to the entire College community (not just Old Boys). Details are being finalised at the time of writing this report so please keep your eyes peeled for further promotion via standard College channels. Prior to kick-off, Old Boy and College Director of Rugby, Andre Bell, will be giving a talk on his rugby career. It will be an entry-by-ticket event so be sure to book early once details are advertised.



A number of formal and informal gatherings of Old Boy's occur around the country (and abroad) every year. One such gathering was pulled together in February by John McKenzie (66-70), while two of his fellow 1965 3rd Form (Year 9) mates, Peter Tait and Bruce Goodwin, were over from the UK. John, Peter and Bruce, together with Bryan Mouat, Ian Lopdell, Murray Johnstone and Ian McAffer, enjoyed catching up over a few ales at the Loading Ramp in Havelock North. John is keen to get this year group together every six months of so. So, if you are part of that year group and are keen to reconnect with your former classmates, please contact:

John on johnmck211@gmail.com

Since the last edition of Highways, two "rocks" of Lindisfarne College have passed on, who require a brief tribute.

Dr. John Wakeman, while not an Old Boy, was a passionate and dedicated servant to the College. John completed over 40 years on the College Council, serving as Chairman from 1995-2016 and until recently as Chair of the Proprietors Board. He was instrumental in negotiating the



Integration Agreement between the College and the Crown. It was an honour for the College that his funeral was held in the College chapel on 13th February.

Pere Maitai (73-76) was a proud Old Boy of Lindisfarne College, a recipient of the Te Whaiti Nui a Toi Scholarship in 1973, and more recently, the Chairman of the Te Whāiti-nui-ā-toi Scholarship Committee. He dedicated many years to supporting and uplifting our young men, embodying the values of service and leadership that our College holds dear. Pere was returned to

Manutai Marae, in Nuhaka, where he was laid to rest in late March.

It is with sadness we also acknowledge, on page 41 the passing of other Old Boys and members of the College community, since the last edition of Highways.

To finish on a less somber note; there are currently 57 sons and 13 Grandsons of Old Boys at College and 8 Old Boys are members of staff. It is fantastic to the continued support of Old Boys in this manner as we strive to develop the young

men of Lindisfarne to be men of good character who will go on to lead successful and significant lives.

Hugh McPhail (80-84)
LCOBA President



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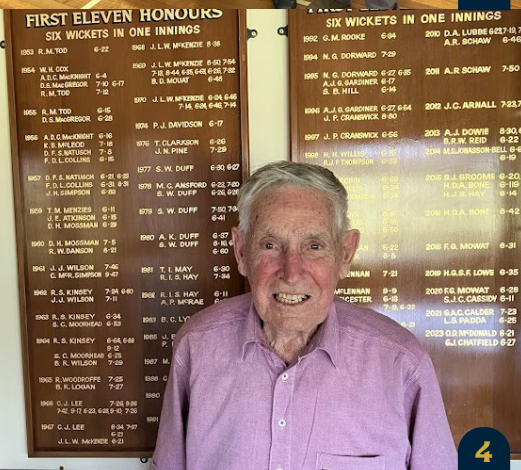
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Te Otāne Huata (2002–07)

Durham and Oswald House Old Boys will be thrilled to hear that the boys in Green and Blue were joint winners of the 2025 House Haka competition, held at the end of Term 1.

Old Boy Te Otāne Huata (2002–07) was the adjudicator. It was a particularly meaningful occasion, as Te Otāne's younger brother Mokoia played a key role in creating the College haka. Te Otāne shared that his judging focused on form, placement, and participation quality, and he was deeply impressed by the mana and effort displayed by all Houses. (Photo 1)

Tony Harrison

Tony Harrison (84-88) and House Tutor 97-98 recently visited the school to attend the Hawke's Bay Festival of the Bands to support his daughter Arabella. After spending many years in Auckland, Whangarei and London, Tony moved back to Hawke's Bay in 2009. He is a Director and founder of Urban Connection a civil engineering

transportation consultancy. He still cheers for Lindisfarne at canoe polo (as long as they are not playing HNHS) and has the pleasure of having Mr Fritchley in his social team. (Photo 2)

House Music Judge

As is tradition each year, House Music features an Old Boy judge alongside a second adjudicator. This year, we were pleased to welcome Callum Wallace (17-23), who is currently in his second year of a Bachelor of Science at the University of Canterbury. Callum brought a wealth of experience to the role, having been heavily involved in numerous College productions, including his memorable performance as Uncle Fester and serving as the lead saxophonist in several music ensembles. His background made him an outstanding choice for the judging panel (Photo 3)

Keith McLeod

It was wonderful to see Keith McLeod (1953–56), one of the College's first-day pupils, at the pavilion in Term One cheering on the 1st XI cricket team.

We captured a photo of Keith standing proudly in front of the Honours Board, which records his impressive 7-18 bowling figures from 1956 against St John's, as he fondly reminded us. (Photo 4)

Armaan Kumar

During the summer, Old Boy Armaan Kumar (18-24) participated in three prestigious science programmes, including the MacDiarmid Institute's NanoCamp. Selection is highly competitive, making his repeated involvement a significant achievement. Armaan was inspired by like-minded peers and impressed by the access to leading researchers and lecturers who treated students as equals. (Photo 5)

Old Boys at Quad

It was great to see several Old Boys back on Pakowhai field during the holidays for the 35th Rugby Quad Tournament. Rob Hay caught up with familiar faces enjoying the matches, including David Goodwin (68–72) and his brother Bruce Goodwin

To see more of our 'Old Boys' Highlights' make sure to follow @Lindisfarne College Old Boys Assn on Facebook.



(65–69), Paul Craig (63–66) visiting from Wellington, Kim Duncan (71–73), supporting his grandson Theo Dymock and recent leavers Hugh Kilsby (18–22) and Jack Brittin (19–23). **(Photo 6)**

2022 Leavers Visit Year 13's

Old Boys Sam Devescovi, George Esson, Sam Cassidy, Ethan Byloo, Jonty Good, and Jack Palleson returned to speak with our current Year 13 students about life after school at the end of Term Two. They offered honest insights into the realities of university and working life, discussing both the freedoms and the challenges that come with it. Key topics included maintaining a healthy study/life balance, the importance of surrounding yourself with the right people, budgeting, and the ups and downs of flatting or living in the Halls.

A valuable and relatable session full of practical advice, thank you, boys, for making the time to come back and share your experiences. **(Photo 7)**

Taupo Home Show

It was a lovely day in Taupō at the Home Show, where Lindisfarne and Iona College shared a joint promotional tent. It was great to see Old Boys Bernie Cousins (1967–70) and Chris Whitworth (1983–87), and reconnect with current and former parents, grandparents, and prospective families.

A special highlight was catching up with long-time College supporters Peter Herrick and Mrs Anne Velvin, mother of 1990 Head Boy Stuart Velvin. **(Photo 8)**

50s and 60s Puketapu Lunch

It was fantastic to see a number of our regular 1950's and 60's old boys at their mid winter, Puketapu Hotel, lunch on Thursday June 19. Attendees included Roger Alexander, Adrian Smith, Geoffrey Clark, Rupert Ryan, Hilton Meech, Farry McLeod, Don McIlraith, Ron MacMillan, Peter McNeill, Keith McLeod, Stuart Gunn, Mervyn Harper, Buster Neill, Bruce Worsnop, John McKenzie, Jim Syme, Peter Tod, Mike Tod, Mark Howard. Once again, the group included five of our 1953,

first day pupils (Roger Alexander, Peter McNeil, Keith McLeod, Don McIlraith and Farry McLeod). Rector Stuart Hakeney, LCOBA president, Hugh McPhail and 2025 Head Prefect Chris Proctor were special guests and a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all. Thanks to College Alumni Relations co-ordinator, Jacqui Pearse for organising the day. **(Photo 9)**

Old Boys Winter Sports Day

The annual Old Boys' Football match against our 1st XI saw 14 mostly recent leavers take to the field in a spirited game. The College came away with a 2-1 win.

Earlier in the month, the Patangata Gun Club hosted the Old Boys' Clay Target Shoot. This was a fantastic day out, with a great crowd of Old Boys, parents, and current students enjoying the competition. This time, the Old Boys took the honours 87-75. **(Photo 10 & 11)**



In Memory of Dr John Wakeman

WHOSE INFLUENCE ENDURES

In the July 2024 issue of *Highways*, we shared a tribute to Dr John Wakeman, a man whose unwavering commitment, strategic vision, and deep sense of service helped shape Lindisfarne College into the place we know and love today. At that time, we reflected on John's remarkable 40-year contribution to the College Council, his pivotal role in securing integration, and his enduring impact on the College's facilities, culture, and governance.

It is with heavy hearts that we now write in remembrance of John, following his passing earlier this year. In losing John, we have lost not only an extraordinary leader, but also a guiding force whose wisdom, pragmatism, and generosity were quietly foundational to the Lindisfarne story.

John's life was defined by service, to the College, to education more broadly, and to his local community. His posthumous recognition with a Hastings District Civic Honour speaks volumes of his wider impact. This prestigious award, presented by the Hastings District Council, acknowledges his near five decades of voluntary service in health and education, particularly his governance roles with local medical boards and, of course, Lindisfarne College. It is a fitting public acknowledgment of a man who never sought the spotlight, but who consistently stood at the helm of progress.

As shared in our previous article, John's influence at Lindisfarne was both visionary and practical. Whether navigating the complexities of integration, introducing staff welfare initiatives, or overseeing countless building projects, from the gym to the music suite, his fingerprint is indelibly etched into the fabric of our school. His architectural eye, business expertise, and care for both people and place earned him the respect of Rectors, staff, and community alike.



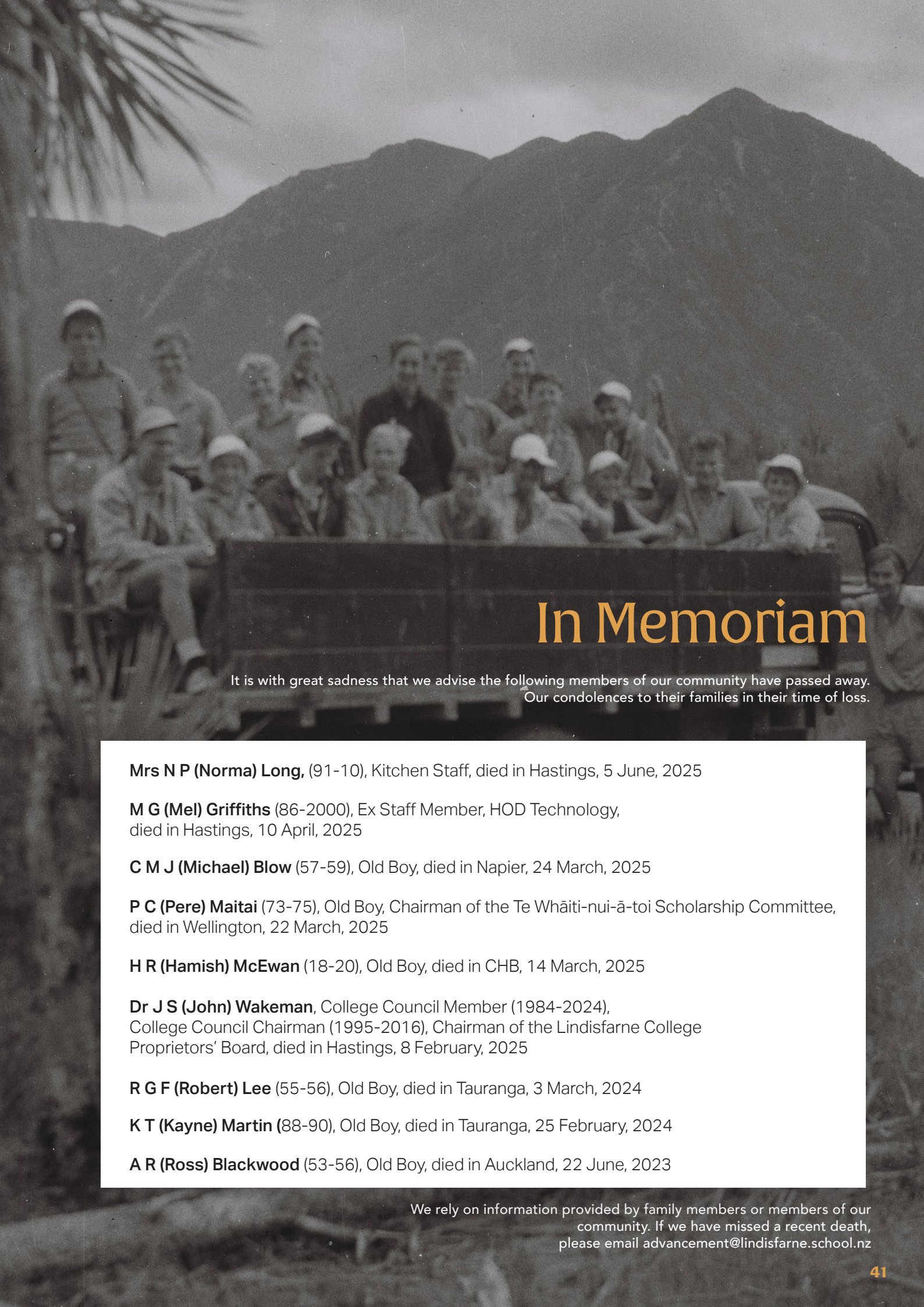
John brought a thoughtful, people-first approach to his leadership. He understood that good governance was not just about policies and buildings, but also about looking after the wellbeing of staff and students.

One of the most poignant recent moments in John's Lindisfarne journey came in 2023, when he presented the Wakeman Cup to his grandson, 1st XI Hockey captain Gordy Chatfield. A Whanganui Collegiate Old Boy himself, John had donated the cup years earlier. To see it come full circle, from his hands to Gordy's was symbolic of the legacy he

leaves: enduring, intergenerational, and deeply rooted in service.

As a College community, we mourn the loss of a great man, a mentor, a stalwart, and a friend to many. But we also celebrate a life lived with purpose, generosity, and faith in the future of our boys and our school.

Dr John Wakeman's contribution will not be forgotten. His legacy lives on, in our buildings, our governance, our culture, and in the countless lives he helped shape along the way.



In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we advise the following members of our community have passed away.
Our condolences to their families in their time of loss.

Mrs N P (Norma) Long, (91-10), Kitchen Staff, died in Hastings, 5 June, 2025

M G (Mel) Griffiths (86-2000), Ex Staff Member, HOD Technology,
died in Hastings, 10 April, 2025

C M J (Michael) Blow (57-59), Old Boy, died in Napier, 24 March, 2025

P C (Pere) Maitai (73-75), Old Boy, Chairman of the Te Whāiti-nui-ā-toi Scholarship Committee,
died in Wellington, 22 March, 2025

H R (Hamish) McEwan (18-20), Old Boy, died in CHB, 14 March, 2025

Dr J S (John) Wakeman, College Council Member (1984-2024),
College Council Chairman (1995-2016), Chairman of the Lindisfarne College
Proprietors' Board, died in Hastings, 8 February, 2025

R G F (Robert) Lee (55-56), Old Boy, died in Tauranga, 3 March, 2024

K T (Kayne) Martin (88-90), Old Boy, died in Tauranga, 25 February, 2024

A R (Ross) Blackwood (53-56), Old Boy, died in Auckland, 22 June, 2023

We rely on information provided by family members or members of our
community. If we have missed a recent death,
please email advancement@lindisfarne.school.nz



PARENTS AND FRIENDS UPDATE

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the year as there has been so much happening within the Parents and Friends executive committee. As always, our first event of the year was the new parents' drinks, and it was great to get to know our new families and bring them into our parent group.



Also in Term One, was the Gala and yet again it proved to be a wonderful event. On a beautiful bluebird day, the Pakowhai field came alive with stalls selling an array of goods, wonderful games and exciting activities for the whole community to enjoy. Many of the old favourites such as the clothing, hot chips and white elephant stalls were doing a roaring trade with some new food offerings such as nachos and venison sandwiches making an appearance. These were well received and likely to be on offer again next year. Our new Gala conveyor, Emma Glover, brings a streamlined and well-organised approach to our biggest fundraiser, ensuring that we have significant income to provide our boys with an enhanced LFC experience. We are extremely grateful to have her on board and look forward to using this year's experience to develop and improve next year.

In addition to Emma, we have had some changes to the executive committee. Nadine Stuart, who has guided us so expertly for the past four years has moved on to pursue new interests in New Plymouth.

Nadine's amazingly calm and detail-driven leadership has provided a solid platform and well-documented procedures for a seamless transition. We are deeply grateful for your time in the president's role, Nadine, and promise to continue your good work.

In March, following our AGM, we appointed Jo Pentreath to the vice chair role and myself to the president's role having served as vice chair to Nadine for the previous two years. We have also retained Phil Boustridge in the treasurer role although we are actively seeking his replacement as he will finish up this year. We would be very keen to hear from anybody who is interested in this position and Phil will be more than happy to do a thorough and supportive handover to his successor. We have also welcomed Mandy Cartwright, who brings her expert knowledge of HR

and Jax Bothamley with her expertise in education, into the two executive member roles. Lastly, we have appointed Sonja Jia into the secretary role, taking over from Nicola Jansen. We extend a massive thanks to Nicola for her time in the role and her contribution to the PFA executive. She has been a joy to learn alongside in my time as vice president and has brought a warmth and commitment to the role.

More recently, we have organised two main events, our Years 12 and 13 pre-ball events at St George's restaurant and 3 Wise Birds garden bar. Everyone looked amazing and had a wonderful opportunity to connect before heading off to the College Ball in buses. This is also an opportunity for the parents to meet up and is always a social and joyous occasion. Many thanks to our organising team for their work and the parents and boys who attended the fabulous venues, making it a memorable occasion.

As in recent years, our mothers and sons event sold out in record time. Our speaker, Tyson Ataera, was extremely energetic and an amazing orator, thoroughly engaging mothers and sons alike with his message. The love in the room was palpable as

Key PFA Information

2025 Executive Committee

President	Emily Brittin
Vice President	Jo Pentreath
Treasurer	Phillip Boustridge
Secretary	Sonja Jia
Executive Members	Jax Bothamley and Mandy Cartwright

Upcoming PFA Meetings

Tuesday July 22nd

Tuesday October 14th

All current Lindisfarne parents and caregivers are welcome. More details will be shared via email closer to the dates. We look forward to seeing you there!

PFA Funding Approvals to date

Plasma Cutter
Tech Department

Gear
Waka Ama

Bean bags
Year 13 Common Room

Heart Monitoring Equipment
PE Department

Funding (Partial)
Teenage Brain Presentation

Funding (Partial)
Mamma Mia Production

Rugby Jerseys
U15 Rugby Team



he encouraged the boys to honour their mums and families.

From here, we begin planning for the Gala in 2026, supporting the prefect team as they work on a fathers and sons event and approving as many funding applications as we can.

I feel extremely privileged to be leading an awesome team and working together

with the fantastic Lindisfarne College community. We have a strong focus on well-organised and fun events and supporting the school with funding for projects and opportunities to enhance the wellbeing of the boys. We also aim to be a source of information and support for the whole parent group so we extend a very warm welcome to attend our meetings on the second Tuesday of each term. These

meetings start with a pleasant snack and beverage and are a great way to find out about upcoming events and successful funding applications.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Emily Brittin
PFA President



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COLLEGE COUNCIL

“As the present now will later be past. For the times they are a-changin’.”

Bob Dylan

The theme of my article reflects the changing times that Lindisfarne College has been through, and the changes we are about to enter. Many of these changes are exciting, though some have been catalysed by sad events.

Earlier this year, the College lost one of its great leaders with the passing of Dr John Wakeman. This edition of the magazine provides a fitting memorial to John. In summary, he has left an indelible legacy, securing our position as an integrated school, strengthening our commitment to the values and special character on which Lindisfarne was founded, and devoting over 40 years to what he always called his “hobby.” He is greatly missed by all of us.

Change is also underway within the Proprietors. Mike Knobloch has been appointed as the new Chair of Proprietors, and new Proprietors have joined the Council. The Proprietors are now focused on progressing aspects of our campus development and ensuring that future property changes align with our strategic plan. Financial stewardship remains a key responsibility of the Proprietors, and we are currently consulting on further changes to systems and processes.

Our strategic plan is also in the process of being reviewed and refreshed. Recent changes to Ministry of Education policy have meant that our existing plan needs to be updated. Over the next few months, this review will allow us to take stock of what we’ve achieved and provide an exciting opportunity to further strengthen

the outcomes we deliver for our young men. Our increasing roll, new classrooms, expanded sporting opportunities, growing community connections, proposed enhancements to our operational systems, and outstanding teaching staff will all contribute to this process. We aim to have a new strategic plan in place by October.

There have also been changes around the Council table. When Diana Kirkland stepped down late last year, we called for expressions of interest from our parent community and have since welcomed Pete Swinburn as a Board of Trustees representative for the next three years. With three current BOT positions coming up for election in September, there may be further changes on the Council horizon. I am grateful for the breadth of skill and experience we have among our Council governors; a team committed to prudent decision-making and the long-term success of our College.

One of the most significant changes ahead will be in our leadership team with the resignation of Stuart Hakeney as Rector. We are grateful for the extended notice Stuart has provided, which has allowed us to run a robust recruitment process. At the time of writing, this



process is well underway and we are encouraged by the level of interest and calibre of applicants. Stuart will continue to lead the College through the review of our strategic plan and ensure the smooth running of operations until the end of the year. Now in his fifth year as Rector, Stuart has introduced many positive initiatives and has lifted standards across all areas of College life. We are incredibly grateful for his dedication and hard work. He will leave behind a thriving school that is well-positioned to continue evolving.

Change isn’t always easy. It can bring uncertainty. But as we navigate these changes at Lindisfarne, the Council is committed to open communication and to supporting our staff, our young men, and the wider community through each step. The changes we are planning, and the new systems we introduce, are all designed to further strengthen Lindisfarne and secure its future as a thriving, vibrant place of learning.

While we look forward with optimism, we also continue to honour the traditions that form the solid foundations of our College.

Sharon Wards
Chair, Lindisfarne Council



LINDISFARNE COLLEGE

Lindisfarne College Regional Gatherings 2025

Whether you are an Old Boy, a past or current parent, or looking to join our community, we would love to see you when we visit each Region.

Meet Rector, Stuart Hakeney, Director of Boarding Russel Lennox and other senior members of the staff at an informal gathering. They will be on hand to chat about College news, reminisce and answer any questions you may have.

Please join us from 6-8pm
for drinks and nibbles at:

Taupō

Thursday 7th August, 6-8pm

Dixie Browns

38 Roberts Street, Taupō

Gisborne

Wednesday 13 August, 6-8pm

Lone Star

60 The Esplanade, Gisborne

Wairoa

Thursday 14 August, 6-8pm

Gemmell's Restaurant, Cafe & Bar

184 Marine Parade, Wairoa

Waipukurau

Wednesday 3rd September,

6-8pm

Waipukurau Club Inc

10 Russell Street, Waipukurau



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