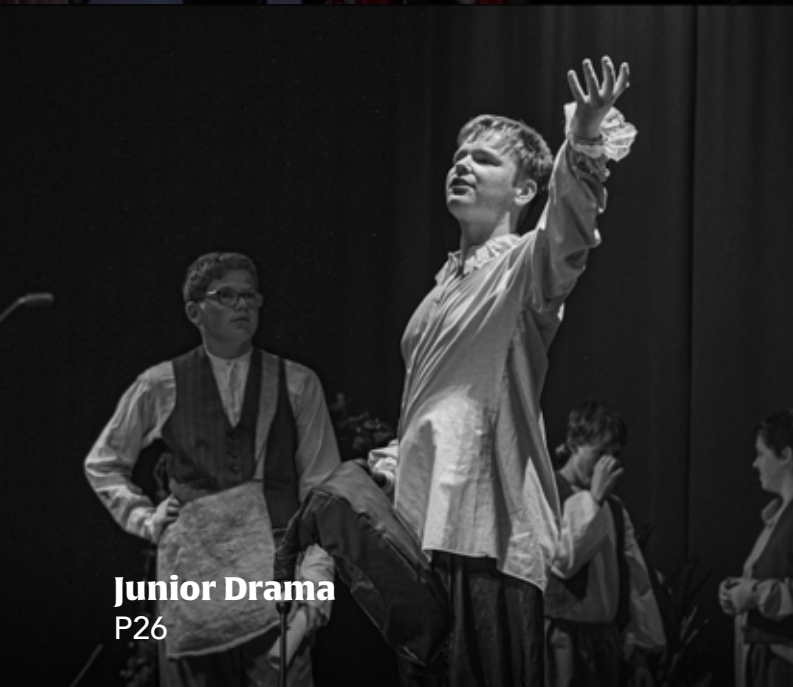




70th Celebrations
P4



2023 Major Awards
P7



Junior Drama
P26



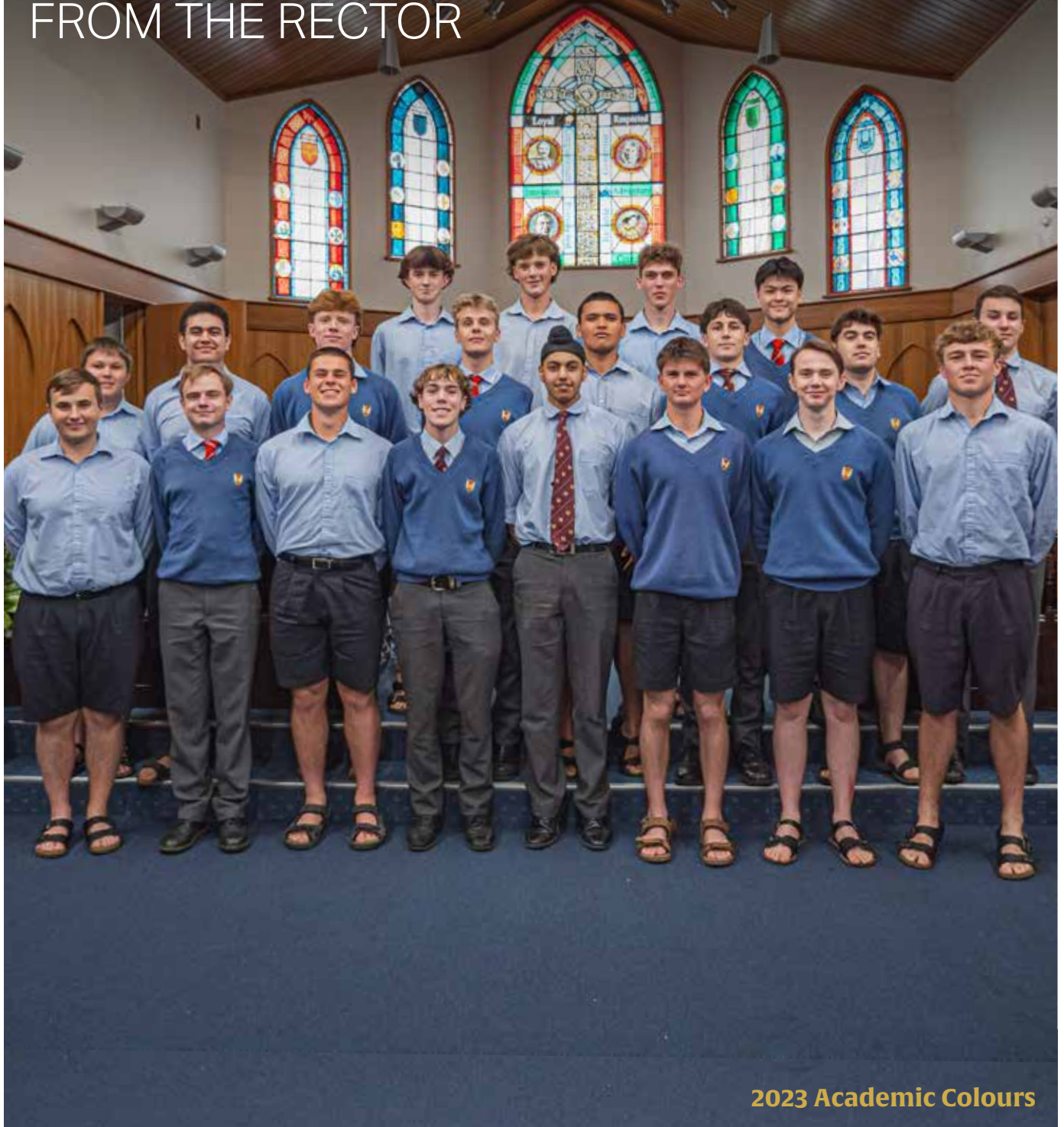
1st XI Football
P28

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A FOCUS ON LITERACY AND NUMERACY

FROM THE RECTOR



2023 Academic Colours

Throughout the month of December, students around New Zealand are throwing their school bags into the corner of the wardrobe for the summer holidays, and swapping science for surf boards, mathematics for mountain bikes and, well...you get the idea. Hopefully, as I advised in my recent Junior Prize Giving speech, students will be discussing their end of year reports with their parents, to celebrate the successes of 2023 and set some new goals for 2024. While these reflective conversations are going on in homes around our country, there is a much larger discussion occurring in Wellington about what the education report card looks like for New Zealand at the end of 2023, and what the new coalition government intends to do about it.



instigate a “back to basics” approach to mathematics learning when students enter our intermediate school, as we find there is already a gap between student’s abilities and expected levels of proficiency when they arrive. This approach continues through Years 9 & 10 as we prepare students for NCEA Level 1 in Year 11. Our Year 10 students sat the new NCEA Level 1 Numeracy co-requisite test earlier this year. This is the test that measures whether a student has met the minimum requirements to be considered numerate. 84% of our Year 10 students passed this test a year early, which is impressive given 55.9% passed the test across New Zealand during this “opt in” year. The structured approach works for our boys, and they are reaping the rewards.

The coalition government has recently announced that it is “taking advice” on its predecessor’s plan to implement the literacy and numeracy co-requisites from 2026. I hope that it sticks with them and that they tweak the assessments as needed, rather than delaying them in favour of the status quo. The bar may be high for many, but it gives students something constant and aspirational to aim at, as we support our boys with excellent teaching, in order to strengthen their literacy and numeracy skills. By challenging our students to meet a minimum, standardized set of literacy and numeracy skills, we will ultimately equip them with the “basics” that they require to succeed in secondary school, access higher education and ultimately function in their lives beyond education.

As you embark on your annual Christmas present shopping expedition very soon, please allow me to make one small suggestion if it’s not already on your list – a book voucher for each of the kids, followed by a family visit to the bookstore.

***“I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn’t be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.”
- Roald Dahl***

**Stuart Hakeney
RECTOR**

The National party had already signaled pre-election, that if it were successful, literacy and numeracy would be the focus in education for the next three years. Its recently released “100 Day Action Plan”, requires primary and intermediate schools to teach one hour a day each of reading, writing and mathematics starting in 2024. There is the strong sense of a “back to basics” approach to tackling low levels of literacy and numeracy amongst students in New Zealand, and according to the latest Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results, this seems to be a sensible approach.

PISA has held three yearly tests of reading, mathematics and science since 2000. About 4700 New Zealand 15-year-olds from 169 schools sat the tests in Term Three last year. Internationally, 690,000 students took the assessment. For the 37 OECD nations that participated, the average scores in PISA 2022 dropped significantly in mathematics and reading, with slight decreases in science since the last round of testing. New Zealand students’ results mirrored this decline in results. COVID hasn’t helped, but the downward trajectory predates the pandemic. Whilst the various reasons for declining PISA scores can be debated, it would be the experience of most New Zealand teachers, that the downward trend reflects what they are seeing in the students who enter their classrooms. The primary school teachers I speak to (a sector of the profession I have deep respect for) paint a picture of students entering the education system without sufficient levels of literacy to begin their journey on the front foot. We shouldn’t be surprised, given the access toddlers have to small screens. If video killed the radio star, then the iPad screen is doing its best to throttle the ladybird book.

To many teachers, the new government’s announcement about the focus on structured literacy teaching and dedicated time given to mathematics and writing will not be a game changer.

Like the call for a ban on cell phones, most schools are already doing it in some shape or form. However, given the huge amount of change that has occurred in the New Zealand education space in recent years, including the proliferation of learning support needs in our schools, a refocusing period is required. Over the past decade, schools have been challenged to focus on equity of opportunities and outcomes for all students under their care, but particularly for those students who may have been excluded from our education system, including Māori and Pasifika students. Teachers are now starting to incorporate Te Reo Maori and Mātauranga Māori into their daily interaction with students and in the teaching and learning activities in their classrooms. Relational teaching has been a focus too. The vast majority of teachers have embraced the changes and are seeing highly positive outcomes in terms of students’ engagement with learning.

In speaking with teachers at our College in recent weeks, there is a strong sense that we don’t want to drop our commitment to these important aspect of education, because they are making a difference, particularly for those students who may be at risk of not achieving their potential. However, given the decline in literacy and numeracy that we are seeing in international tests such as PISA, in the assessment evidence we collect on a daily basis from our students, and judging by the declining skills we see in students as they enter each of the primary, intermediate and secondary levels of the education system, a refocusing on the structured teaching of literacy and numeracy is timely.

As a boys’ school, we know what works best for our students. It is no secret that structure, routine and clear boundaries all help to keep our boys on track with their learning and behaviour, along with having them fully engaged in as many of the activities on offer in the four cornerstones of academic, sport, culture and the Christian dimension. We already

*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.
- Sir Joe Williams





70TH CELEBRATIONS

A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

Over the last 70 years, Lindisfarne College has built up a proud heritage and has produced some outstanding men who have made a major contribution to society. So it was with considerable anticipation, that the College approached this significant anniversary. The organising committee from the Old Boys Association along with the marketing department and the College management put in hours of planning and preparation to ensure the success of the weekend planned to mark this important milestone. Notable among the organisers was Mrs Jacqui Pearse whose organisational skills steered everyone and everything in the right direction.

One of the highlights of the celebrations was our special guest, Sir Joe Williams (1975-79) who spoke on numerous

occasions across the weekend. Sir Joe has had an illustrious career leading up to being appointed a Supreme Court Judge and being knighted in 2020 for services to the judiciary. Despite heavy demands on his time, Sir Joe was involved in all aspects of the celebrations and gave several different but equally entertaining and thought-provoking speeches. We are extremely grateful to him for his on-going commitment and service to the College.

The celebrations kicked off on Friday morning with a special school assembly to honour 27 former head prefects who have contributed significantly to our history. At this assembly, Sir Joe reminded us of the importance of belonging to a community such as Lindisfarne and the sense of loyalty, service, and leadership it brings. Friday

night's cocktail party was the most popular event of the weekend and it was wonderful to see close to 300 of our community join us for the festivities. Visitors were greeted at the door by staff members with over 30 years tenure at the College and it did not take long for the reminiscing and laughter to start. Old Boys gravitated towards their year groups and greeted old friends for the first time in many years. Stories were swapped, connections re-kindled and memories compared. It was, as identified by Rector, Stuart Hakeney, "Like a grand family reunion".

Of particular note was the large group of Old Boys from the 90s who gathered at the reunion. Many of them had been encouraged to attend by Matt Carney and were present at several events over the weekend. Numerous Old Boys came long distances including from Australia, the South island, Auckland and Wellington. Hundreds of old boys, former staff members, and those who've served on our College Council and Parents & Friends committee came along to celebrate their connection to Lindisfarne College. Former Head Boy, Atanas Dimitrov who travelled from Australia, even brought some of his grandchildren with him to show them his "old school". Tours of the College led by current students occupied Saturday morning while photographs were taken and the jazz band played on the Homestead lawn. Lunch was attended by over 160 Old Boys and special guests and Sir Joe Williams once again made his audience laugh and think in equal measure.

Sunday's proceedings opened with a breakfast for past and present Te Whāiti Scholars in the College dining room to celebrate 50 years of the Te Whāiti Scholarship. Sir Joe and other speakers reminded those present that they had an opportunity to create a more closely-knit community to support Te Whāiti



Te Whaiti Breakfast



Head Boy Event



scholars of the future just as they had been supported. The celebration weekend concluded on Sunday morning with a chapel service and morning tea.

All in all, it was a wonderful weekend, enjoyed by all involved. For current students of the College it was an opportunity to see the impact that Lindisfarne has had on so many lives. In his end-of-year speech, current Head Boy William Duncan related how he had escorted four first-day pupils of the College around at the celebrations:

“It was fascinating to me hearing them talk, as we toured the school, about just how much Lindisfarne meant to them more than 70 years on. As we walked, they reflected on a life well lived: one of friendships, community and purpose. Values introduced to them on their very first day. This prompted me to have a thought and a wish that I will leave you with today. Let us do the same. Let us live lives of friendship, community and purpose and meet back here, 70 years from now and share our stories. I’ll see you then.”

William Duncan, Head Prefect 2023



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Dux and Musician of the Year



Leo Guo

Leo is a very worthy recipient of this award achieving an outstanding grade point average of 100% across his five best Level Three subjects. Leo has taken six subjects for Level Three and all the credits sat at this level have been awarded with Excellence. In addition to this, Leo has come First in Class in five of his six subjects and was additionally awarded the Halstead Medallion for Excellence as a Science student and Academic Colours with Distinction. Over his school career, Leo has been awarded all three levels of NCEA with Excellence endorsements. Leo also excelled in the Cultural area receiving Musician of the Year, Outstanding Contribution to Drama, Best Shakespearean Actor, Best Senior Brass Musician, Best Senior Pianist and Best Concord Symphonic Band Soloist (shared with Callum Wallace).

While still in Year 12, Leo won the senior Proxime Accessit award and earned two scholarships in Chemistry and Accounting. Leo will be sitting a total of eight Scholarship exams in addition to his six NCEA subjects at the end of 2023. The College is enormously proud of Leo and his achievements and offers him heartiest congratulations!



Bruce Ruddenklau Award

George Kilsby

To the student who shows tolerance, concern for others, fair play, sportsmanship and determination



Galations Trophy

Thomas Turner

Awarded to the student who in the opinion of the staff displays the following qualities: patience, kindness, faithfulness, humility and self-control.

Herrick Award and Proxime Accessit



William Duncan

William Duncan is the recipient of the Proxime Accessit award for 2023. In order to achieve this award, William has had to maintain an outstanding academic record and has done so across all three years of NCEA study. This year, in spite of the additional work involved in being the College's Head Boy, William's GPA for NCEA Level Three is an incredible 100% which translates to achieving all credits attempted at this level with Excellence. He was awarded Academic Colours with Distinction this year and is entered for six NCEA Level Three examinations and an unbelievable eight New Zealand Scholarship examinations. At the final prize-giving, William was awarded prizes for coming first in Level Three English and Level Three geography. William is an outstanding young man who has achieved at a consistently high standard and is sure to go on to further success. Congratulations, William!



Good Man Award

Ned Gilligan

To the Year 13 students who in the judgement of the Year 13's of the college shows the qualities depicted in the Good Man Window – "Compassionate, Generous, Humble, Respectful, Humour, Principled, Reliable, Trustworthy, Service, Courage, Confident, Honest, Innovation, Adventure".



Best All Rounder/Athlete

Callum O'Keeffe

Year 13 Best All round Sportsman of the Year, Best All Rounder/Athlete, Senior Champion (Athletics), Best Performance of the Year (Athletics), Best Performance of the Year (Hockey), Outstanding Hockey Player, Senior Champion (Cross Country), Outstanding Athletics & Cross Country



Thomas Griffiths



Fergus Benefield



Max Tubby



Eddie Fennessy



George Dorwood

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT JUNIOR PRIZE GIVING

Junior Prize Giving was a wonderful conclusion to the College year. It was a joyous occasion as we celebrated the notable academic accomplishments of our junior students throughout the year.

Rector, Mr Stuart Hakeney, highlighted in his speech to the boys, "You don't have to come first, second, or third to improve."

He encouraged students to read their comprehensive end-of-year reports with parents, emphasising that these reports cover not just results but also social and study skills, providing valuable feedback for improvement. "We are in the business of progress and improvement. Keep trying, no matter where you're at, because that's the Lindisfarne Way."

Congratulations to all students for their hard work and commitment. Here's to continued growth and success on the Lindisfarne journey.

Major Awards

Years 7/8 Intelligent Behaviours
P.M.A Cup
George Dorward

Year 8 Diligence, Service, Honesty, Humility & Responsibility
Highways in the Heart Cup
Eddie Fennessy

Outstanding Contribution for Int. School
Todd Bradley Cater Robert Bowyer Cater Trophy
Max Tubby

Outstanding Contribution as a Year 9 boarder
J A Curran-Farne Shield
August Popadich

Outstanding Contribution as a Year 9 Dayboy
Greg Hughes Memorial Cup
Fergus Benefield

Striving, Learning, Achieving as a Year 9 Student
Shane Andrieux Memorial Trophy
Marcus Brownlie

Striving, Learning, Persevering in Year 10
Sutherland Cup
Thomas Griffiths



DARK HORSE ON THE POLO FIELD

HERBIE COATES

Herbie Coates' prowess on the polo field has been largely unknown at the College until recently when he was selected as part of a New Zealand U18 team to play in America. This is a considerable talent to have kept under wraps but a combination of the low media profile that polo has in New Zealand and Herbie's own modest demeanour have meant that not many people knew about his trip to America until after it had happened!

Herbie has been involved with horses and show jumping for many years but started to take polo seriously in 2021, joining his father in playing for the Hawke's Bay Polo Club. On Wednesdays and Saturdays in the season he plays chukkas at the club and from December onwards, gets involved with regional tournaments around the country. One of the most well-known of these is the Wine Country Tournament held in Hawke's Bay every year which attracts teams from all over the North and South Island. Herbie's chance for national selection this year came at a tournament in Christchurch and in spite of the tournament's being rained off, Herbie was selected as part of a four-man U18 team to represent New Zealand in America.

The New Zealand tour to America was concentrated on the east coast where polo is a very exclusive sport played by well-mounted players in magnificent facilities. This was certainly the case for the first game played at Harvard

University which the New Zealand team lost by 5:2. The Harvard hosts did soften the blow of defeat by hosting a quintessentially American "clam bake" with lavish quantities of lobster, clams and other seafood after the game. The next game was against Kingswood and the New Zealand team won by a convincing margin of 16 to 9. The final game was played against the American team at Farmington, Connecticut at an enormous polo facility surrounded by acres of lush paddocks. Unintimidated by the opulent surroundings, the Kiwi team managed to beat their opponents by 9 to 4.

A travelling polo team is always at a disadvantage playing overseas as they have to rely on horses provided for them by the opposition. Polo ponies are highly trained and sensitive animals and can be very temperamental with unfamiliar riders. For the last two games, the New Zealand team did not get a chance to ride their horses until the match but were still able to secure two wins. The New

Zealand team did extremely well to win these two games, especially one against a national side.

Fortunately, polo in New Zealand is not as expensive or elitist a game as it is in America as horses can be bought and trained for reasonable sums. The tack and gear is expensive but it is still comparable to other sports with specialist equipment. Herbie hopes to continue playing polo and to eventually improve his handicap to a point where he may be able to play professionally. This would open up a whole world of professional competition overseas. In the short term, Herbie has his sights set on an upcoming family tournament which will give him an opportunity to play with his sister and a much bigger Open Tournament later in the year in Auckland. He's also hopeful that an American polo team can be persuaded to play in New Zealand sometime in the future. We congratulate Herbie for coming this far with his polo and wish him the best of luck for the future.

THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE

EDDIE HARVEY

Learning music usually goes hand in hand with performing that music, often in public and for some students, this performance aspect can be an ordeal. For others, however, it offers a whole new dimension to their music studies. This is certainly the case for Eddie Harvey in Year 12 who has been a member of various Lindisfarne bands since he was in Year 8. Eddie started out playing the trumpet before switching to the euphonium which he still plays in the Symphonic Band. It is, however, as a vocalist with the Lindisfarne rock band, The Escalators that Eddie entered the limelight and discovered his true love of performance.



The Escalators, consisting of Carl Marshall on bass, Sam Young on saxophone, Daniel Pascoe on keyboard, George Taylor on guitar, Ben Curry on lead/rhythm guitar, Ryan Palmer on drums and Eddie on vocals have been together as a band for two years. They took their inspiration from Jerry's Garden, an earlier Lindisfarne rock band that had notable success with the annual Rock Quest competition. The Escalators started out doing covers of Queen songs and wrote their first song, "That's the Hard Part" for Rock Quest last year. All of the band members get involved with composing their songs but Eddie usually writes the lyrics. The band had to have a new song for each round of Rock Quest and wrote "Up, Going Down" for the second round. Eddie recalls that they submitted the recording of the song that was done at House Music to a very enthusiastic response from the entire school. "I think it was that recording with the great crowd participation and the whole school singing along that won us the award for the best song," said Eddie.

On an average day, Eddie would be described as a quiet student with an outstanding academic record who spends a lot of time in the library but once he gets on stage, a whole new persona emerges. Eddie is the first to acknowledge that his onstage personality brings out a previously unknown side to him. "When I am performing, nothing else matters. It's as if I am someone else. Performing has made me much more confident. Mr Stuart, my English teacher, says I'm like a different person and I agree with him!" Says Eddie. Being thrust into the limelight does have its downside as Eddie has discovered, "I love performing but I don't really like the attention it generates when I'm not on stage," he added.



Seeing Eddie's performance skills and his Mick Jagger-style dancing, encouraged Mr Dave Selfe to recruit him as a singer for the Jazz Band on their tour to the Bay of Islands Jazz Festival. This was a great success and the Lindisfarne Jazz Band was praised as one of the top items of the festival. Mr Selfe commented on Eddie's performance,

"You never have to tell Eddie to move, it's like he knows instinctively what to do. He is a completely natural follower of the beat."

The boys have always enjoyed Eddie's performances and respond

loudly and enthusiastically to all his appearances. At the Jazz Band's performance in the Performing Arts Concert this year, the audience seemed a little intimidated by the grand setting of the Toitoti Arts Centre but Eddie, with a little help from Mr Anton Wutts, soon got them warmed up to the powerful rhythms of Poges' Fiesta. Eddie may not like the attention he gets from his performances but Lindisfarne students have certainly become aware of his exceptional talent. Performing with The Escalators and the Jazz Band has also given Eddie a chance to express his creative side in a totally unexpected way. Who knows what may come next in his musical career?

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STRENGTHENING THE FOUNDATION

THE HOMESTEAD REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The Homestead refurbishment is all but completed with only a few small details and finishing touches to tick off. All the dust and noise, the disruption and disorder of the last two years have been replaced by gleaming wooden panelling, deep pile carpets, sweeping staircases, modern bathrooms and functional office spaces. The vision that prompted the College Council to embark on the long and complicated process culminating in a first-class refurbishment of our iconic administration building has been fulfilled and entirely justified.

Five years ago, however, when the project kicked off, it was not always apparent that this was the right approach. There was no doubt that the Homestead needed a facelift as the worn carpets and dingy paint were no longer in keeping with the gracious old building that stands at the centre of the College. The dilemma was whether more than a lick of paint and a new carpet was needed since the last refurbishment over 24 years ago. This would certainly have been the cheapest option but the Homestead was barely earthquake compliant at 36% and the risk of fire to such an old building was high so the College Council decided to do the job properly and embark on a full earthquake strengthening,

refurbishment and installation of fire protection to protect and restore the Lindisfarne Homestead.

It was decided, in consultation with the builders, Gemco, and architect, Gerald Cogan from BSM Architects, that the project would be done in two phases so that at least a part of the building could be used at different times. The first phase which started on 8th January 2022 entailed less disruption in terms of relocation but was actually the larger part of the project and involved steel beams being introduced to support the enlarged staff room and an earthquake compliant staircase erected on the end of the building. During this process, it was decided to create a passageway linking the new staircase with the verandah and

this in turn created the opportunity to build two additional offices.

The second phase of the project which started on 9th January this year had far more impact in terms of offices that had to relocate and it wasn't unusual to see students wandering around the College saying "Where does Mr Howlett live now?" The entire reception and admin team had to move to the Herrick building and elsewhere and Mr Hakeney settled into a new office on the first floor. Gradually the first phase of the building was completed and as the new panelling, carefully constructed to match the old, was unveiled, it became obvious that all the confusion and chaos



had been worth it. The College is extremely grateful to Gemco and Mr Cogan for their professionalism and expertise which have contributed to an outstanding finished product.

The refurbished Homestead retains all of its character and heritage charm but it is fresher and more attractive and functions better as a modern workplace. Full credit must be given to the College Council, Sharon Wards and John Wakeman for pushing ahead with this

project even through the difficult days of COVID. Particular recognition should also go to Mr Barry Law who dealt with the general oversight of the project and the innumerable decisions that that entailed with meticulous attention to detail and a dash of flair. Mr Law commented on the project, "COVID and problems with supply of materials have unfortunately meant that the original budget and timeframe for this job have been exceeded but the finished project is a great success showing a

wonderful balance between heritage and functionality."

For a building that represents so much in the history of both the College and the Herrick family, it is fitting that the Homestead be given a refurbishment that will preserve it for many more years.



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FACULTY SNAPSHOT

DESIGN

The following are a sample of boards from the end-of-year exhibition of NCEA visual art portfolios. The boards in the exhibition are prepared for Painting, Design and Photography classes and showcase the accumulated work of students which has been developed throughout the year. The boards are submitted for external assessment and sent down to Wellington to be marked.



Brock Austin Year 13



Isaac Boere Year 13



Henry Klingender Year 12



Matt McKendry Year 11

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, for this is what the prophet has written: “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2:1-12

TAKING OPPORTUNITIES

A SERMON BY PHILIP LARKIN

The reading you just heard is about the journey of the Magi to find Jesus. We often remember these Magi as the three wise men who brought the gifts of frankincense, myrrh, and gold to Jesus shortly after he was born. This started the tradition of giving gifts on Christmas. For many, Christmas is about spending time with family, being grateful for what you have and celebrating the birth of Jesus. For us it's about getting presents. However, it is important that we remember how Christmas started and the journey the Magi took to find Jesus for reasons I will talk about soon.

For now, I want to talk about something recent that happened to me. As you all know our head boy was announced a couple of weeks ago. However, before that, a select group of boys underwent interviews for the head boy position. Now I applied for head boy and quite confidently, thought I would get an interview; I knew I wouldn't get head boy, but I thought I was good enough for an interview. When inevitably the interview texts came, I didn't receive one. At first I felt disappointed. I felt as if I had deserved an interview and was good enough. After a few days though I realised that I had been in a bit over my head. You see, I thought about what those boys had that I didn't and unfortunately for me, the list was long. Those boys had natural leadership skills, impressive accomplishments, contributed to all cornerstones of the school but most importantly they all fully committed themselves to the six-character value flags you see standing outside of this chapel. While many of us excel in certain values, we fall short in others. For me that is courage. Most of the time I've been happy to just sit aside and let someone else volunteer and take an opportunity; let someone else volunteer to do waiting at an awards dinner; let someone else audition for the production; let someone else join the small house choir for house music; let someone else volunteer to do a sermon in chapel.

I thought, "So many other boys don't volunteer so no one will notice or care that I didn't". What I needed to learn is while people don't notice the boys who don't volunteer they do notice the boys who put their hands up time after time. This is the value all natural leaders and men of good character have. They have the courage to put their hands up and say, "I will do that", even if they're not talented at it. All of you sitting in here today have endless opportunities at Lindisfarne. We are blessed as a school to have access to all the things we do. I encourage you to all start taking more of the opportunities available to you, have the courage to be the leaders who raise their hands. I understand we are not good at everything. You aren't going to see me in the 1st XV running straight at a 150kg unit but you are going to see me

supporting and helping my mates who are in the 1st XV team.



There are so many ways in which you can contribute to your community and school even if you aren't talented in a certain area. The idea of taking the opportunities in life brings me back to the reading about the journey of the Magi to find Jesus. I think this journey they took is representative of the journey of life. The Magi took a journey to find Jesus, along the way they would've faced forks in the road where they needed to choose what direction they would take, one way leading them closer to Jesus and then other away from Jesus. Like the Magi we are all on a path. Walking our way through life. Some of us are early in the journey, while some of us are well into this journey. No matter where we are on this path we can choose what way we walk, the path we want to take. The choices you make in the next three to seven years will shape the future of your path. What you learn here at school gives you the tools to navigate your path in the future. So, I want to ask you what path do you want to take? Do you want to be a doctor? Do you want to join the military? Do you want to work on the farm? Whatever path you want

to take, the choice is yours and you are responsible for following that path.

God has given us free will, he has given us the ability to make choices. But every time you make a choice you come to junction in your path. Making a bad decision like not doing homework will set you down the wrong path while a good decision keeps you on track. You may ask yourself what impact not doing your homework will have in the long term? And you may be right, you can easily find your way back on your path, but that detour you took slowed you down compared to others on similar paths. If you start making wrong decisions in this part of your journey, it will likely continue into later parts of your journey, pushing you further and further off your path. So, like the Magi, are you going to follow the right path for you, or are you going to make wrong decisions and be pushed off your path?

There will be times in life where you are pushed off your path by external forces you can't control. But the way in which you get back on your path shows the type of person you are. On their journey the Magi would've faced many hardships and obstacles, however, they overcame these obstacles and continued on their path to Jesus. Even in the toughest times, the Magi persevered and found Jesus. Being pushed off your path can be frustrating and disheartening. Some may give up and live with what they've been dealt but the people who work hard to get back onto their path even in tough times, like the Magi, are the people who will prevail in life. Not getting a head boy interview pushed me off my planned path, but I have taken this detour as an opportunity to grow, it has been a wake-up call for me to start working harder. So, when you are next knocked off your path, will you give up and stay off your path, or will you work hard to find your way back onto your path? To quote Albert Einstein "Adversity introduces a man to himself."

FOLLOWING THE DREAM

JOHNNY MCINTYRE (1990-1994)

So often in life our dreams for the future are tempered by reality and the demands of daily life. We are told to focus on the practical and aim for achievable goals and most of us comply with that sensible advice. How refreshing it is then, to hear of someone who focussed on his dream from the start and set out to achieve it even when it seemed impossible. John McIntyre, or Johnny Mac as he is known, is such a person and his career in Supercars is a lesson in pursuing the dream.

John started at Lindisfarne in 1990 and unlike many schoolboys, really enjoyed school, as he recalls, "My enduring memories were of looking forward to going to school every day (except Sundays for Chapel) and making friends with a diverse group of guys. We had a big intake for the 1990 year and there were very few people that I knew, in fact almost none. But by the end of the first term, it felt like a great place to be and with lots of good friendship made. There were many highlights for me, mainly around going on sporting exchanges to places like Rathkeale, St Kents, St Peters and more for rugby. We always seemed to punch above our weight and generally came away with the wins. Making the Rugby 1st XV was a real goal for me, and I achieved that in my last year in 1994. Other than missing out on seconds on a roast lunch day, I don't really have any lows and if there were any, they would have just been self-inflicted!"

"It's fair to say that the College had a great mix of teachers and what I thought was a wide variety of subjects. They all had different ways of teaching, but the main thing I remember is they were all very supportive and wanted to help you perform the best you could. I think someone who had an impact on me was Jamie Francis. He just had a great way about him with everyone, and knowledge in so many subjects and sports. He was an ultimate team player, a leader and immediately commanded your respect. RIP Jamie."

Even at school, John was determined to get into motor racing and launched himself into sport the minute school finished!

"Leaving my last exam for Accounting in 7th form we drove to Wellington where I was to race in the Wellington Street Race in a support category. Needless to say, I had other things on my mind in the exam than the accounting! I wanted a career in motor racing but at 17 and living in NZ I really didn't know how to go about it, so I went to Polytech in Auckland to study a business diploma to have a "back-up plan" in case the



racing didn't work out. I then moved to Christchurch in 1996 as a team I was racing for was based there. After finishing the diploma in Christchurch and enjoying a student lifestyle, I sold cars at Archibalds. Selling cars kept me involved in cars and most dealers were involved or sympathetic to someone who wanted to take weekends off to go racing, so it worked well".

"I met my wife Lisa in Christchurch and then in 2001 my next major racing opportunity took us up to Auckland. We were based there from 2001-2007 and had our two daughters, Ruby and Matilda while living in Mangere Bridge. My life-long goal was to race at the Bathurst 1000, and I achieved that in 2004. I was getting more professional racing opportunities and at the same time selling cars again. In 2006 I started my own team, John McIntyre Racing to enter the NZV8 Championship. I made this my full-time job/business and would need 83 sponsors in the first season to fund the \$500k plus running budget. That was a real eye opener! In 2007 we decided to leave Auckland and move to Nelson where we had holidayed and fell in love with the area. From that time until 2016 I was driving professionally in NZ and Australia and had a successful run with seven drives at Bathurst and some great results. As my professional racing opportunities reduced, I started an events company and ran four yearly events, two for road cycling and two for multisport. I also started a branding business, selling branded beer and wine products for company gifts. This business has now grown into NZBRANDCO, a full-service branding company supplying everything from unbranded PPE to

branded merchandise and apparel. I have always been involved with branded products from an early age with my exposure to sponsorship in motor racing. I really enjoy presenting a business brand in a professional manner. So, building my business is my major focus now and luckily, I still get to drive GT cars in Endurance Racing in NZ. My racing career has set up my business opportunities."

Although Lindisfarne is a different world from that of motor racing, John feels that the high standards and discipline boys were held to definitely helped him in his career and life. He also believes the speech making had an impact on his sporting career and was a very valuable skill to learn at school. To boys still at the college, John had this to say:

"It is a real privilege to attend Lindisfarne College. There will be so many opportunities that are offered to you and you need to maximise those. Being at school is easy compared to working life, so enjoy your time there and don't go for the "back-up plan. If you have a real talent or desire to achieve something, make that your sole focus. There's plenty of time when you are young to change your direction if needed. Be brave."

Great advice from someone who had the courage to pursue their own dream!





THE RETURN OF A MUCH LOVED TRADITION

This year for the first time since 2019, we have been able to welcome back to the College those special people in our students' lives: their grandparents! The school was abuzz with excitement as over 300 grandparents and their grandsons came together for Grandparents Day. This is a wonderful opportunity for grandparents to visit the College and gain some insight into what daily life is like for their grandsons. Many

grandparents travelled long distances to be at this occasion and some boys who were not able to host their own grandparents, invited an older person who has been significant in their lives.

The day featured a morning tea, a small concert by students, and personalised tours of the school led by the grandsons. Grandsons also gifted hand-written thank you cards to their grandparents, to let

them know how special they are. This event marked a poignant return to our cherished tradition, and the smiles and connections made were wonderful to see. This occasion was enjoyed by all involved and is a graphic demonstration of the importance of family and community. Family photos can be found on the College Flickr page, this can be found on the footer of the website.

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MANU KORERO COMPETITION

TOP-LEVEL ORATORY

After a hiatus of three years, the National Manu Korero competition has again taken place as a live event, held this year in Ōtepoti Dunedin. This prestigious event is seen as the flagship for Māori language education, effectively showcasing the oratory skills of students from all over the motu and acting as an inspiration for Māori language students everywhere. Students are able to deliver speeches in Māori or English and the standard of speaking and presentation is outstanding. This year we had two entries into the competition: Heremia McGarvey, in the Pei Te Hurinui Jones Senior Māori Prepared and Impromptu sections and Te Awarangi Puketapu-Pene in the Sir Turi Carroll Junior English section. Heremia was defending his title of best overall Māori speaker for 2022.

The Lindisfarne contestants were accompanied by a support group which went to 'tautoko' our boys and were led by Mr Robbie Dunlop. They travelled down with a group of students from Karamu High School whose Head Girl, Lena Ormsby, was also a competitor. Both schools were able to offer support and encouragement to each other and provided a reassuring presence on stage. Thanks must go particularly to Mr Dunlop for his manaaki and support to the group. While the contestants spent long hours preparing and practising before the competition, the support team had the opportunity to visit the Head Office of Farra Engineering, a heavy engineering company that had kindly sponsored the Lindisfarne contingent with the use of a van. They also went to the University of Otago where their liaison officer from the Manu Korero competition, Mariana Te

Pou, gave the group a wonderful tour of campus.

The competition was spread over three days and was of an exceptional standard, as Mr Dunlop relates, "The speakers kept us captivated with their compelling speeches and their stage presence". Unfortunately, Te Awarangi had been ill at the beginning of the week but he recovered enough to fly down to Dunedin in time for his event on Thursday. He gave an excellent speech but the competition was stiff and the smallest details meant marks were lost. No cue cards or visual aids are allowed at this level of the competition. In the final results Te Awarangi was placed 5th while Heremia was first equal in the prepared speech and his overall result was second equal. Very few marks separated the final placements and both boys did extremely well in a difficult

and stressful competition. Heremia commented on the competition,

"Taking part in the Manu Korero competition this year with such amazing speakers has emphasised for me the value of learning Te Reo."

Congratulations to both boys on their outstanding performances in this top-ranking competition.



MOUNTAIN BIKING

FROM 3 TO 33

"If you drive the van, Sir. We'll do everything else!" This was the promise that the inaugural members of the Lindisfarne mountain biking club made to Rev. Steve Dunnett to convince him to get involved. Reverend Dunnett is no stranger to the sport of mountain biking but he realised very quickly that the boys who were advocating for support were in a different league. Reuben Mitchell, Matt Quinney and Ollie Newton were passionate about mountain biking and determined to make the sport available at Lindisfarne. The boys who joined up later like James Strong, Hadley McDougall, Fraser Ross and Cameron Strong were equally committed and keen to build the profile of the sport at the College.



From the beginning, the aims of the group were to have fun, be safe and support each other and they have stuck to this ethos religiously. The very nature of mountain biking means that it is an accident-prone sport but a strong emphasis on safety and an awareness of the risks can mitigate the dangers involved. Rev Dunnett also starts each meeting with a prayer to get that extra bit of insurance! The first trip the club embarked on was to the North Island championships in 2021 with five boys and their bikes. Since then, the sport has grown enormously with numbers swelling to almost 40 at times. To accommodate this, the College has acquired two trailers to transport bikes. Many boys are also joining from the Intermediate school and all age groups have competed in the North Island championships and the nationals in downhill, Enduro and cross-country categories.

Of course, the instigators of the club have all left school now, but this year a serendipitous meeting with Old Boys, Reuben Mitchell, Ollie Newton and Ben Barclay led to an afternoon of old and new members of the Lindisfarne mountain biking community riding together. The Old Boys were able to give great practical advice and coaching to the younger riders and they spent the whole afternoon riding alongside the younger boys, encouraging, and motivating them. The Old Boys have offered to come out again and even take time off work to support those new to the sport. This willingness to help and to lift the skill levels of others in the group seems typical of the mountain biking group.

Rev. Dunnett acknowledges that he would not have been able to keep the mountain biking club going without the parents especially Roger Wiffen and

Meryn Hemmingson who has relieved him of much of the administration. Nathan and Ali Strong were also of enormous help in the early years. The level of commitment from the parents seems to equal that of their sons. Also important is the invaluable support of Mr Harrison who helps with the weekly training and Ms Akeripa who makes sure all the boys are race registered.

When asked what he loved about the sport Rev. Dunnett summed it up, "The joy of mountain biking lies in giving boys who don't enjoy other sports, a chance to get involved in something they are passionate about. Their expertise and enjoyment create a positive atmosphere that goes much further than the mountain biking trail."



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Junior Production

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

This year, co-directors Kathy Atkin (Lindisfarne College) and Ruby Masom (Iona College) joined forces for the first joint combined production in the history Lindisfarne College. It was also the first time in recent years that our junior students had performed a drama by William Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Unfortunately, inclement weather forced the staging of the play from the Homestead lawn to indoors in the Lowe Performing Arts Centre. This proved to be an excellent space in which the fairy lights, cleverly basic staging, sumptuous 16th Century costuming and props, together with fantastic acting and diction came together to produce an overall highly successful show. It was a steep learning curve for the cast of Year 7 - 9 students who had clearly worked hard

on learning and understanding their lines and roles and they did incredibly well with the challenges of Shakespearian dialogue. One boy in particular, Dominic Goodenough, gave an outstanding performance in the role of Bottom, displaying skillful acting and exceptional comic timing.

The cast delivered a second outstanding performance at The Blyth Performing Arts Centre, Iona College on the following

evening. The laughter and cheers from the audience served as testament to the high quality of the performances over the two nights. We extend our gratitude to the dedicated staff from both schools who contributed to the success of the production, including their efforts in costumes, staging, directing, makeup, and all the intricate details that made it an exceptional experience.





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FOOTBALL

REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

Fluctuating fortunes are common with most sports teams, especially school teams which are subject to the annual loss of the most experienced players. Just occasionally, however, the trajectory of a team seems to trend consistently upwards and this has been the case with the Lindisfarne football team over the past few years. The team has always had a long-term goal according to Coach Henry Harland with a strong emphasis on building depth and developing new players. All of this was meant to come to fruition in 2024 when the team is scheduled to go on an extensive overseas tour, but in one of those happy accidents that happen with good teams, it all came together this year!

Lindisfarne's football team is not only the winner of the Hawke's Bay secondary school championships for 2023, for only the second time in the College's history, but also the holder of the Dean Ronberg Challenge Shield and the Lindisfarne College Sports Team of the Year. Henry Harland attributes this success in large part to the Year 13s who stepped up as leaders and role models. There were only three Year 13 boys in the team this year; Julian Schmith, Rene O'Sullivan and Alex Davies but they took on the burden of

leadership with a positivity that had an enormous impact on the ethos of the team. Key player, Harry Huxford was very aware of how important the team spirit was: "The team this year was different to other years I've been involved, with all the boys and coaches in and around our squad set to achieve our goals. The culture of the squad was top tier." The biggest challenge for the football team this year was to beat arch-rival Napier Boys in the local secondary schools' league and luckily this match

took place at the College. "The support of all the people who turned out to watch, staff, students and parents, gave us a huge psychological advantage and the boys were able to exploit this," said Mr Harland. Harry also identified this game as crucial: "This game was key in our qualification for the nationals and winning the school league. Alex Davies was the stand out with two goals and the team overall won 3-1." Tom Speers also described this game as, "One of my favourite football memories ever! This



was our first victory over Napier in 12 years."

The national tournament in Christchurch was another highlight of the season with some incredibly tense and hard fought games. Lindisfarne beat Scots, who had previously beaten us in an inter-schools game, on literally the last kick of the match: a free kick by Harry Huxford which bounced between a defender and the

keeper and found the back of the net. In the nil-all draw against much higher ranked Mount Albert Grammar, Captain Julian Schmith, had an incredible game, helping Lindisfarne to cling tenaciously to the draw.

Congratulations must go to all the boys who committed so wholeheartedly to the team this year and to the staff who helped them achieve their success, Mr Harland and Mr Petersen in particular. With many

skillful and experienced players like Harry and Tom only in Year 12, the Lindisfarne football team seems poised for another great year in 2024!

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LIONS CLUB

YOUNG ACHIEVERS

Every year, schools in Hawke's Bay are asked by the local Lions Club to nominate two students who have achieved at a high level in a range of fields. This year Lindisfarne College nominees are William Duncan and Leo Guo.

William Duncan

William Duncan, this year's Head Boy, and the recipient of the Proxime Accessit award has achieved outstanding success in a wide range of areas including academics, drama, oratory, music and debating. He is a superb student, who earned three NZ Scholarships in English, Biology and Statistics in 2022 as a Year 12 student and has achieved all Level Three credits with Excellence. He was awarded Academic Colours with Distinction this year.

William is a three-time winner of the College's Senior Impromptu Speech Competition and a talented actor who took the lead role of Billy Flynn in the 2023 Iona College production of 'Chicago', and appeared in Lindisfarne's production of, "The Addams Family". He plays the trumpet and is a senior figure in the school's jazz and symphonic bands. Outside of his cultural commitments, William is equally at home on the football field or the tennis court.

He is also an active member of the community and has served on the Hastings Youth Council, been a Red Cross Ambassador and taken an active role in supporting the local Women's Refuge.

William is a superb leader whose mature, focused approach and total commitment to the cornerstones of the College have made him a wonderful example to his peers. William plans to study health science next year with a future pathway in medicine.

Leo Guo

Leo is a gifted musician and a high-achieving academic who was awarded Proxime Accessit as a Year 12 student and went on to become Dux of the College in 2023. He has achieved all Level Three credits with Excellence and was awarded Academic Colours with Distinction this year. Leo was selected as one of 30 students across Aotearoa to participate in the NZ Chemistry Olympiad this year.

A member of the Hawke's Bay Youth Orchestra for six years, Leo is a gifted musician who plays both piano and trombone. He was selected as Musician of the Year in the College for 2022 and awarded Associate of the Royal Schools of Music with Distinction and 1st place in the Hawke's Bay Festival of Bands Soloist Section. In 2022, Leo was named the Hawke's Bay Young Musician of the Year. Leo also had a lead role in Lindisfarne's production of "The Addams Family" this year.

As a member of the Hastings Youth Council for 2023, Leo makes a fine community contribution and performs regular piano concerts for the Heretaunga Aged Society. Leo is one of the College's Academic Prefects and in this role he displays a quiet determination and genuine leadership that inspires others. He makes a respected contribution to a wide range of groups in the College and to the academic and cultural cornerstones. Leo plans to study engineering in 2024.

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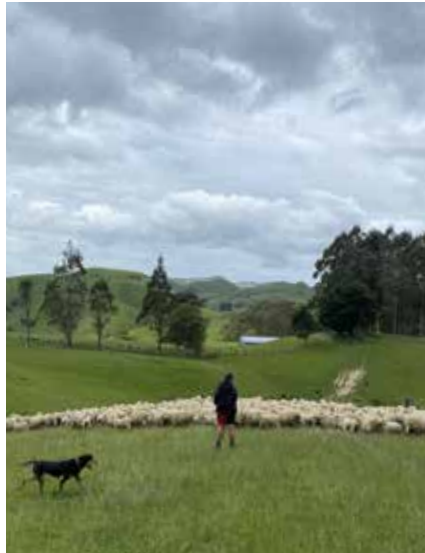
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

One of the most important aspects of education is to prepare our students for future employment but many boys struggle to see the usefulness of the subjects they study at school in relation to their future jobs. Lindisfarne teachers always work hard in the classroom to ensure the relevance of their subjects to students' career aspirations but sometimes it takes some experience outside the classroom for boys to realise how school can assist them with their future jobs.

Lachie Wooldridge is one of the many students who had no idea what he wanted to do as a career when he started at the College. Lachie is vision-impaired and although that has not limited the range of subjects he has studied, it may have had an impact on the careers open to him. Fortunately, for Lachie, however, he became aware of the work that was done by the technical team for assemblies, school productions and even outside events. As Lachie relates, "I wasn't even aware that sound technician was a job until I came to Lindisfarne. I saw what George Walton and his team were doing and it sparked an interest in me. I thought, I could do that kind of thing."

Starting as a junior member with the tech team and guided by the more experienced seniors, Lachie has grown his knowledge and expertise across numerous situations and events. He was also able to pursue more vocational training through the Gateway programme which placed him with a company owned and operated by another Lindisfarne Old Boy, George Ebbett. George operates "Sight and Sound Services" which is a well-known local business providing technical support for events. Upon completion of the Gateway course, George offered Lachie a part-time job opportunity and Lachie has completed numerous jobs for "Sight and Sound Services" including two events during the recent school holidays.

Lachie will be leaving Lindisfarne at the end of the year and plans to follow a career as a sound technician. "I'm really grateful for the experience that I've had at Lindisfarne", said Lachie, "It has opened up a whole career for me and I feel like I have been able to give back to the school too." Lachie's long service in the tech team has certainly been appreciated and he will be sorely missed. Let's hope he has been training his successor!



Another student who has been able to pursue vocational opportunities at Lindisfarne is Sam Rasmussen. Unlike Lachie though, Sam always knew what he wanted to do when he left school and that was be a farmer. Sam started pursuing his passion by doing Ag.Skills courses in Year 11. This is an extramural course that aims to give boys skills in many practical areas related to agriculture such as chain saw use and driving ATVs and LUVs. As Sam describes it,

"Lots of us have grown up on farms and think we know how to do these things, but it is really good to learn the right way and have a qualification to show for it."

The shooting team is an additional area of expertise that Sam has developed at Lindisfarne and last year, he was part of the team that took out the national title

after a tense shoot out. This year Sam has dropped shooting to concentrate on playing with the 1st XV in his final year. Sam has also enjoyed Technology at Lindisfarne as this has given him lots of practical experience in design and manufacture. This year Sam was selected for the Gateway programme which allowed him to get involved with farming by working with Mark Heaphy of Ocean Beach Farms one day a week. With all this experience behind him, Sam has secured a job for next year working for the Ellinghams on Waikopiro Farms. We are sure he will make a great success of it.

It is testimony to Sam's success with the Gateway programme that he has been awarded the Prime Minister's award for Vocational Excellence this year. This is a relatively new award instigated in 2019 to celebrate the success of secondary students engaged in vocational programmes. The award of \$2,000 is intended to encourage future innovators, creators and tradespeople in all sectors and lift the status of vocational programmes in secondary schools. Sam is a very well-deserving recipient of this prestigious award and hopefully it will help him launch his career in farming.

“I’m really grateful for the experience that I’ve had at Lindisfarne. It has opened up a whole career for me and I feel like I have been able to give back to the school too.”

Lachlan Wooldridge, Year 13





PASSING OF THE BATON

At certain times in the life of a school, there is a sense that an era is ending and that the baton is being passed to the next members of the team. This is certainly the case at Lindisfarne this year as we farewell a group of staff with combined service of over 130 years. The departing group of Ross Barry, Murray Smith, Stuart Duff and Glen Petersen take with them a wealth of institutional knowledge and experience as well as a lifetime of memories and shared history. Their service and loyalty to the College has been exemplary and will set a high bar for those that follow.

Ross Barry

Mr Ross Barry completed an amazing 40 years at Lindisfarne College and will be remembered by generations of Lindisfarne students, parents and teachers. Throughout his tenure, especially in his role as Assistant Rector In Charge of Curriculum, Mr Barry was unwavering in maintaining the academic rigor of the College through many iterations and reconstructions of the national curriculum. He was always a staunch advocate for an academic pathway for able students and gave many boys the opportunity to accelerate their studies and take university papers while still at school. Mr Barry has provided steadfast and committed service to the senior management group and made a real contribution to the academic excellence of the College.

Mr Barry has coached innumerable hockey, basketball and tennis teams at Lindisfarne including the 1st hockey XI for several years. He was largely responsible for the development of hockey at Lindisfarne, arriving, as he did, at a school where the emphasis was on the major sports of rugby and cricket. He provided excellent, structured coaching and a strong analytical approach to the game which led inevitably to increased success and improved prominence for hockey.

Above all, Mr Barry was a dedicated and caring teacher with an outstanding grasp of his subject and consequently, the subject of Economics grew substantially in popularity during his time at the College with many students gaining Scholarships. The College thanks Mr Barry for his significant contribution and wishes him a very happy and well-earned retirement.

Murray Smith

Although leaving Lindisfarne and the teaching profession at the end of the year, Mr Murray Smith has been adamant that he is not retiring! Whatever he decides to do in his 'retirement' Murray will be a great loss to the College. He has been Head of Department for Physical Education at Lindisfarne since 1990 and has coached almost every sport imaginable although his great interests have always been rugby, athletics and swimming.

Mr Smith who has swum competitively himself, has gone above and beyond to promote swimming at Lindisfarne. At the NZ Secondary Schools swimming championships this year Murray was nominated for the Caltex Good Sport award for his tireless efforts and

outstanding qualities as coach and mentor of the Lindisfarne team which have transformed the lives of countless young swimmers and elevated the profile of swimming at Lindisfarne College. Many individual swimmers have flourished under Mr Smith's devoted and inspirational coaching. So too have track and field athletes at Lindisfarne. Mr Smith is renowned for his efficient and meticulous organisation of both Lindisfarne and regional athletics competitions and the same careful planning was also a feature of cross country events. Mr Smith coached the 1st XV rugby team for several years but in recent times has been the devoted coach of the D grade rugby team earning many appearances in the Long Room.

In the classroom, Mr. Smith was an outstanding teacher who will be remembered for his dedication to his students many of whom achieved Scholarships in PE thanks to Mr Smith's early morning tutorials. Nothing was ever too much trouble to Mr Smith and his calm demeanour and good humour endeared him to students and staff alike. We wish him happiness in all that his future holds.

Stuart Duff

Mr Stuart Duff's association with the College goes back to 1974 when he started as a junior boarder. He later returned to the College in 1990 to relieve for a sabbatical and after completing a teaching qualification, Mr Duff returned to the College permanently in 1992. Many Lindisfarne students will attest to the fact that Mr Duff is an outstanding teacher of Accounting. His structured and rigorous approach gives boys the perfect grounding in the subject and enables them to achieve great success. The most notable success has been achieved in Scholarship Accounting for which Mr Duff has an uncanny ability to predict the questions that will be asked in the exam. Numerous students of Mr Duff's have won Accounting Scholarships and two; Nick Ward in 2014 and Zac Maulder in 2021, were awarded Top Scholar i.e. the highest Scholarship mark in the country. Many of Mr Duff's students have gone on to study business and accounting at university.

Mr Duff is himself an accomplished sportsman, having played cricket and golf at international level and he has always been very actively involved in sport at Lindisfarne. He coached cricket from 1990 to 2023, hockey from 1992 to 2020 and recently, golf. During his incredibly dedicated coaching career, he coached the 1st Cricket XI for nine years and has seen many boys selected for

representative and national teams. The College wishes Mr Duff the best for his future and we will all be watching out for his golfing exploits!

Glen Petersen

Mr Glen Petersen is leaving Lindisfarne at the end of the year to pursue a new career direction, bringing to a close a 32-year teaching career and association with Lindisfarne that has taken him through the roles of student, teacher, parent, Dean and Director of Boarding and Sport. Mr Petersen has taught a variety of subjects from Science to Physical Education with flair and commitment and, as Director of Boarding, helped create a nurturing and supportive boarding environment. In 2015, he received an award from the New Zealand Boarding Schools Organisation for exceptional service and dedication.

Mr Petersen is a talented sportsman who has guided College teams and individuals to outstanding success. He coached senior tennis teams from 1992 to 2006 and has been involved with football for even longer (1992-2023). Under the guidance of Mr Petersen (and latterly, Mr Harland) the 1st football team has been Hawke's Bay Secondary School winners in 2010 and 2023 and in 2023 were the North Island Secondary School Champions. Mr Petersen was also involved in taking two football tours to Australia and two to America.

Mr Petersen's logistical skills came to the fore when he organised the New Zealand Boarding Schools Conference in Napier with over 200 delegates in 2012. Prior to that he had a pivotal role in the IBSC Conference held at Lindisfarne in 2009 with 400 international delegates. Many would consider, however, that Mr Petersen's greatest contribution to Lindisfarne is the establishment (with Sandy Kennedy), of support to the Hawke's Bay Women's Refuge for which he received the NZ Boarding Schools Community Charity Award in 2018. The dedication and compassion that Mr Petersen has shown in this project will undoubtedly be of great assistance to him in his new role. Mr Petersen will be sorely missed at Lindisfarne.



PETER BUCKLEIGH

1960-1964

Peter Buckleigh came to Lindisfarne College in 1960 from what was then the very rural environment of Taupō, following in his brother David's footsteps. There were about 150 students at the College in that era and like so many boys, Peter has fond memories of everything except the classroom! He was involved with rugby, including the 1st XV for two years, cadets and athletics and became Deputy Head Prefect in 1964.

After school, Peter went on to a variety of jobs and some further education in the form of a Science Diploma at the Central Institute of Technology in Petone. A stint overseas and a few more years working followed before Peter took up a position at EMI in the sales division and embarked on a career with EMI that would last 30 years and take him all around the world. The music business was booming in the 70s, 80s and 90s and when Peter joined EMI, it was the biggest music company in the world with stars like The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Queen, The Beach Boys, Cliff Richard and The Shadows, and Cilla Black in their stable.

As music tastes changed and evolved, EMI led the way or followed into dance, punk, electronica, heavy metal, disco, hard rock and other genres, signing or developing artists such as Kate Bush, David Bowie, The Rolling Stones, Dianna

Ross, Iron Maiden, Norah Jones, Spice Girls and Radio Head to name a few.

After working in London for a while, Peter returned to New Zealand as Managing Director and then moved on to Japan where EMI was involved in a ground-breaking collaboration with Toshiba. After working overseas for many years with his family, wife Lesley, son Michael born in the UK, and daughter Hanna born in Japan, Peter decided in his mid 50's that it was time to concentrate on the children's educations. He had always felt that the music business was a young person's game and they returned to live in New Zealand.

Being Managing Director of a large music company was a diverse and challenging role but Peter always felt that it was the relationships with the artists that were the most important aspect of

the job. Interestingly, he attributes his success in this area partly to the open communication between the teachers and the students at Lindisfarne which taught him the importance of confident face to face discussions, being able to accept criticism and divergent points of view and the acceptance of embracing change whether it be driven by commerce or fashion dictates. Peter is still thrilled when he hears on radio, TV or a streaming platform, one of the artists he was connected with and he still meets up with some of them when they are in the country.

Till recent times Peter ran his own branded watch importing business and now resides in Waimauku, spending his time between his home there and the beaches at Tutukaka.



The Jazz Band Goes On Tour

TO THE BAY OF ISLANDS

For the second time in the College's history, the Jazz Band has embarked on a tour of the North Island which started in Napier, took them to Hamilton and then even further afield to the Bay of Islands before returning for a final performance in Havelock North. Apart from the six performances along the way, the purpose of the trip was to give the students experience of a real-life music tour. These experiences combined to improve the standard of the band and to foster empathy in the players who had to look after each other and work together as a team.

The tour started on Thursday night in Napier at the Cabana where the home crowd were very appreciative of the Jazz band's repertoire. On Friday the band moved on to Hamilton where they performed at Southwell School, collaborating with some of their musicians. The Head of Music at Southwell, Jodi Alberty, gave the Jazz band a ringing endorsement, commenting that, "It was a great, fun-filled afternoon. Our students learnt so much and it was an experience for them to play with such a strong group of musicians. Your students were not only strong musicians, who know how to entertain, but they were also encouraging young gentlemen. They were excellent ambassadors of Lindisfarne College."

From there it was the long road on to the Bay of Islands where the band had three performances over two days as part of the Bay of Islands Jazz Festival, playing at the Scenic Hotel in Russell, Twin Pines Haruru Falls and the Pahia Club. The band's performances were widely appreciated as shown in the comments of Rob Galley, a first call professional guitarist from Auckland who plays with everyone: "My favourite band from the festival was

the Lindisfarne College School Band with HOD David Selfe. These young people were absolutely AMAZING! They started their set with a big band arrangement of "Six Months in a Leaky Boat." They played all styles, an RnB song "Mercy Mercy Mercy", a classical piece by Grieg, a killer arrangement of a Duke Ellington tune, Chick Corea's "Spain" and more. David's skill and knowledge with Anton Wuts' arrangements, are world class. These young people play with a 100% passion with great chops."

Still more praise came from MP Shane Jones who thanked Mr Selfe for bringing the band to the far North: "Thank you for bringing the band up to play David, they were brilliant!"

After a night in Auckland, the band made the long journey home just in time to perform at the Hawke's Bay Jazz Club's event at the function center in Havelock North. It was an incredibly long round trip and utterly exhausting for all involved but a real education for all the band members. Mr Selfe summed it up, saying,

"We left no man behind musically; the students are now all pro players who soaked up all aspects of the six concerts over five days. They learned how to sleep six in a room, eat breakfast quickly so your paper bowl didn't get soggy, help find your friend's music two minutes before the start and play as one. A Band!"

Congratulations to all the boys and to Mr Selfe for their great performances but also for being such wonderful ambassadors for the College.



EXPLORING ADVENTURES

JUNIOR CAMP WEEK

From November 27th to December 1st, the College campus became significantly quieter as our Year 7, 8, 9, and 10 boys embarked on unforgettable journeys filled with adventure, camaraderie, and learning. Lakes Ranch in Rotorua and various other locations set the stage for an action-packed week away from the classroom.

For the Year 7 cohort, Lakes Ranch in Rotorua became the backdrop for an action-packed week. The boys had the chance to engage in various activities like horse riding, kayaking, slug guns, archery, rock climbing, mud runs, gyroscope rides, and a thrilling giant swoop. Accompanied by dedicated parents and blessed with fine weather, it was an unforgettable experience.

Meanwhile, the Year 8 students had their share of excitement and exploration at the Top Ten holiday park. There was indoor rock climbing and a competitive futsal tournament at the AC Baths, white water rafting on the Tongariro River, kayaking to the Māori carvings on Lake Taupō, and conquering Mount Tauhara were just some of the impressive highlights.

Both camps provided diverse experiences, fostering camaraderie, resilience, and unforgettable memories for the students. Special thanks to our intermediate school staff for organising such a fantastic week away for the boys.

The Year 10 boys had an eventful four-day camp at Waimarama and Ocean Beach. On day one at Waimarama, the boys experienced good surfing conditions, allowing some to enjoy a few hours in the water. Others opted for fishing and volleyball games.

The following day included more surfing and swimming, followed by a cultural insight session from Mr Sidney about Waimarama's Māori heritage. In the afternoon, the boys trekked from along the beach at low tide to Ocean Beach, accompanied by Rector Mr. Hakeney.

At Ocean Beach, the boys relished time by the water, supported by the Hawke's Bay Surf School, which provided surfing lessons. Fishing proved fruitful, with catches including kawhi, gurnard, and



even a shark. Excursions to Maraetotara Falls added an extra thrill with jumps and bombs for the biggest splash.

Finally, the Year 9 boys embarked on a camp at MiCamp, nestled between Taupō and Turangi. Arriving on a sunny afternoon the boys kicked things off with Top Team activities, fuelling the competitive spirit. They then wasted no time before plunging into the refreshing lake or tackling the camp's thrilling waterslide.

The following days saw the boys split into two groups. One group headed back to Taupō, enjoying a fun-filled day at AC Baths, while the other stayed behind for an action-packed schedule. Their day at camp included conquering the climbing wall, navigating the ropes course, honing their skills in archery, building rafts, and trying their hand at disc golf.

The experience encouraged the boys to step out of their comfort zones and learn more about each other, bringing them closer together.

These camps weren't just about the fun activities; they provided platforms for learning, and most importantly fostering bonds among peers. The dedication of our school staff and the hospitality of camp organisers made these experiences all the more enjoyable for our students.



PARENTS AND FRIENDS

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING YEAR

After a turbulent start to 2023, the second half proved to be very busy for our boys loaded with exam preparation and numerous College events and traditions. As parents and whānau we all feel the flow-on effect of the demands that our boys experience. It is a good time to remember that we are all on this journey together and the PFA (Parents and Friends Association) is there for you and your boys.

A highlight on our calendar was hosting another successful Matariki Mingle event and it was a good way to start Term Three to celebrate the importance of connection within our Lindisfarne community. We also had the privilege of helping at the cocktail party for the 70th Celebration weekend. The PFA truly enjoys making any opportunity for our community to come together to be a special one. Thank you to everyone who contributed to these two successful events.

We continued with managing our funding and finished the year with approving \$45,000 of grants while keeping in-line with previous years' funding. The grants included those for a wood turning lathe and equipment, Forza football goals, a battery-operated programmable tennis ball machine, and a Whānau Cyber Safety evening which will be held on Monday 11th March 2024.

The PFA strongly supports the Whānau Cyber Safety wellbeing initiative, and we

look forward to collaborating with the College to assist with the planning and organising of these types of events in the future. This aligns with PFA's "wellbeing" objectives for our boys and is a fantastic opportunity for parents and caregivers to get involved in new College initiatives.

As this year is ending the PFA has been busy preparing for the return of our College Gala on Sunday 3rd March 2024. After a two-year hiatus and with stalls running on a succession model,



the gala committee are busy planning and plugging resource gaps. Thankfully, we have Kim Herrick and Sally Duncan staying on board as our Gala Convenors to guide us through. This will, however, be their final gala, so we are now hunting for our next dynamic duo who are keen to take over this role.

The gala committee has worked hard to get systems in place to make it run smoothly and provide an easier handover for fresh energy and ideas. Please reach out via parentsandfriends@lindisfarne.school.nz if you want to know more. The

Gala is a fabulous way for new parents and caregivers to meet people and get involved with the College and our community.

Recently we farewelled our Vice President, Leigh Kilsby, who has been a long-serving member of the executive team. She has contributed an enormous amount of her time and energy into our Lindisfarne community. We are grateful for Leigh's commitment and wish her and her whānau all the very best for the future. With Leigh's departure, Emily Brittin has taken up the role.

We are so thankful to our many parent volunteers who have given their precious time this year. Some of the activities behind the scenes include helping in the uniform shop, assisting at the College's Open Day, making floral arrangements, polishing cups for prize-giving and decorating Christmas trees - it all makes a difference!

The PFA executive are thankful for your help and support during this year, and we look forward to what we can achieve together for our boys in 2024. We wish you all a safe and happy summer break.

Ngā mihi o te Kirihieme me te Tau Hou – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Nadine Stuart
President
Parents and Friends Association

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LCOBA

2023

2023 can be described as a game of two halves. The first half was dominated by the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle in the wider Hawke's Bay and Gisborne/Tairāwhiti communities. It is during and after such events that we see the best of the human spirit rise through selfless acts of bravery, kindness and generosity, in all shapes and forms. In terms of generosity, we thank all who joined us in donating to the College hardship fund to assist with school fees for those financially impacted. As a result, I believe we did not lose a single boy from the roll-on effect of financial stress caused by the cyclone.

On a brighter note, the second half of the year was dominated (for us anyway) by the much anticipated 70th Celebration held from 15th to 17th September. And what a celebration it was! Some 300 staff, parents and old boys attended the cocktail party on the Friday, with just under 200 at the lunch on the Saturday, a solid turnout at our AGM, and a good number of past and present Te-Whāiti-Nui-Ā-Toi Scholarship recipients and whanau attending the 50th celebration breakfast on the Sunday. It was great to see the original Old Boys from the 1950s and 1960s, so well represented. Organising this event was a collaborative effort across the entire College community comprising staff, the Parents and Friends Assn, and the Old Boys Assn. To single out two people, I wish to thank Jacqui Pearse for her driving role as Chair of the Organising Committee, and Nadine Stuart for rallying her Parents & Friends troops to assist over the weekend. The challenge ahead now, is to plan something even bigger and better for the 75th Jubilee in 2028.

At our AGM held on the Saturday of the 70th Celebration weekend, all existing committee members were re-elected to their respective positions. These are: Mike Knobloch - Vice President and Old Boys Rep on College Council; Rob Hay - Secretary; Matt Carney - Treasurer; Campbell Howlett - Staff Rep. The position of President is held for three years so was not up for re-election. Our Patron is, of course, Roger Alexander, and

our Alumni Relations Coordinator is the aforementioned, Jacqui Pearse. We are always keen to attract younger Old Boys with fresh ideas to the Executive Committee table. Should you be interested, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the committee members.

Since the last edition of Highways, we acknowledge with sadness, the passing of the following Old Boys: H J (Howard) McNamara (61-65), G A (Geoff) Walker (63-67), and B F (Byron) Brook (60-61). We also acknowledge the passing of Rev N R (Nolan) Martin, former College Council Member 1989-2008, and Mrs A J (Ali) Francis, wife of James Francis (62-66) who passed earlier this year and who both dedicated a lifetime of service to Lindisfarne College.

For many years Bruce Dunderdale and Roger Alexander have organised two events every year for our most senior Old Boys from the 1950s and 1960s (affectionately known as the 'Old Contemptables'). These events are the Puketapu Pub lunch held in July and the Hawke's Bay Club dinner held in November. The baton for organising these two events has now been handed to LCOBA, with an excellent dinner was held on 28 November attended by myself, the Rector, Stuart Hakeney and Mrs Hakeney. It is always a fantastic event when this cohort of Old Boys get together and, from next year, we will look to expand the invitation to include the next decade, or so, of Old Boys. Thanks



must be given to Bruce and Roger for their years of herding the 'Old Contemptables' along to these two events.

Last week the association shouted a few drinks for the following departing long-serving staff members: Stuart Duff, Della Lamond, Glen Petersen, Mark Watson, Ross Barry, Murray Smith and Andrew McKenzie. We thank these individuals for their considerable years of service and for the difference they have made in the lives of so many boys. We wish you all well in your future endeavors.

We are planning a few new events in 2024 and will keep you posted as these unfold.

Hugh McPhail (80-84)
President

IN MEMORIAM

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

R J (Richard) Matthews (59-64), Old Boy, died in Waimauku, 13 June 2023

R G (Richard) Carey (54-57), Old Boy, died in Matamata, 24 July 2023

G A (Geoff) Walker (63-67), Old Boy, died in Auckland, 30 August, 2023

Rev N R (Nolan) Martin, ex College Council Member 1989-2008, died in Upper Hutt, 9 September, 2023

H J (Howard) McNamara (61-65), Old Boy, died in Hastings, 10 September 2023

B F (Byron) Brook (60-61), Old Boy, died in Hastings, 28 September 2023

R J (John) Brand (73-79), Old Boy, died in Gisborne, 2 November 2023

Mrs A J (Ali) Francis, died in Hastings, 6 November 2023

Ali was a long time College Supporter and wife of Old Boy, James Francis (62-66), Old Boy, ex Staff Member (Deputy Rector, Junior Housemaster, Head of Geography, Director of Sport).

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

LIFE AFTER LINDISFARNE



1



2



3



4



5

Referee on Home Turf

It was great to see Old Boy Sam Bartram (18-22) on home ground on Ranui Field in the role of referee at the U15 rugby tournament, in September. Sam refereed the Lindisfarne match against Palmerston North Boys' High School. (Photo 1)

Tournament Week

Noah Schmidt (16-22) and Adam Akuhata (16-22) came along to support the College in Christchurch when the 1st XI football boys were playing in tournament week. They are pictured with Mr. Harland and Mr. Petersen (86-87). (Photo 2)

Puketapu Reunion

At the Puketapu Hotel Old Boys' lunch, the Rector met some of the illustrious,

unbeaten 1959 1st XV rugby team which included Mark Howard, John (JV) McDonald, Adrian Smith, David Mossman, Hilton Meech and Rupert Ryan. (Photo 3)

Christchurch HSOB Rugby Team

It was great to hear about five Old Boys who were in the Christchurch HSOB rugby team that, recently, won the national U85kg rugby title. The final was screened live on Sky Sport from North Harbour Stadium. Congratulations to the boys involved: Tom Charteris, Freddie Gibson, Jono Kilsby, Robbie Freebairn and Bruno Wylie. (Photo 4)

House Haka

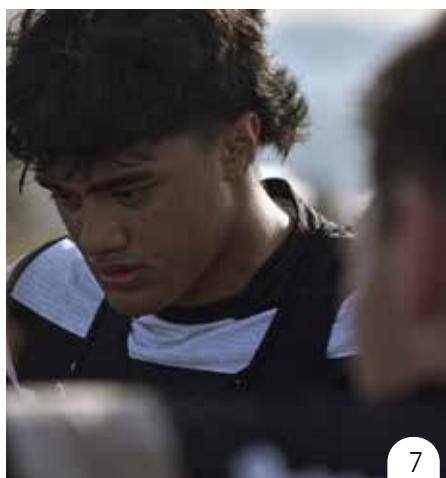
In Term 3 we held the house haka competition for the first time since 2019, with guest judge Old Boy Jayden

Falcon. Jayden said of the competition, "it was great to see the mana back in the College haka. Being the single judge of the competition put me out of my comfort zone, however, it was an awesome development opportunity and I was glad to be able to give back to the College which gave so much to me". It was very special to see the entire College perform the school Haka to Jayden as a way of showing gratitude for being the House Haka judge for the afternoon. (Photo 5)

Harry Townshend

Harry Townshend is the latest to confirm his participation in what is shaping up to be a highly competitive 2023-2024 Toyota 86 Championship. The 20 year-old Victoria University student is aiming to build on a solid debut last

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



season, when he finished 13th overall in the points table. "It was an awesome experience to compete in last season's 86 championship," he explained as his 2023-2024 campaign in the Winger Motorsport, Bayswater Vehicles TR86 was confirmed. (Photo 6)

Magpies Debut

Well done to Patrick Tuifua for his recent success on his debut in the Magpies' team. A strong rugby player while he was at Lindisfarne, it is great to see him following his passion. (Photo 7)

Annual Hawke's Bay Dinner

Recently we saw a portion of our 50's & 60's old boys at the annual HB Club dinner in Napier, this included three of our First Day pupils, Roger Alexander, Keith McLeod and Peter McNeil. Rector Stuart Hakeney, LCOBA President Hugh

McPhail (80-84), Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, Jacqui Pearce and Old Boys Assn Secretary, Rob Hay (77-83), were also present. (Photo 8)

Jazz Band Tour

During the tour by the College Jazz Band, the College was supported by Chris Barrett (65-66) in Cambridge; and Russell Tait (84-88) in Pahia, Bay of Islands. At the regional, community meetings other Old Boys who came along were, Jim Syme, Simon Foster, Will Butler, Callum Gray, in Waipukurau and in Wairoa; Dave Martin, Scott Morunga, Andrew Powdrell, Hamish Hay. (Photo 9)

Bay Cities Co-Conductor

Following on from long serving ex-staff member Mr John Snowling, James Bevin has taken over as co-conductor of the local band 'Bay Cities'. It's great

to see the continuation of a Lindisfarne legacy at a recent performance at the St Matthews's Church in Hastings. (Photo 10)

Ex-Staff Reunion

Recently we had 16 ex-staff return to the College for the annual ex-staff lunch. It's always great to see staff come back to the College to reminisce. Back Row - Rick Ellis, Grant Gilbert, Brian Cheer, John Snowling, Seamus Young, Rob Jackson, Kay Jackson. Front Row - Graham Smith, John Scudder, Dave Arnall, Bruce Houghton, Ray Petersen, John Workman, Peter Exeter, Roger Anderson, Mandy Jensen (Photo 11)



HAERE RA TO STAFF

Andrew McKenzie

Unfortunately, Andrew McKenzie, who has been at Lindisfarne since 2012, left the College this year because of ill-health. He will be greatly missed by his students who appreciated the interest he always took in their work. Mr McKenzie had a great understanding of many aspects of popular culture such as gaming and graphic novels and this was reinforced by his work on his own graphic novel which is nearing completion. His insight into his students' interests and passions helped forge strong relationships in the art room. Mr McKenzie was always available to help students with their work and provided a positive and supportive environment for them to learn about a range of media. To further this end, he started the Year 10 Art Club which explored a specific atelier painting method, using oils paints and gave boys who were interested in art another outlet for their creativity. In the sporting area, Mr McKenzie has taken tennis and has been the coach of the Intermediate B football team for many years. The College hopes that Mr McKenzie will enjoy time spent on his own artistic endeavours and looks forward to buying his book.

Sandy Kennedy

Sandy Kennedy started at Lindisfarne in 2015 when she returned to the Bay after living in Canada for most of her adult life. She immediately became a much-loved member of the College staff. Mrs Kennedy's professionalism is apparent in everything she does but her most outstanding quality is her caring and compassionate nature which made

her a source of support and comfort to many in our College community. Mrs Kennedy was crucial within the medical staff in creating a cohesive, highly functional team which offers our students the best possible care. Her expertise and leadership were especially crucial during the COVID pandemic when she could be relied upon to give pragmatic and informed advice as well as offer sympathetic support to the College community. One of Mrs Kennedy's greatest achievements at Lindisfarne was the establishment, with Glen Petersen, of the College's support for Women's Refuge. She worked tirelessly to maintain this association and it exemplifies her generous and caring nature. Mrs Kennedy has left a lasting impact on Lindisfarne and will be fondly remembered by legions of Lindisfarne students and parents.

Matt Ahern

In Term 3, Director of Boarding, Matt Ahern accepted the post of Deputy Principal at Iona College. This is a fantastic promotion for Mr Ahern and we know that he will achieve the same high level of success in this new role as he has as Director of Boarding at Lindisfarne. After coming to Lindisfarne in 2018, Mr. Ahern approached everything he did with his trademark dedication, commitment and professionalism. Starting out as a Careers and Social Studies teacher, Mr Ahern moved effortlessly into the role of Director of Boarding in 2019. His strong emphasis on collaboration and teamwork ensured that the boarding hostel provided a nurturing and supportive environment for our young men. Mr Ahern also made sure that

communication remained a priority in boarding by introducing new systems and boarding software. He was actively involved with supporting The Women's Refuge programme and also coached E grade rugby. Iona College is extremely fortunate to have secured the services of an outstanding leader such as Mr Ahern.

Mark Watson

Starting at Lindisfarne in 2009, Mark Watson became an integral part of the College, particularly in the Science department. He has taught Science, Biology, Ag.Hort, Ag.Business and surprisingly for some, French, which he learnt to speak fluently while spending time in New Caledonia as a child. He has utilised his extensive skills in many aspects of the Science department from piloting digital examinations for juniors to holding, at various times, the roles of Assistant HOF, Head of Junior Science and Biology. His digital expertise is legendary, and he has always been generous and supportive in assisting his colleagues with their computer dramas! Mr Watson was Teacher in Charge of Cricket from 2016-2019 and has also coached numerous football and cricket teams, even making it into the Long Room with the 4B cricket team. One of Mr Watson's recent achievements is his involvement with the Ag.Skills course designed to develop boys' practical skills in areas such as chainsaw operation. Mr Watson gave up numerous Sundays to take boys to the assessments needed to complete the course and was instrumental in establishing the course. His dedication and expertise will be sorely missed at the College and we wish him a happy retirement.



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Class of 2023

COLLEGE COUNCIL

MRS SHARON WARDS

As 2023 draws to a close I reflect on a number of events and projects that have been significant milestones for Lindisfarne. The strengthening and enhancement of The Homestead has been completed after many months of noise and disruption for our staff and students. What has now emerged from behind the safety barriers and building signage is a fantastic building which still holds the tradition of our "original Herrick home" but has been completely transformed within. Additional office spaces, new stairways, a fit-for-purpose staff room and welcoming reception area have been created. The décor and thoughtful approach to retaining the traditional features is a testament to the project planning over the past years by members of our governance team. We are grateful for the Proprietors' foresight in achieving this outcome.

Although the Homestead was not quite finished in time for our 70th birthday celebration it was evident from comments from former students and staff that Lindisfarne College buildings and environs are impressive. Over a weekend in mid-September the 70th year of Lindisfarne was celebrated with a number of functions. Sir Joe Williams, a former pupil and recipient of a Te Whaiti scholarship, was the invited guest speaker for a range of functions starting with an assembly of former head boys and a huge turnout at a cocktail function. The next day saw the opportunity for former pupils to tour the school and boarding facilities. A Sunday breakfast for Te Whaiti scholarship holders and chapel brought to a close a fabulous celebration of history and hope for the future. Sir Joe Williams had the hall full of 520 young men transfixed with an outline of his journey to and through Lindisfarne. The theme of his korero indicated the importance of choosing the right paths in life and that through the opportunities

offered at Lindisfarne he was able to take a positive pathway leading to his achievements. He was a humble speaker who inspired many of the young men to demonstrate gratitude and respect for the taonga that Lindisfarne College is. The celebration and events signifying 70 years of Lindisfarne College were a reflection on the past with a focus on the future. We are grateful to the organizing committee for the many months of hard work prior to this event. The next milestone for celebration will be our 75th and based on the success of our celebration this year it will be one for the history books.

A special part of my role as Council Chair is to present awards to young men who have achieved at high levels during the year. I am always thrilled to see the look of pride in their eyes and know that to climb those steps and shake my hand it has required very hard work in the background to receive that recognition. The saying that "it takes a village to raise



a child" is never more evident than when I scan across the audience seated at these events. Commitment from parents to support attendance, role modelling from our staff, excellent standards in curriculum design and an environment that keeps our students safe are all elements which contribute to the experience of our young men. We have farewelled some long-serving teachers this year. Their expertise and skills have contributed towards influencing the lives of hundreds of young men, including my own son. Thank you to them, our Rector and all the Lindisfarne family who continue to commit to the vision and work of our College.

On behalf of all members of the College Council I wish everyone a safe and blessed Christmas.

Sharon Wards
Chair, Lindisfarne Council