

From the President of the Old Collegians

2019 has seen the continued success of all three campuses in both Cultural, Academic and Sporting endeavours and the Old Collegians continue to follow and enjoy the achievements of our current Students.

We continue to work on our core goals of Fellowship, Scholarship Support, Philanthropy, Special Grants and Graduation Celebrations and I am pleased to report on these events as follows:

The Annual College Golf Day was held at Remuera Golf Course on Monday 11th November. This year's event was the largest in our history with 108 players. The forecasted bad weather held off and the course was in fantastic condition. This year, the team comprising Stuart Bulcraig, Gary Rees, Paul Motorshead and Ian Haringa took out the competition with an incredible score of Nett 51. I would like to again thank all of our hole and prize sponsors for generously donating, the funds raised have gone towards our newly established Duke of Edinburgh Gold scholarship fund, and for the third year, our Field Centre Equipment Fund. Both allow students who otherwise might struggle financially to participate fully in these activities. Thanks to John Howard and Walter Chieng and their teams for again creating a superbly run event.

This year, we held two very successful graduation anniversary events. The graduating class of 1994 held a reunion for their 25th anniversary combining with the Opening World Cup Game of South Africa v All Blacks. Head Boy of '94, Mark Williams, provided the venue and Cam Marcroft was the chief organising force behind a very successful evening. Over 40 Old Collegians turned up and had a great time. We plan on having a 25th reunion every year from now so the 1995 graduating year needs to get mobilised!

We also had a 30th year anniversary reunion spread over a weekend from the graduating class of 1989. This included a campus tour on Friday afternoon for those who had not managed to return to the College in recent years and wanted to see how much

had changed. The overwhelming consensus was just how improved all facilities were from 'back in the old days'. Current students should feel very privileged with what their campus now provides.

The culmination of the weekend was the dinner held in the Sports Centre where over 80 former students from 1989 attended. This represented over 80% of that year, a truly outstanding effort. What also made things special was twelve of the teaching staff from that era also attended which allowed for a fair few stories and memories to be retold. My thanks go to Mark Richardson and Cameron Russell who put in a lot of hours and effort to bring everyone together.

As part of our yearly commitments, we continue to sponsor Graduations, including the Year 8 Boys' School Leavers' Dinner, The Year 8 Girls' School Leavers' Dinner and the Year 13 Leavers' Brunch at the College. As students move into the next stage of their schooling/lives, we welcome them into the Old Collegians network, whether they are moving to a different school or moving into a new stage in their life they realise that Saint Kentigern is still a part of them and the Old Collegian network is there to support them in the future.

We held two ROC (Recent Old Collegian) events in Dunedin and Christchurch and I would like to thank both Trent MacDonald and Matthew Wong-Kam for being the driving force behind each event. Our Auckland event had over 100 people in attendance.

I would like to thank the Old Collegian Committee for all their hard work throughout the year and their support of initiatives and passion for the Saint Kentigern Community. Its been another busy year with some great new events now becoming a regular feature of the Calendar.

The committee welcomes feedback from members so please keep in touch via the website: skoca@saintkentigern.com



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**Mr Hayden Butler,
President of the Old Collegians**

SKOCA 2020 Calendar

SUNDAY 15 March
SKOCA T/20 Cricket match versus SKC 1st X1
Time: 12 NOON
Venue: No 1 Cricket Field College
BBQ and refreshments to follow.



WEDNESDAY 1 April
SKOCA Hockey match versus SKC Hockey 1st X1
Venue: Lloyd Elsmore Hockey Centre
5pm Start
Pizzas and refreshments to follow.



THURSDAY 30 APRIL
SKOCA AGM
Venue: Roselle House
6.30pm Start
Refreshments to follow



SATURDAY MAY 16th
SKC 1st XV v Auckland Grammar
Venue: Top Field
2.30pm start
Refreshments to follow

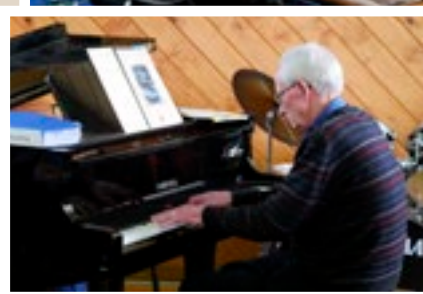




Celebrating the Class of 1959

The Boys' School students had the privilege of meeting fifteen of the 1959 foundation students when they returned to school for a visit. In 1959, Saint Kentigern School, as it was then known, had a roll of only 200 boys. Now 60 years later, the roll is well over 500! The gentlemen were amazed to see how much Roselle House has changed and loved the idea of it now being a learning commons for the students. In their time, the upper floor of Roselle House was the home of the inaugural Headmaster, Mr Jack Chalmers.

Following lunch, the group finished their visit by attending assembly. Foundation student, Peter Nelson welcomed them and awarded foundation student, Ronald Lennox-King an Honours Tie – a tie that is given to a select few who have made a significant contribution to the community. Mr Lennox-King was not only the first Head Boy of the School, but also our first Olympian, when he sailed for Hong Kong at the 1972 Olympics. Foundation student, Laurence Ennor played the piano to accompany the boys as they concluded assembly with the School Song.



Class of 1989 Weekend

In what was the largest Old Collegian turnout yet for a single year, the College class of 1989 celebrated their 30th anniversary in October. Split over two days, a large group of former students shared memories and many laughs as they reconnected with one another, as well as some of their former teachers.

Their celebration started with a tour of the College, where the men saw first-hand how much the school had changed since their time at Saint Kentigern. They were taken aback by the upgraded specialist facilities and broad range of both, curricular subjects and co-curricular activities on offer. Following their tour, they gathered in

the Sports Lounge for afternoon tea before heading into the city for dinner.

The following morning, the group enjoyed watching the Saint Kentigern 1st XI Cricket Team in action – bringing back special memories for those played sports for the College. Later that evening, they were invited back to the Sports Lounge for a dinner and presentation by ICT Director, Walter Chieng. Mr Chieng shared Saint Kentigern's future plans with the gentlemen and thanked them all for coming. The weekend was a great success and we thank all those who helped organise the special occasion.



Phil Somerville – Eat Less Plastic

Phil Somerville left the College in 1987 and since then has lived a very adventurous life between New Zealand and America. From the age of 23, Phil discovered a passion for film, working in both countries as a stunt double and actor in many award-winning films such as Island, Captain Phillips, Iron Man 3, Zero Dark Thirty, Jack Reacher, Mission Impossible and Avatar.

Phil moved to California in 1987 and started acting in Los Angeles but later moved back to New Zealand to start a production company. After running it successfully for a year, he made the move back to Los Angeles to give himself a bit more of a challenge.

Later, Phil moved to Mexico where he became a Sports Director at Club Cozumel Caribe, the first resort ever built in the area at that time. He met his wife, Jill and toured and worked alongside singer, Shania Twain. Phil and his wife moved to Venice Beach in 1999 where Phil started an entertainment brand for children. Phil ran this for five years before taking time off to have his two children, Stryder and Reef.

During this time, Phil started learning about pollutants in our oceans and decided he was only going to pursue ventures that would positively make a difference to the planet and society. He gave up his Hollywood lifestyle to focus on reducing our carbon footprint. Phil sailed for 6 months, all the way from Los Angeles to New Zealand to test how much plastic is in our waters. In his travels, he was not

only sampling the waters for micro-plastics but he stopped at nine different islands and schools along the way to educate the locals on different ways in which they can help keep our waters clean.

Phil discovered there are 'more than 8 million tonnes of rubbish that gets dumped into the ocean each year and that there are around 240 million tonnes of plastic waste in our oceans today.' This fuelled his motivation to educate people and start the initiative, Eat Less Plastic. Phil now travels around the world sharing his story and ways in which people can help keep our waters clean.

Phil thanks Saint Kentigern and says the school taught him how to stay committed and to work hard, have drive and to be patient. 'Saint Kentigern taught me to commit to things and to finish it even when it gets hard.' Phil's next mission is to create a high-end, fully 'off the grid', sustainable house. We wish him all the best on this great adventure!!



Paddy Leishman – Musician and Songwriter

Musician and songwriter, Paddy Leishman spent eight years at the Boys' School and says 'they were some of the happiest times of his life.' From 1999 to 2006, Paddy attended Saint Kentigern, where he found his love and passion for music. Following his schooling years, Paddy attended The University of Auckland - School of Music, where he studied a Bachelor of Music, majoring in Popular Music and Songwriting.

After graduating, Paddy moved to London where he worked as a musician for two years. Following this, he returned to New Zealand to complete a Post Graduate Diploma in Film Sound and Composition at the New Zealand School of Music in Wellington.

Paddy started his current artist solo project, 'Paddy Echo' at the beginning of this year and has released two singles. He hopes to release another EP in January when he embarks on a writing trip to America.

Outside of music, Paddy has a passion for sport, acting and film. He is currently working as a youth acting and vocal coach at the Encore Theatre Collective; a youth theatre company that he and three friends started. There, he is working towards their first show, 'My Son Pinocchio', which will run from December 19-22 at the ASB Waterfront Theatre.

Paddy has offered assistance to the Boys' School during Term 4. Reflecting back, he thanks the teachers at Saint Kentigern for their guidance and encourages current students to absorb all that they can while at school, and to utilise all that the school has to offer. 'You are all so incredibly lucky to be there and I don't think you realise how fortunate you are until you leave. I certainly didn't! Saint Kentigern is a unique place and this is a unique time in your life so breathe it all in, as much as you can!'





Former Head Girls Gather

On a bright summer's evening, seven former Head Girls gathered at the top of Auckland's Sky Tower to spend an evening with Mrs Suzanne Winthrop during her final week at the College. Arranged by 2013 Head Girl, Sharnika Leleni, she was joined by the first two Head Girls at Saint Kentigern, Jessie Jarvie (nee Emerson, 2005), and Gemma Drummond (nee Kirk 2006), along with Tessa Meyer (2011), Chelsea Wiggall (2012), Isabella Denholm (2017) and Laura Porteous (2018).

Whether well established in their working lives, or just setting out on university courses, the women all spoke fondly of the impact that Mrs Winthrop had in their formative years and the importance that the presence of a strong female role model had in shaping their own lives.

Sharnika spoke on behalf of those present and those unable to attend saying, 'I think because of the role each of us had as Head Girl, we had the privilege of getting to know you better than some of our peers. Your work ethic, attention to detail and passion are attributes of yours that stand out. You have always had time to talk to give confidence and encourage all students, whatever their aspirations may be. We saw how much you cared about every student and made their problems or triumphs your own'

Gemma, the second Head Girl, said, 'The time I spent with Mrs Winthrop, and the values I learnt and have taken away from Saint Kentigern, have left me with an incredible sense of gratitude for having had the chance to be there.'

In the chatter that ensued over dinner, there much was to laugh about as the young women recalled their school days, especially the first Head Girl, Jessie's recollections of College life as one of the first 25 girls in a Senior School of over 400 boys! Yes, many of the boys in that first year of change were unmerciful to the foundation girls, yet inadvertently, it served to make the girls more resilient and even stronger of character! Jessie went on to marry Paul Jarvie, from the 'last year of boys.'

Jessie acknowledged that Mrs Winthrop was instrumental in ensuring that girls were successfully introduced to the College. Now seventeen years on, the most recent Head Girls, Isabella and Laura, agreed that their senior years at Saint Kentigern were truly co-educational - their age group had never known it to be different! They, too, acknowledged the role that Mrs Winthrop played as a strong, female role model with Tessa and Chelsea agreeing that this was important during their formative years.

The women enjoyed the chance to meet with their mentor and now look forward to celebrating the 20th year of Saint Kentigern girls in three years time.



Jessie Jarvie
2005



Gemma Kirk
2006



Tessa Meyer
2011



Chelsea Wiggall
2012



Sharnika Leleni
2013



Isabella Denholm
2017



Laura Porteous
2018

Recent Old Collegians Reconnect

Over 100 'Recent Old Collegians' came together at the Lula Inn on the viaduct to catch up in late November with the girls sending Piper this photo from the evening. Member of the Old Collegians committee, Laura Porter said, 'The event enabled fond school memories to be shared as well as current life stories, making for some long-lasting connections - the evening was thoroughly enjoyed!'



Will Farrell-Green – Media and Technology Leader

Will Farrell Green graduated from Saint Kentigern in 2001, having been Wishart's Deputy House Captain in his final year. Throughout his time at the College, he participated in all swimming, triathlon, duathlon, cycling, athletics, cross country and waterpolo activities, and was the New Zealand Schools Triathlon and Duathlon Champion in his senior years – later competing in the Junior Olympic Games in Sydney.

Will thrived in this environment, where he later became a professional triathlete and represented New Zealand, racing on the International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Championship circuit for five years until 2008, when he retired and started his business career. Will said Saint Kentigern helped to shape him into who he is today and also taught him how to set goals and to focus.

'Saint Kentigern taught me what success means and gave me the right attitude to maximise opportunities when they are presented. I translate these same principles into everything I do nowadays, which is particularly important given I work in a sector (tech) that is highly competitive and fairly ruthless in terms of success.'

Will started university following his sporting career. He completed an MBA at Auckland University while working his first job. After working in strategy, operations and product, Will moved to Spark before founding and launching New Zealand's first dedicated Internet of Things (IoT) start-up, Morepork, at the beginning of 2015. That same year, Will and his wife decided they wanted global experience and relocated to San Francisco to work in Silicon Valley.

Upon arrival, Will worked at Pandora and built a division of their business called, The Music Maker Group, a scaled marketplace connecting artists with fans through content programming, artist promotional tools and live events. This was a great experience for Will, however, the company was later sold and he moved to Amazon, where he now oversees strategy and operations for their video services globally.

'Amazon is an amazing but demanding place to work and this was a big step for me because culturally, it was entirely different from what I had experienced before. But I am learning a huge amount and the goal one day will be to return to New Zealand where I can use my experience to make a difference locally,' he said.

Outside of work, Will loves spending time with his son Jack and likes to keep fit. 'My wife and I had our first child in 2017 and he's the favourite part of our day. We have another child on the way in March next year. I also still like to keep fit and compete in the odd Half Ironman Triathlon, if and when my schedule allows it.'

Will thanks Saint Kentigern for helping him to kickstart his career and said Saint Kentigern 'does a great job at allowing individuals space to pursue their passions while also providing an environment which fosters belief and a pathway to be successful.'

Will encourages all students to enjoy themselves while they are at school and to keep an open mind. 'Work hard at whatever is your current passion – the rest will follow.'



We Stand Corrected!

In the October Piper, we incorrectly reported that the current College 1st XI Boys Football team claimed back-to-back Auckland Premier League titles for the first time in College history. How wrong we were! Team members from the 1988/1989 teams were quick to point out that they were in fact the first teams to win back to back titles – almost 30 years earlier! We stand corrected!





Boys' School Deputy Head Boy 2014, Beck Robson



Five Years On

On a Sunday evening just before Christmas, a large group of boys from the Boys' School Class of 2014 (now 2019 college graduates) along with their parents, came together for a BBQ to catch up with old friends before they head off on the next stage in their lives.

It was great to see these friendships rekindled as the boys shared stories of their respective college experiences and talked about 'where to from here.' Parents also had chance to reconnect and remember a time shared during their sons' days at the School.

There was initial surprise as they gathered at the Sports Centre lounge, to see half the top field fenced off in readiness for the building programme over the next two years. The boys took the opportunity to take a look around the grounds, including the refurbished Roselle House, to see how things have changed on campus before tucking into a BBQ dinner cooked up by Principal, Mr Peter Cassie with help from Boys' School staff, Sue Bowskill and Karyl Kid, along with parent help from Richard Cave, father of Charlie.

We wish these boys all the best as they move on in life.

Hugo Dorrestyn – Gappie in the UK

Hugo graduated from the College in 2018, having had an active interest in the Performing Arts during his college years. Like many students before him, he has taken the opportunity to do a 'Gap' year in the United Kingdom. Drawn to the opportunity to travel the world and meet different people, Hugo awoke in London to 'bricks that have more history than the whole of New Zealand, bustling crowds and glass wrapped skyscrapers. Steam poured out of buildings in the winter chill as people brushed past in their Burberry coats and scarves.'

Hugo reports: 'After a brief orientation, I discovered I would be placed at the 'Tring Park School for the Performing Arts.' The school is unbelievably beautiful - a great red and white Georgian mansion in the English countryside. Once owned by Walter Rothschild, one of the richest, private zoologists the world has known, the ballrooms, with their ornate marble fireplaces and grand wooden staircases, are now set aside for ballerinas. A few weeks in, I saw the beauty of seeing snow fall for the first time and the school grounds carpeted in a thick,

snowy coat - and soon I was getting pummelled with snow balls by a horde of unruly dancers, actors and musicians!

My work is split over three different departments. I spend time slopping on paint, soldering wires and building sets in the theatre workshop. In the academic department, I assist teachers, sometimes by reading with children in the learning support department and sometimes helping out with swimming lessons. My favourite part of the job is working in the boarding house. Tring has three, but I work solely in 'Clockhouse' with 65 of the most talented, amazing boys and two lovely house parents. It's where I have basically volunteered to be a big brother!

Aside from the fantastic time you have at your placement, every school holiday you are free to depart and explore. Maybe I haven't got my first year of university under my belt yet but I've admired the Eiffel Tower as it sparkled on a dark winter's night, I've hiked up the side of a Norwegian fjord, amongst bell-clinking goats and wildflowers, I've cycled alongside the Berlin Wall while dining on currywurst and so, so, so much more. There is a whole continent to explore. Not

only are you seeing the world, but the maturity and experience you gain from being by yourself and responsible for your every move is life changing. Your independence skyrockets along with your confidence in facing new obstacles.

I wholeheartedly believe that this gap year has been the best thing I have done so far. I was not ready to choose or commit to university but by taking a gap year, I have been rewarded with so many amazing life experiences and have grown so much.'





SKOCA Golf Day

On a day of mixed conditions, a record number of teams, the largest ever, gathered for the Ambrose Tournament at Remuera Golf Club. A barbecue lunch was served while the teams readied themselves for tee-off.

The main focus of the day was on enjoyment, fellowship and fundraising, which is a polite way of saying - all levels of skill on the course were acceptable! Whilst there is an element of fun, and some seriously competitive golf between 'certain' teams, the primary goal of the day was to raise money for the Old Collegians Scholarships to each of our schools, the Old Collegians Field Centre Provision Fund and our newly established Duke of Edinburgh Gold scholarship fund, to allow students who otherwise might struggle financially to participate fully in these activities.

There were additional incentives to rise to the occasion with a wide range of prizes for which we sincerely thank our sponsors. This year, the team comprising Stuart Bulcraig, Gary Rees, Paul Motorshead and Ian Haringa took out the competition with an incredible score of Nett 51. Thanks to John Howard and Walter Chieng and their teams for again creating a superbly run event.

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.

MELEISEA Marcus #5002

IRWIN John College teacher 1955 - 1977.

THOMAS Evan Boys' School teacher 1961-1972



XE Money Transfer – Do You Send or Receive Foreign Currency?

XE have been a proud sponsor and supporter of Saint Kentigern College Rowing since 2016 and have a well-established affiliate programme in place which has helped the club move forward. We are pleased to announce that this has been extended to benefit all sports across Saint Kentigern schools. If you are a business or an individual that sends or receives foreign currency, you can help support the schools along with saving yourself both some time and money.

The arrangement is simple and straight forward; sign up (an account with us is free and takes just a few minutes to setup) and from each and every transaction that you or the business makes the school benefits from receiving a monthly paid commission with no additional charges to you.

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