

From the President of the Old Collegians

Here at SKOCA, we are hoping for a lot more opportunities to connect with our Alumni than we had in 2020. We have a full calendar of events planned for 2021 and, hopefully, are going to have a lot less disruption than the previous year. This year, we have two new committee members: Ben Forrest joins us as a former student of Saint Kentigern College from 1998-1994. He attended Canterbury University and represented NZ at Rowing. He is married to Vanessa and has four children, the eldest is attending the College. Tasesa Lavea was at the College from 1994-1997, is the current Director of Rugby and 1st XV Coach and will help fill the void left by Malcom Cowie in organising our many sporting fixtures, and provide a conduit to the College. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Gavin Beere who has, after many years of service on the Committee, decided to step down. His valuable insight and contributions will be sorely missed.

As you will all know, the Saint Kentigern Community lost one of its most long serving members late last year when Dr Bruce Goodfellow passed away in December. What many may not know is that he was Patron of our Association for some considerable time. Bruce was always engaged with every aspect of Saint Kentigern, and the Old Collegians was no exception. He tirelessly helped to connect the Association with the Trust Board and other areas of Saint Kentigern across all campuses. Saint Kentigern and the Old Collegians have lost a true faithful servant and he will be irreplaceable as our Patron. I have had many an Old Collegian ask me how we can honour Dr Goodfellow's major contribution to our Association and we are working on something at the moment.

You may have heard of a new initiative from the Development Office being launched this year called the Saint Kentigern Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards are a way of recognising alumni that have achieved excellence in their professional lives and have lived the values of Saint Kentigern in their pursuits, whilst simultaneously showcasing great role



models to whom current students can aspire to emulate. The inaugural awards will be held at the Auckland War Museum in September and promise to be a great event celebrating past Saint Kentigern students' great achievements. Nominations have now closed for 2021, however, they will be open in November this year for 2022, so if you feel there is someone worthy of consideration please do make the effort to nominate.

We had our biennial Past Presidents' lunch in late March at the northern Club. It was a great occasion that allowed all of the Principals of the Saint Kentigern Schools, as well as David Hodge Head of Saint Kentigern and Mark Conelly Trust Board Chair to update the attendees. We had 17 Past Presidents of our Association attend, which was a great turn out and I know they enjoyed being briefed on what's happening in the wider Saint Kentigern Community and on each Campus.

This year's Annual 25th Reunion is for the for the graduating class of 1996. Please do get in touch with me or someone on the Committee if you are interested in helping to organise what is becoming an annual fixture and a great way to reconnect with your fellow classmates.

Our annual 1st XI Hockey Game was played against the Old Collegians and I'm delighted to report that after two years of draws, the OC's came through with a powerful 4-0 win. We still have Netball, Cricket and, hopefully, an inaugural Soccer fixture to come this year, so if you are interested in pulling on the boots again, let us know that you're interested in participating at skoca@saintkentigern.com

As we move into winter we will undertake planning for the ROCs' (Recent Old Collegians) events in the latter part of the year and also our Annual Golf Day in springtime which I know is being eagerly anticipated.

The committee welcomes feedback from members so please keep in touch via the website or LinkedIn.

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Hayden Butler,
SKOCA President

Saint Kentigern Distinguished Alumni Awards

The first Saint Kentigern Distinguished Alumni Awards function will take place on Saturday 4th September 2021 at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. The Awards are a way of recognising former students who have gone on to achieve excellence in their professional lives and have lived the values of Saint Kentigern in their pursuits, whilst being great role models to whom current students can aspire.

The Award will be offered annually to recognise Saint Kentigern alumni for the following:

- A series of achievements of note in the fields of business, social, cultural, education, sporting, or environmental well-being of the community; and/or
- A career of exceptional national or international accomplishment

Recipients of a Distinguished Alumni Award receive a specifically designed commemorative piece of sculpture with the design attributes inspired by Saint Kentigern's Scottish heritage. The awards will be presented at a black-tie formal dinner, which will become a signature event in Saint Kentigern's annual calendar.

A Distinguished Alumni Award selection panel has been established and comprises the following members representing different part of the Saint Kentigern community: Peter Cassie (Senior Leadership Team), Mark Conelly (Trust Board), David Boyd (Founder Trustees), Andrew Morgan (Old Collegians Association) and Hayden Butler (Old Collegians Association).



Past Presidents' Lunch

A luncheon is held every two years at the Northern Club to which surviving past presidents of the Saint Kentigern Old Collegians Association are invited, along with the Head of Saint Kentigern, the four Principals, invited Trust Board members and the Director of Development. This is a time of fellowship and the chance for the Old Collegians to be updated on many of the advancements that have occurred at the Saint Kentigern campuses during the previous two years.

The Association was originally formed in February 1959, the year the Boys' School opened and was formerly known as the Saint Kentigern Old Boys Association. This was renamed 'Old Collegians' in 2003, the year the girls joined the College.

This year's luncheon recognised 62 years of leadership by former students who have taken an active interest in maintaining ties to their place of learning. It also provided a forum to reconnect and maintain the two-way flow of information to ensure that the members of the Old Collegians Association have a continued voice at Saint Kentigern.

Current President, Mr Hayden Butler brought everyone up to date on current activity and explained about the need to encourage a greater philanthropic interest, particularly in support of the Old Collegians' Scholarships which afford opportunities for the children of Old Collegians and others to benefit from a Saint Kentigern education. The Old Collegians currently support 20 scholarships across the campuses and numerous grants for sporting and other endeavours, including one dedicated to Field Centre. Hayden also reported that during last year's extended Covid lockdowns, the Association donated \$100,000 towards the hardship fund, established by the Trust Board to assist current families who were impacted by Covid.

Chair of the Trust Board, Mr Mark Conelly (also a past president) and Head of Saint Kentigern, Mr David Hodge, both came forward to speak, assuring those gathered that despite the trials of 2020, Saint Kentigern is in very good heart, with the most ambitious building programme ever undertaken in full gear at the Shore Road Campus, with plans starting to take shape for the next phase of building at the College Campus in Pakuranga.

Mrs Nikki Joyce, Principal of the Preschool, Ms Juliet Small, Principal of the Girls' School, Mr Peter Cassie, Principal of the Boys' School and Mr Russell Brooke, Principal of the College each gave a report on their campuses and with buildings underway for the Boys' School and Girls' School, planned to get underway for the Preschool and in the early planning stages for the College, there was much to be buoyant about!



Director of Development, Mr Richard Lindroos addressed the group about the upcoming Distinguished Alumni Awards and plans for ongoing philanthropy as we head towards some major new developments on the College Campus.

This was a most enjoyable occasion and those gathered enjoyed each other's company while appreciating a 'snapshot' of life on each of our Saint Kentigern campuses.

Past Presidents in Attendance

This year 17 past presidents attended the lunch:

David Thomson (1962), Peter Coote (1963), Bryan Haggitt (1965), David Corbett (1966), Rick Flower (1973), David Grove (1976 - 77), Malcolm Wilson (1978 - 79), Don Craig (1980), Philip Winstone (1985 - 86), Grant Plimmer (1987 - 88), David McCulloch (1989 - 90), Nigel Harrison (1997- 98), Mark Conelly (1993-94), Murray Shaw (1999-2000), Andrew Jarvie (2001-2002), Andrew Morgan (2007 - 2016) and Hayden Butler (2017 -).





America's Cup Saint Kentigern Connection

In the lounge of Saint Kentigern's Old Collegians' Sports Centre, there is a gallery of photos representing a large number of Old Collegians who have gone on to sporting greatness across a range of sporting codes. Amongst them is Grant Dalton, who has long since made his mark in the world of competitive adventure sailing and is best recognised for his role with Emirates Team New Zealand (ETNZ).

Grant Dalton

Emirates Team New Zealand CEO

Some years back, Old Collegian, Grant Dalton attended a Boys' School Leavers' Dinner and told the graduating Year 8 boys that 'there isn't a lot of difference between dreaming and goal setting; be resilient when you dream, set a goal that is believable and if you earnestly work towards it, your dream will eventually be achievable; it may just take a while to get there...'

After the decisive 2013 America's Cup loss to Larry Ellison's Oracle in San Francisco, a lesser man may have bowed out, but despite the bitter loss, and criticism levelled at the him at the time, Grant did not give up, knowing full well that with hard work and sheer determination, New Zealand's sailors had the ability to 'bring the Cup home.' Grant is tenacious, some say a 'hard-nosed' businessman, but he set a goal and the dream was achieved, going on to win the America's Cup in Bermuda in 2017 and then successfully defending the title on the Hauraki Gulf in 2021!

Grant, along with his brother Graham, is a former student of both the Boys' School and the College, graduating in 1974. His three children have also attended Saint Kentigern. Whilst he readily admits that he wasn't that 'academic' during his time at school, his love of the sailing determined a future on the water.

Grant has sailed competitively on the world's oceans, racing around the world seven times, the first five as part of the Whitbread Round the World Races, later to be called the Volvo Ocean Race. In 1995, he was awarded an OBE for services to yachting. In 2003, he was called in to restructure Team New Zealand after its loss of the America's Cup to the Swiss team, Alinghi. His mission: to rebuild and revitalise the team. The team came close to victory in Valencia in 2007 but it was Alinghi that took away the Cup that year. In 2013, with Grant as CEO and part of the crew on the water, ETNZ still remained one of the fiercest contenders in San Francisco. The nation watched as ETNZ raced ahead on the scoreboard only to see Oracle close the gap and

win. The loss was bitter but there was a huge surge of support from New Zealand for Grant and his crew of great sailors.

Between 2013 and the 2017 challenge in Bermuda, the team regrouped and prepared for racing 2017 style; the speedy, hydro-foiling catamarans a far cry from the early days of mono-hull racing on the Hauraki Gulf! Between 2013 and 2017, New Zealand quietly took the racing to another level, replacing the traditional role of grinder with the pedal power of 'cyclors;' a stroke of genius that gave ETNZ the final, winning edge!

And then to 2021! In a world currently wracked by Covid-19, placing restrictions on travel and gatherings in other parts of the world, how lucky was New Zealand to enjoy the 36th America's Cup free of restrictions from easy vantage points around the Hauraki Gulf? In the foiling race boats 'designed to fly,' the AC75s made spectacular viewing as we watched Emirates Team New Zealand pull ahead of the Italian team, Prada Pirelli to win the in the first to seven series 7-3. A crowd of over 40,000 supporters thronged the Viaduct on their return to base from the final race!

Speed on the water is not all Grant aims for. Lesser known about this adrenalin junkie is his love of speed on land, having competed in the Isle of Man TT motorcycle races over the years, getting back on his bike, despite a dangerous high speed fall in one of the races! However, for a driven man, work never stops and he is currently working towards preparing a team and venue the next America's Cup challenge! Bring it on!



Blair Tuke

Emirates Team New Zealand: Flight Controller

With his many sailing triumphs alongside 49er sailing partner, Peter Burling, including Olympic Silver (2012) and Gold (2016), Blair and Peter were natural choices for selection to the sailing crew of ETNZ for the 2017 America's Cup campaign.

Along with Peter, Blair has made a name for himself as a competitive sailor since leaving College in 2007. The pair were the 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2019 and 2020 World Champions in the 49er class and won all 28 of the major regattas in the 49er between the London Olympics (2012) and the Rio Olympics (2016); a record for this Olympic class. They were awarded the ISAF World Male Sailors of the Year for 2015 and the Halberg Sports Team of the Year 2016. In the 2017 New Year Honours list, they were awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to sailing. At the 2016 Olympics in Rio, we were all proud to see Blair and Peter selected as co-captains and flag bearers for the New Zealand Olympic team. The pride compounded when they won Gold!

Following the America's Cup loss in San Francisco, ETNZ signed Blair and Peter to the new-look team in January 2014. During the 2017 America's Cup challenge in Bermuda, when ETNZ first revealed their boat with the innovation of 'cyclors' - pedal power replacing the grinders - Blair was among those providing the pedal power, also working as the foil trimmer. That year, Blair added an America's Cup title to his long list of achievements and then went on to sail on Mapfre finishing second in the 2017-18 Volvo Ocean Race. The 36th America's Cup saw Blair back on the water for ETNZ in the role of flight controller, in the new-style foiling AC75 race boat, helping retain the Cup for New Zealand!



Nick Burrridge

Emirates Team New Zealand: Boat Captain/Rigger

Graduating from the Boys' School in 2007, Nick Burrridge is another Old Collegian who has carved a niche as a professional sailor, making his way up through the ranks to Emirates Team New Zealand (ETNZ). Like many, he started building his experience sailing optimists from the age of 10, eventually becoming a professional yachtsman in 2003. As a youngster, he recalls seeing 'Lion New Zealand,' Sir Peter Blake's entry into the 1985-86 Whitbread Round the World Race, sail into Auckland; a boat that inspired his sailing career and he later went on to sail.

Nick has been with ETNZ on and off since 2009, taking on the job of Boat Captain and Head of Rigging during the 2017 and 2021 campaigns. The role created the link between the sailing team and shore team, ensuring that the boat was ready and signed off for sailing each day. Along with the career highlights of being part of two winning the America's Cup teams, Nick was also part of the ETNZ Camper team in the 2011-2012 Volvo Ocean Race, played a part in setting the Transpac Race record, setting the 24 Hour Monohull Speed Record and was part of the winning crew in the 2015 Sydney to Hobart Race.



Hamish Hooper

Emirates Team New Zealand: Media/Communications

Hamish graduated from the Boys' School in 1991, where his father, John, had been a foundation pupil. Hamish first came to notice as a videographer for his work on Camper's tough Volvo Ocean Race in 2011-2012. With a background in TV commercials and advertising, it was a bold move to join the crew for his first physically and emotionally demanding ocean race. Despite his lack of offshore experience Hamish completed the challenge and was presented with the Inmarsat Media Crew Member Award for the skill and flair with which he documented life on board.

Two weeks after returning, he started his next job with Emirates Team New Zealand (ETNZ) in the media department for the 2013 challenge. He said there was a huge amount of stress in 2013 role, helping to manage the throngs of media 'all wanting a slice of the Emirates Team New Zealand story' at a time when the team, felt the weight of disappointment on the final day of racing.

Between Cups, he continued with his partnership in a video and photo production business, the Visual Collective, until he was called back onto ETNZ as the Communications / PR manager for the 2017 challenge, taking on all aspects of communications, video, photography, social media, media management - this time with the joy of a positive outcome for the team; a joy that carried through to the 2021 America's Cup campaign, where again Hamish was in a position to report on another win for ETNZ!



Jamie Timms

Emirates Team New Zealand: Senior Structural Engineer

Jamie graduated in 2003, going on to complete a PhD at The University of Auckland in Mechanical Engineering. Following his tertiary studies, as a subject matter expert in loads and environments engineering, composite structures, structural dynamics, and coupled loads analysis, he secured a role at Rocket Lab USA, where he was Lead Structural Analyst for an electron small satellite launch vehicle project, from the initial conceptual design phase through to successful orbital payload deployment.

At the end of 2017, he joined Emirates Team New Zealand (ETNZ) as a Senior Structural Engineer with responsibility for structural engineering and finite element analysis for the foiling AC75 race boats for the 36th America's Cup. The Covid-19 pandemic, with the extended lockdowns during 2020, certainly added some challenges to the working environment for everyone last year but Jamie said, 'The design team was actually equipped to work efficiently and effectively from home during lockdown. so the guys building the boat had exactly what they needed when they got back. All things considered, we were in a very good position.'

The AC75s were spectacular to watch in full flight as spectators marvelled at the engineering and stress loads placed on the foils. The fine tuning by Jamie and his team certainly paid dividends as the team's boat, Te Rehutai sped to victory!



Michael Flint – Orthopaedic Surgeon

Michael Flint graduated from the College in 1986 and said it was his teachers who inspired him to chase his dreams in medicine. From a young age, Michael was interested in sports and sporting injuries. He said Saint Kentigern opened his eyes to many opportunities.

‘The teachers I had were very encouraging and pushed me to achieve more than I thought I was capable of. They widened my aspirations and pushed me to strive for excellence, which is one of the reasons I do what I do today.’

Today, Michael is an Orthopaedic Surgeon at MercyAscot. Following his time at the College, he attended The University of Auckland Medical School from 1987 to 1992. After graduating, Michael furthered his study at FRACS Orthopaedics before traveling to the University of Toronto in 2003, to complete his Postgrad studies in Orthopaedic Fellowship, Adult Joint Reconstruction / Musculoskeletal Oncology.

Michael said he loves being a surgeon and he encourages all students who have the desire to become one to chase their dreams. ‘It is hard work but, anything of value, you have to work hard. Even though it does seem daunting, the reward is amazing. All you need is application, knowing what you want to do and always looking for ways to improve’.

Michael said students should take science during their schooling years if they wish to do medicine, but he also says it is important to have other interests. ‘I think it is essential to not think of medicine as a scientific career because it’s not, it’s a people-orientated career with science. Do other things like languages and history as it makes you a better and more rounded doctor.’



Sebastian Solberg – Film Maker

Sebastian Solberg (Seb) graduated from Saint Kentigern in 2009. During his time at the College, he was Hamilton House Leader, led SKCTV and particularly enjoyed getting involved with the Performing Arts. He said his involvement with drama productions was a launching pad and gave him the confidence to pursue his dreams in filmmaking.

Despite his ‘overflowing’ enthusiasm for filmmaking and resolute determination to be an Oscar-winning filmmaker, Seb said, at the outset, he had very little understanding of the film industry or how to go about getting work and so it was fortunate that a stint volunteering as a runner for a production company, led to some immediate freelance jobs. A few days after leaving school, he was offered a job working for New Zealand Greenroom Productions, filming surfing competitions and action sports for Red Bull. Seb advises students to get as much work experience as they can while at school, as it helps gain the necessary skills and build a network in advance.

At the end of that year, Seb was given the opportunity to travel to Wales and work on a feature film. Seb jumped at the opportunity, despite the company not being able to afford to house him, meaning he ended up sleeping in the insect-ridden attic of one of the sets! In the end, it was all worth it. Seb had an amazing time and met a lot of wonderful people, which opened doors to working on more films and gave him the opportunity to work with incredible actors, such as Tom Hiddleston, Jeremy Irons, and Sienna Miller, and talented filmmakers, including the cinematographer of Harry Potter, the editor of Mission Impossible and a cameraman for David Attenborough’s wildlife series.

At this point, the skills and contacts that Seb gained from all of the productions he had worked on equipped him to make a few of his own short films, including an underwater documentary, ‘One Breath’ about a freediving couple attempting to set a new world record. This documentary won ‘Best Documentary’ at the Wimbledon Shorts Film Festival and was also selected for the Oceans Film Festival, meaning it screened to tens of thousands of people in over 100 different cities around the world -a big highlight of his career!

Winning awards and being able to produce great films is fantastic, but Seb said that one of the main highlights of working in the film industry is the opportunity to learn from travelling and meeting diverse people from different parts of the world. For example, Seb

was able to work closely with a nomadic Kazakh family when filming ‘The Eagle Huntress’ in the Altai Mountains in Mongolia, worked with incredibly talented Parkour athletes when filming a Canon commercial in Istanbul, and made good friends when filming in the Serengeti in Tanzania. ‘It’s amazing to feel connected to the wider world outside my own bubble, especially during lockdown’, he said.

Keen to share his talents, Seb recently started his own film school, the Documentary Film Academy. ‘DFA’ is an online course to empower aspiring filmmakers and anyone who has an important story to tell. Seb said, ‘the course combines everything that he has learned over the last ten years, with extensive additional research into the latest digital technology and documentary filmmaking techniques.’

As well as working on DFA, Seb is now working on developing a film about the threat to the ancient culture of the Sami people in Sweden and planning a YouTube series on ‘overcoming fears as a creative.’

‘It has been an incredibly rewarding journey so far, a lot of fun, and I’ve met so many inspiring people along the way, but – and that’s a big but – getting to this point also involved a lot of confusion, failure, and frustration, and I think that’s something we don’t talk about enough when we look at people we admire and that’s something I wish someone had told me when I started – that to succeed at something or to master a skill, you’re going to fail and you’re going to fail a lot, and that’s ok.’

When asked what advice Seb has to offer for aspiring filmmakers, Seb said ‘having an incredible support network is important. That’s the biggest and most important thing I gained from my time at Saint Kentigern – an incredible group of friends who have helped me through the ups and downs and have been there for me both when I’ve failed, and when I’ve succeeded.’



Stacey Vergis – Content Creator

I graduated from Saint Kentigern in 2008 with every intention of working my way up the corporate ladder, although I always had a little niggle in the back of my mind that I was supposed to do something different with my life. At College, I spent most of my time in the Jack Paine Centre, taking every creative class possible and poured all of my motivation into Media Studies and Design. I have no doubt that these classes, and people like Mr Whitmore and Mr Thomas, gave me the tools I’d eventually use to make a drastic change in my life and career. After spending the past four years being paid to travel the world and seeing how other people live, I often reflect on how fortunate I was to have so much technology, knowledge, support and opportunity at my fingertips.

I graduated from AUT in 2011, with a Bachelor in Communication Studies, majoring in Advertising Creativity. After spending months interning and countless evenings at an agency working on pitches that went nowhere. 2013 was a turning point, I quit my job and spent a few months travelling around the United States and Canada with College friend, Erin Helliwell (Deputy Head Girl, 2008) and got a taste for freedom! Once I returned home, I realised how important a healthy work-life balance was to me and spent the next four years experimenting with different roles in design and marketing, eventually working my way up to the Design & Marketing Manager role at Superette, a fashion and lifestyle brand.

Everything was great but my fiancé and I both had the travel itch! Long story short, I left my 9-5 dream job, established my freelance design business, sold almost everything I owned and we bought a one-way ticket to Thailand to become Digital Nomads. We picked Chiang Mai in Thailand because of its Digital Nomad community, infrastructure, cost of living and incredible food. During the first 3 months, we knuckled down and had lots of success with our various digital businesses, all the while we were filming our lifestyle for our families to give them some peace of mind back home. When we started sharing information about our apartment, cost of living and expat lifestyle, people started finding our videos on YouTube and eventually we found ourselves at a significant crossroad - should we take another

leap of faith and our shift focus to the business side of content creation or keep the momentum going with the initial plan we had?

Fast forward a few years and we’ve been making a career out of full-time travel since 2017, sharing stories through video, helping our community plan their adventures and working on commercial deals with brands. Even though our content reach is in the millions each month, we tend to avoid the word ‘influencer’ where we can, not just because of the negative connotations, but because the real career element of content creation is how you operate the business in the background.

Over the years we’ve built some incredible relationships with tourism boards across the globe, leading to invitations of travel and flights around the world, along with partnering with awesome brands like Sony, GoPro and JetStar. Being a travel content creator in the times of Covid isn’t exactly easy, but it’s given us the push we needed to finally explore our own backyard and work with smaller domestic tourism boards, promoting just how amazing New Zealand is, and we’ve also diversified into journalism through a partnership with Stuff Travel as well.

On the surface it’s the type of job that looks like a dream. Behind the scenes is an endless email trail, reporting sheets, hours of editing, Zoom calls, contract negotiations, late nights... the list goes on! It takes a whole lot of patience, motivation and hard work to call this career a success. These are qualities I wholeheartedly believe I learnt during my time at Saint Kentigern. Being surrounded by high achievers is something I’m grateful for. I’m afraid of a lot of things, but hard work isn’t one of them.

If I could go back and give Year 13 me some advice, I would tell her not to put so much pressure on finding the perfect career right away. Don’t be afraid to do something different, keep working hard and think outside the box. That ‘mentality’ is what led me to a career path that didn’t even exist when I was at school and is still being carved out in the digital age.

To follow Stacey’s travels: youtube.com/danegerandstacey



Tia Ansell - Artist

During my time at Saint Kentigern College, I was interested in art and science, and was deeply involved in art-related extracurricular activities, in particular, set design for school plays and the art club. I received art awards, notably the Pat Hanly Creativity Award from the Auckland Art Gallery. I spent a lot of my out of school time visiting art museums and commercial galleries, which really influenced my decision to go to art school.

After graduating from Saint Kentigern in 2013, I moved to Wellington to study a Bachelor of Fine Arts at Massey University. Not only does Massey Wellington specialise in Art and Design, it also allows their students to have a broader first year subject choice, which was attractive to me, as I was uncertain which path to pursue, art school or design school.

After my first year at Massey, my decision to pursue the arts was certain, and I moved to Melbourne to attend the Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne University). VCA is a more specialised and medium specific art school with an intensive studio approach and world class facilities, which suited my approach to making art. I was one of 30 students in the painting department, with noteworthy lecturers and technicians, including New Zealand artist Richard Lewer and Tessa Laird. During my time at VCA, I was the recipient of the National Gallery of Victoria Prize (2015), the Valerie Albinston Scholarship (2016-2017), which covered my fees in the last two years of art school, the John Vickery Scholarship (2017), the National Gallery Women's Association Award (2017) and the Majlis Travelling Scholarship (2017). The Majlis Travelling Prize was awarded to one 3rd year student providing \$10,000 for travel relating to their practice. I went to Columbia and Ecuador to pursue weaving workshops and visit notable weaving collections and communities. In 2018, I was awarded my Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours).

Art school was an incredible experience - a place to push your creative process and skill set, to meet like-minded people but to also prepare for life as an artist. Art school broadened my creative skills and interests, it sparked my intrigue in weaving and sculptural frames, whilst also developing my painting practice.

Since art school, I spend most of my time in my studio and have exhibited with notable commercial galleries in Melbourne and New



Zealand, recently showing at the Auckland Art Fair with Suite Gallery. I make patterned-weaving paintings on a 4 shaft and 6 shaft loom, that reference the grids and geometries in our urban landscapes. Influenced by the art movements of Constructivism and Bauhaus, my practice is interested in the design and history of formalism and objecthood as it connects through visual art, architecture, anthropology and archaeology. In 2022, I'll begin my Masters of Architecture.

Advice I would give to current students would be... dare to pursue a creative endeavour, it is incredibly rewarding and magnifies passion, even if it is an interest outside of your career. A creative pursuit is fundamental to life.

David Taumoepeau – Compliance Specialist

David was born and raised in Tonga. At 16 years old, he moved to Auckland to attend Saint Kentigern College from 2003-2005. David says his time at the College was 'extremely beneficial' as he not only received a great education but had access to resources that would never have been available in Tonga. He thanks Mr Piaggi and Mr Barsdale who made this possible.

David says that despite the cultural difference, life at Bruce House was a great part of his personal development. 'Boarding and adjusting to life at Saint Kentigern, along with all the support provided was extremely beneficial to my rugby and academic career. Mr Cowie, of course, was a very big part of that, along with the rest of the House Masters at the time.'

Following his time at the College, David pursued his dream of playing professional rugby. He played representative rugby for Wellington and Otago but unfortunately had several shoulder reconstructions that hindered his progress. While taking time out from rugby, David completed a BA in History and Media (both favourite subjects while at Saint Kentigern) from the University of Otago. He eventually finished with an LLB from Waikato University.

David started his professional career practising at Simpson Grierson for a few years as a corporate solicitor before moving to ASB as a Compliance Specialist, which is where he currently works. He met his wife, Mafi at law school and they now have two little boys who keep them busy outside of work.

'The opportunity to attend and access the wealth of resources available to students at Saint Kentigern is something that I am grateful for and has been a big part of defining who am today. I am thankful for the life lessons that I learnt at the College and I will always be a proud Old Collegian. I am also very proud to be part of a history of Tongan boys who have come from Tonga to attend Saint Kentigern since 1987.'



Georgia Alexander (Nee Clapp) -Engineer

I graduated from the College in 2014 with the intention of becoming an architect. This had been a dream of mine from a young age, influenced by my favourite school subject (spatial design with Mr Samaeli and Mr Tutty) and a favourite childhood game of mine, 'The Sims'. In these activities I spent many hours designing spaces, aiming to get the perfect layout, with an emphasis on efficient space use and smart design. My younger self narrowed this passion down to architecture – or so I thought.

I attended Victoria University of Wellington to complete an architecture degree, but quickly realised that I was more interested in efficiency, functionality and the science of buildings. In my second year, I switched degrees to Building Science and found myself at home learning how buildings function and how we, as building users and designers, have the potential to continually improve our built environment. I finished my Bachelor's with a double major in project management and sustainable engineering systems followed by a post graduate diploma in sustainable engineering systems and then a Masters in Architectural Science (Research). My thesis explored the potential energy savings of occupancy sensors in spaces that are intermittently used. While working on my Master's degree, I won the New Zealand Institute of Building Award for the top student in a construction-focused degree programme, and also took home the institute's Supreme Award at the event.

In 2018 as a part of my post graduate studies, I started an internship at the engineering consultancy, Norman, Disney and Young. They took me on full-time as a graduate engineer in 2020 and I have thoroughly enjoyed myself. For the past 12 months, I have been a crucial member of our fire protection engineering team. From here, I will rotate around the teams in the office, allowing me to gain a greater understanding of the different disciplines in the industry.

Building design is like a complex 3D puzzle with a multitude of criteria and guidelines. There are many crucial parts to a functional



building, and there are many ways that the pieces of the puzzle can go together. Our job as engineers is to design this puzzle to be both effective and efficient. It is important that we utilise our position as creators of the built environment to encourage sustainable initiatives. Through this, we may continually improve our industry and the spaces we work and live in for future generations.

If I could share some advice to my past self and current students at Saint Kentigern, I would encourage young Georgia to keep asking questions, keep asking 'why' and to do the things you enjoy. I was able to combine my interest of buildings with my logical maths brain and have found a career that is not only enjoyable but also helps to improve our built environment.

Jade Miles - Boys' School Teacher

I began my Saint Kentigern journey as a foundation girl of the College in 2003. During my college years, I developed a passion towards Media, Art and Literature, as well as sporting activities such as tennis, running and hockey. I enjoyed how the College had such a diverse range of opportunities on offer, as well as the amazing teachers who inspired me to do what I loved. One teacher in particular was Flora Mather, my English teacher who inspired me to follow my love of Literature and English.

I graduated from Saint Kentigern College in 2007 and went on to study a Bachelor of Arts in Film, Television and Media, and English Literature at the University of Auckland. After university I felt as though I needed a bit of an adventure before embarking into the world of work, so I travelled to Europe and lived in Norway for a few months with a family as a nanny. This sparked my interest towards working with children as it felt so rewarding to see their enthusiasm to learn and explore the world around them. As a result, I returned to New Zealand to study a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching at the University of Auckland.



I was fortunate to begin my teaching career at Cockle Bay School and then moved to London for two years to teach and continue my travels around Europe. As I have so many interests around art, culture, nature and travel, those experiences enabled me to grow as a person and build my knowledge on the world. I am now currently continuing my teaching career at Saint Kentigern Boys' School, following in my parents' footsteps as they have also taught at the Boys' School. I have once again come to appreciate the amazing Saint Kentigern community I grew to love in the past. It has also enabled me to reflect on my fond memories of the College, where I made lifelong friends and had some rewarding experiences I will never forget.

If I could offer any sage advice to the current students of Saint Kentigern it would be this. Take all the opportunities that you are given because your school years are the foundation behind leading you towards your passion, and you will not ever relive them again.



Mike Anderson – Director of Sport

Mike Anderson attended Saint Kentigern College from 1982 to 1985, during the 'McFarlan years,' before completing his senior college years at Auckland Grammar (AGS). Mike said he considered himself very fortunate to be influenced by two outstanding leaders, the first Headmaster of Saint Kentigern, Dr Reverend Adam McFarlan and Sir John Graham, Headmaster of Auckland Grammar School from 1973 to 1993.

'They both set a steady tone and culture that was based on standards and clear expectations. Ironically my first dean at AGS and First XI cricket coach was Steve Cole (Saint Kentigern Head of College, 2009-2017), who also reinforced those same messages.'

In 1989, Mike joined the banking industry and slowly worked his way through the ranks to become a branch manager, hub branch manager (managing multiple branches) and a property finance manager. He managed a portfolio of customers with commercial investment properties and specialist use properties such as hotels/childcare centres/storage facilities and residential/commercial property developments.

During this time, Mike also became involved in coaching sport, which later transitioned into sports administration through committees/boards, all in a voluntary capacity.

After 28 years in the banking industry, Mike was fortunate to meet a principal, senior management team and school board who wanted someone to look at their sports programme through a different, non-teaching lens. This led to him being appointed as the Director of Sport at Macleans College in 2017 until his move to Saint Kentigern early this year.

Mike is now the Director of Sport at Saint Kentigern College and says he is excited to work alongside 'outstanding and experienced high-performance coaches, who are invested in building quality sports programs for students Year 7 to 13'.



Hockey Win for the Old Collegians!



As has become tradition, as a lead in to the winter sports season, the College Premier Boys' Hockey team put out a challenge to the Old Collegians for a pre-season game. This match always serves as a strong challenge to support the preparations for the team prior to the start of the Auckland Competitions.

The Old Collegians fielded a team that featured many of the 2018 Rankin Cup (National Championship) winners as well as from the 2019 team that placed 3rd nationally, of which five were NZ Secondary School representative players.

After a 3-0 lead at half time to the Old Collegians, which included a goal in the first 30 seconds (!), the College 1st XI stepped up and played a far greater spirited second half, limiting the highly skilled Old Collegians' team to only one further goal resulting a final score of 4-0 to the Old Collegians.

We thank the Old Collegians for their on-going support of the College 1st XI - the boys always enjoy this match up, even when it doesn't go their way!

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we record the passing of the following members of the Saint Kentigern community. We express our condolences to their families.

HETHERINGTON Derek - #309

BANNISTER Richard (Dick) - #157

WHERE ARE YOU?

WHAT DO YOU DO? EVER WONDERED WHAT YOUR OLD CLASSMATES ARE UP TO? EVER THOUGHT THEY MAY BE INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU DO?

These pages belong to you, our Old Collegians. We need your help to make these pages interesting and informative. Write a few lines to fill us in on what you've been doing since leaving school, or what you are about to do, a recent achievement, a momentous event or any other item of interest. Alternatively, we also welcome more in depth articles, as appear on these pages. Family and friends, tell us what our sons and daughters of Kentigern are up to nowadays.

Pictures speak a thousand words! In this digital age, it's really easy to provide a photo but please email all digital pictures at maximum resolution. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please direct all correspondence to the Editor:
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Communication Manager, Saint Kentigern Trust Board

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