

NEW 'N' OLD

Winter 2010

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A community centre opens to *Light the Way*



In January, a group of New Collegians and other UNSW students went to Nepal to begin their first 'Light the Way' project. Light the Way is a team of young people with a passion for helping others and improving communities. They have chosen to help Nepal build for the future by introducing long term sustainable solutions. By improving adult education and providing a reliable source of electricity, the Light the Way team aim to break the cycle of poverty.

In the Nepali village of Nirmal Pokhari, the team worked over a few months to build a community centre fitted with solar panels but left as the building began to take shape. For the last three months of the project, supervision of construction

was left in the villagers' hands. Upon completion of the building, there was great excitement when some members of the Australian Light the Way team returned for the dedication of the community centre. The group's gift of a laptop was received with much delight. The village's (and Light the Way's) first adult education centre was opened on 17 April, 2010 with over 200 villagers attending the ceremony. Everyone in the village was involved in the building of the centre so from the beginning it has truly been a community centre. The villagers were very happy to see it complete and ready for class.

Soon after the opening, the first night class was held on 20 April 2010. The lessons focused on improving basic literacy and over 40 villagers attended. Since then, 166 people have been actively participating in different training topics.

The journey from construction, opening celebrations and the first night classes at the community centre can be seen in a video posted by the Light the Way team on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLjPjdaWhZE

Staff and residents of New College and many of the team's friends and relatives have followed the journey of the Light the Way team as it has raised funds to build the community centre. We look forward to following future projects of Light the Way as they help build a brighter future for Nepal. Great work guys!

More information and how you can support the work of Light the Way can be found on their website www.facebook.com/light.the.way and enquiries can be emailed to ltw.nepal@gmail.com ▶

Top: A prominent community leader unveiled the plaque at the opening ceremony. Bottom: James and Josh dancing Nepali style at opening celebrations.



Professor Trevor Cairney

From the Master

This winter edition of *New 'n' Old* is packed with details of the activities of current residents as well as news from alumni. The year has started well with full houses on both sides of Anzac Parade – 565 residents in all! The year started with the usual frenzy of New College O'Week activities with 94 New College freshers arriving in March. At the NCV 158 freshers enjoyed a different time than in Year 1 (2009). This year our New Dean at the NCV, Dr John Quinn and the Senior Resident team were able to lead a full week of activities for the first time.

One of the exciting things about being Master at New College is always being amazed by the diversity of achievements of the residents and

(compared to 2009) with Carmen and I moving out of the New College Village now that it is well established. It was a wonderful experience for both of us to live in the NCV from day one and to help shape the community. We have missed being a daily part of NCV life. In 2010, I have spent more time back in New College but I still maintain an active role in NCV events and activities. While the buildings are both full and two separate communities are in place, operationally there are still many things that need to be done. One of my key challenges in 2010 will be to work with architects and builders to prepare designs for the final stage of the New College building refurbishment. New College has leaked since 1969 and this must be solved before we complete the refurbishment of the 1st to 3rd floors. The plan is to build a roof that partly encloses the courtyard that will stop the rain while not substantially changing the atmosphere and utility of the courtyard. Once this is done a variety of other changes can be made to refresh all rooms and enhance common rooms on every floor. This will be a 2–3 year project.

There have been a number of staff changes in 2010 with two new Deans arriving and several staff leaving, including our Alumni and Public Relations Officer, Mark Fairfull. Mark left in April to take up a new position as Fundraising Manager at a Christian radio station in Sydney. I want to thank Mark for the wonderful support that he has given to alumni in his five years with us.

As usual, I hope that you enjoy this edition of *New 'n' Old* and that it offers an insight into the richness of life at New College. Please continue to send in alumni news; we love to hear what former residents are up to, whether you left recently or many years ago. Please keep in touch. **Trevor Cairney**

One of my key challenges in 2010 will be to work with architects and builders to prepare designs for the final stage of the New College building refurbishment.

alumni, only a small proportion of which we are able to report. In this issue, we provide reports on the notable achievements of Alex Blackwell who led the Australian Women's cricket team to victory in the T20 World Cup, Sam Wills who recently won a General Sir John Monash Fellowship, residents and alumni who launched the Australian Medical Student Journal, and the key role of New Collegians in the establishment of a new community development project in Nepal. There are also a number of weddings to report and some new babies (future Collegians!).

This year has been a different one for me

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NEW 'N' OLD is produced by New College at the University of New South Wales.

About New

Founded in 1969, the original New College is an Anglican residential college for students at the University of New South Wales. New College actively contributes to the life of the wider University and its main campus is set within University grounds. New welcomes people of all faiths and none. The College celebrates, and is enriched by, the diversity of backgrounds of its staff and students. The College pursues academic excellence, collegiality and service to society founded upon Christian faith and values.

New's main programs include:

- New College, the residential college for 248 undergraduate students at the University of New South Wales
- New College Village, the postgraduate residential village for 315 postgraduate students at the University of New South Wales.
- Centre for Apologetic Scholarship and Education, a specialist centre which carries out Christian apologetics—the activity of defending the Christian faith, engaging with other world views and attracting 'thinking' people to the message of the Christian faith.
- New College Lectures, in 1986 the College set up a Trust to conduct an annual series of public lectures. Lecturers address an important issue or aspect of contemporary society and comment on it from the standpoint of their Christian faith and professional expertise.

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General Sir John Monash Fellowship awarded to Sam Wills



Former resident Sam Wills (NC 2003–2005) has recently won a prestigious General Sir John Monash Fellowship. The award recognises academic excellence and future leadership potential. It is the first time a New Collegian has

won this award. Dubbed the 'Australian Rhodes' this is a highly competitive award where candidates are not restricted by age, gender or field of study but selected on their intellect, leadership qualities and community involvement. For the successful candidate, the experience increases their profile, equipping them with the skills and networks for a future leadership role.

Sam received his award on 2 December 2009 from Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Patron in Chief of The General Sir John Monash Foundation at a special ceremony at Government House, Canberra. The award offers a postgraduate scholarship to study at the world's best universities.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in Actuarial Studies and Finance with first class honours and the University Medal from UNSW, Sam has worked in public and corporate strategy for the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and McKinsey & Company. He is currently completing his M.Phil in Economics at the University of Oxford.

The scholarship provides an opportunity for Sam to undertake a D.Phil in Economics at Pembroke College, University of Oxford. His studies will concentrate on limiting the effects of the "resource curse" in both developed and developing nations, "... the idea that having a wealth of natural resources can actually harm a nation's economy by stifling other sectors, increasing volatility, encouraging political instability and degrading the environment." Having lived in Nauru, where superphosphate generated a boom, Sam understands the economic damage resulting from improper management of resources. For a resource rich country, the topic has immediate relevance for Australian policymakers.

New College is thrilled with your achievement. Congratulations, Sam. ▀

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NEW COLLEGE LECTURE SERIES 2010

Music, Modernity and God



Professor Jeremy Begbie
Professor in Theology at
Duke Divinity School,
North Carolina

This year the New College lectures will be a little different as the lecturer is not only a leading theologian, but also an outstanding musician. As such, the lectures will include many elements of performance.

In this series of lectures, through music, Jeremy Begbie will explore three central themes that have dominated debates in the modern age – creativity, freedom and the power of language. Considering each in turn, he will show how music can enable us to 'read' our culture with the eyes of Christian faith, and respond in fresh ways to some of the deepest dilemmas of our time.

14–16 September 2010
Tyree Room, Scientia, UNSW

For more information contact
Katarina Spurling, 02 9381 1999
or visit the New College website,
www.newcollege.unsw.edu.au

Major New College awards 2009

The New College Award was instituted in 1988 by the then Master of the College Dr Bruce Kaye. It recognises a resident who exemplifies the academic ideals of the College in



Above: The New College community spirit was in force when residents organised the J-Rock Benefit Concert for fellow resident Jared Pritchard

terms of commitment and achievement, openness to other areas of study, a willingness to assist others, and intellectual inquisitiveness. It also takes into account involvement in and contribution to the wider life of the College, however the traditional purpose of this award has always been to acknowledge that person who has embodied the academic ideals of the College. Recent

winners of the New College award include Alice Lang, Rebecca Barnes, Richard Fleming and Wah Guan Lim who is currently studying at Princeton in the US.

In 2007 the Master decided to present two New College Awards – an academic award and a service to the Community award. The addition of this second award enables us to recognise members of the College who have contributed to the community in ways that exemplify the other ideals

Both awards, however, recognise contributions to the College community ... involvement in the academic sphere of College life or through the support and encouragement of collegiality and service, within and beyond this community.

identified in the College mission – those of collegiality and service to society. Both awards, however, recognise contributions to the College community – whether it is through involvement in the academic sphere of College life or through the support and encouragement of collegiality and service, within and beyond this community.



James Pietsch and the RA's including Richard (second from left) during O'week

New College Award – Academic

The 2009 recipient was Richard Tierney; he has an outstanding academic record, maintaining a high distinction average over the course of his degree so far. He has completed courses in Biology, Physics, mathematics, philosophy, French and German and continues to perform well despite taking on multiple areas of responsibility in College. But academic success is just one of the criteria for this award. As well as being a tutor in College, Richard was also involved in numerous productions as well as serving the community as a Resident Adviser in 2009.



NC award — Community service: Matthew Wright with Dr Stuart Barton Babbage

New College Award – Community Service

The 2009 recipient was Matthew Wright. Matt is someone who has contributed to the New College community by demonstrating a willingness to serve in varied ways. A member of 2009 Exec, he proactively sought ways to ensure better outcomes for the whole College community. In his time at College so far, he has served as the head of ShedSoc, as Treasurer of the Exec, and been a member of numerous groups and bands performing at different events. Added to this he has returned to College this year to serve the community as the Physics tutor. ▀

New College formal dinner guests focus on the environment

Guest speaker at the College Commencement Dinner for 2010 was Prof Alec Tzannes, Dean of Built Environment at UNSW. Prof Tzannes brought an interesting insight into urban design and sustainability. He discussed the need for well designed density in the modern urban landscape.

The Mid-Session Formal Dinner saw a different aspect of 'environment' on view as Dr Linda Selvey, the CEO of Greenpeace Australia Pacific spoke to the residents. Before taking on her role at Greenpeace, Dr Selvey held senior positions in Queensland Health, and on the Council of the Australian Conservation Foundation. Dr Selvey spoke of her decision to take on her role at Greenpeace, the Climate Change training she received from Al Gore in 2007 and the impact it had on her. Climate Change has become the most pressing issue that she wants to promote. The address was very stimulating and many residents were eager to discuss the issue further. ■



Alex Rogan receiving a 2010 New College award from Prof. Alex Tzannes



Prof. Trevor Cairney with Linda Selvey, CEO Greenpeace

NC Academic Excellence 2009

New College's mission is to bring about collegiality, academic excellence and service to society. The academic excellence continued in 2009. In Session One 24 residents achieved a high distinction average and 86 achieved a distinction average or higher. Of the 236 people for whom results were available, 36% achieved a distinction average and 10% achieved a high distinction average. In Session Two results were similar. 17 people achieved a high distinction average and 96 achieved a distinction average or higher. Results were available for 221 residents with 42% achieving a distinction average and 8% achieving a high distinction average. The average mark across the College in Session One was 72.4% and 70.7% in Session Two. In total there were 25 University prizes, including 3 University medals, won by former and current New Collegians.

University Medallists

Michael Abbott – Business Economics
Hugh Cover – Mechatronic Engineering
John Scicluna – Materials Engineering

University prize winners

Luke Iredale – The Sydney Symphony Prize
Michael Abbott – The DEEWR Prize in Applied Econometrics
Phoebe Boyle – The Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Prize
Dallas Gillespie – The Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Encouragement Award
Rex Cover – The Faculty of Engineering Dean's Award
Rhys Schmidtke – The Macquarie Second Year Software Engineering Prize
Alex Rogan – The Jeffery and Katauskas Prize in Civil and Environmental Engineering
James Tibbett – The Barrick Gold of Australia Prize in Mining Engineering
Sian Elliot – The Consulting Surveyors' NSW Prize in Land Development
Guy Baldwin – The Faculty of Law Dean's List of Excellence in Academic Performance
Amy Gibbens – The Graham Turner Bursaries Prize in Rural Clinical School
Liam Williamsz – The Hans Westerman Prize in Planning and Urban Development
Robert Gerrand – Dean's Award in Engineering
Nick Webb – Dean's Award in Engineering
Nick Mehan – Prize for Medicine in Phase Three and The John Edmonds Prize for Medicine
Robyn Silcock – The Graham Turner Bursaries Prize for Rural Clinical School
Sam Mooney – The Graham Turner Bursaries Prize for Rural Clinical School
Anthea Anantharajah – James Curran Prize for Medicine in Rural Clinical School Prize and The 2/5 AGHA Primary Care Teamwork Prize in General Practice
Chin Pin Wong – J R Holmes Prize in Level Three Pure Mathematics and The Applied Mathematics Prize

The Many Marriages and Engagements of New

Once again we have had a number of weddings since the last New'n'Old.

▶ Former Collegian Chris Bailey (NC 2006–2008) and Emma Collins were married in the gardens of Belgenny Farm at Camden, on Saturday 12 December 2009. Matthew Grosvenor (NC 2002–2004; 2007–2008) was Best Man with John Bailey (NC 2009–Present) and Matthew Frazer (NC 2004–2006) in support. Emma was attended by two friends from school, as well as Elizabeth Frazer (NC 2006–2007). The music was provided by Rebekah Lockart (NC 2006–2008) and David Lockart (NC 2003–2005), as well as Jonathan Billingham (NC 2006–2009), Jonathan Barnett (NC 2005–2008) and Andrew McGuire (NC 2006–2007). Carl Matthei married Chris and Emma, and the reception followed in a converted rustic woolshed. In all, around 40 collegians attended the wedding, including Ian (NC 1977–1979) and Ruth Bailey (NC 1978–1981) (Chris' Parents) as well as Bill Barwick (NC 1971–1976) and Graham Boyton (NC 1977–1979) with his wife Sue, who prayed for the couple.



▶ Another New College couple, Timothy Rowe (NC 2005–2007) and Sarah Lang (NC 2007–2008) were married on 9 January 2010 at St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Bathurst. The reception was held at St Stanislaus College, Bathurst. The bridal party was almost a New College reunion, with groomsmen: Christopher Rowe (NC 2003–2006), Jonathan Barnett (NC 2005–2008), Michael McLean (NC 2005–2007) and bridesmaids: Christine Lang (NC 2004–2009), Merryn McKeon (NC 2007–2009) and Louisa Rowe with Sarah's niece, Macey Paul the flower girl. Inspired by the College swing dancing lessons, guests at the reception were treated to a choreographed dance to Michael Buble's 'Everything' from the bridal couple.



▶ Louise Stacy (NC 1998–1999) married Lee Kingma at the Anglican Church in Tumut on 17 October 2009. Ex-collegians Linda Lee (NC 1997–1999), Laura Dufty (NC 2000), Emma Packer (NC 1999), Joanna Stacy, Nicole Gavenlock (nee Lauder, NC 1998) and Paul Stacy (NC 1995–1996) attended the wedding.



▶ Lachlan Rogers (NC 2004–2007) and Kim Hoa Scruton (NC 2004–2007, staff 2008–2009) were married by Ben Gooley (current Dean and former collegian) at Canberra Baptist Church on 5 December 2009. The wedding and reception had over 65 College staff and residents in attendance! The bridal party included former collegians Matthew Frazer (Best Man), Sarah Marquet (nee Slavich, Matron of Honour), Timothy Rowe and Michael McLean. Professor Trevor Cairney, his wife Carmen, Christine Lang and Arend Boog prayed for the couple. Most of the musicians were both past and present collegians: Jonathan Barnett, Callan Pritchard, Daniel Cummings, David Conway, Clare Ferres, Rodney Towner and Amy Nasser (nee Morrison). Sound was organised by Andrew Boyton and ushers/morning tea helpers included collegians Rebekah Lockart (nee Milham), Elizabeth Frazer (nee Henderson), Belinda McLean (nee Thorne) and Sarah Lang. Lachlan and Kim Hoa enjoyed celebrating with family and friends at a lovely outdoor reception at Pialligo Estate winery.



The wedding reception had over 65 College staff and residents in attendance!

In other news, we can report the engagement of Sara Wilson (NC 2005–2008) and Jonathan Lee. The pair announced their engagement on the 7 February this year and intend to marry on 23 October 2010 in Kurrajong, where Sara grew up. Many friends from within the College community, both past and present, share in their joy and look forward to the wedding day celebrations.

There have also been many births including a baby boy (Luke) to Rod and Lauren Towner, and Oliver to Alex and Alana (nee Hayes) Koch. ▶



Alex Blackwell – Australian Cricket Captain



Alex Blackwell (NC 2002–2003) has been in the news lately, leading the Australian Women's Cricket team to win the T20 World Cup. Alex first played for Australia while she was a resident in New College and studying Medicine full-time. She has had great success as a cricketer for Australia and so far the pinnacle being the recent success in the Caribbean, captaining the team to beat New Zealand in the final. Alex has:

"... an even greater desire to continue to play cricket at the highest level. It was an absolute thrill to captain the team and I am proud of how I handled the pressure of captaincy in a World tournament. Raising the World Cup on the podium in Barbados is the highlight of my cricket career thus far, and I am hungry to be doing that again when next I don the green and gold!!"

Combining study and elite cricket has been difficult. Alex left Medicine in 2007 after an agonising few months of decision making. Having studied full time (2002 and 2003), part time (2004 and 2005) and then taking a year off, she came back to Australia in 2007 and realised that:

"... it was just not going to work out for me being a medical student/doctor while being an international cricketer. There was not much time left for friends/family/relationships/fun when I was trying to do both of these things at the same time. I was starting to suffer the consequences of 'burn out'. I also felt I was doing neither medicine nor cricket to the best of my ability. So cricket won out in the end, it was always my number one passion and I have always felt that I wanted to give cricket my best shot while I'm still young enough to play. I hope to continue to play until the 2013 50-Over World Cup in India in order to regain World Champion Status in that format. After that I will probably turn my attention back to my career outside of cricket and perhaps even look at going back to medicine. Who knows, though."



Alex left UNSW in 2007 with a BSc (Medicine) and that year played a Test series in Darwin against the Kiwis in June 2007, and for the first time was solely focused on cricket. Soon after that series she was recommended to the Australian College of Physical Education, becoming a lecturer and tutor in Anatomy and Physiology. This was a fantastic opportunity to earn some well-needed income but also to gain some experience and apply all the knowledge she acquired as a medical student. Anatomy and Physiology were always her favourite subjects, so she has been running the Anatomy and Physiology unit for second year PE teaching students for the past 2 years and loves it. She is now pursuing a career in genetic counselling, helping people understand the risks of having inherited a faulty gene and potentially developing diseases such as familial breast cancer or Huntington's Disease. Alex has recently completed a graduate diploma of genetic counselling by distance education through CSU.

Looking back on her years at New College, Alex reflects:

"I am so grateful that I had the opportunity to be a New Collegian. Long term friendships were formed and incredible memories forged. One of my proudest moments was when Richard Fleming announced at a New College dinner that the women's sports cup for the college would be named in my honour. Thanks New College for two fantastic years!" ▶

Casual Accommodation and Conferences



New College has conference facilities for meetings and large groups available during UNSW session breaks with a range of catering and accommodation options to suit your needs.

We have 240 single student rooms in New College and air-conditioned self contained studio apartments in our new postgraduate residence, New College Village.

Throughout the year, individual rooms are available for a minimum of 2 nights stay. These are ideal for visits to Sydney, UNSW conferences and school students requiring accommodation for interviews at UNSW.

Why not consider staying at New College or New College Village?



Contact us to discuss your conference and accommodation requirements:

>> Telephone: + 61 (2) 9381 1999 >> Email: conferences@newcollege.unsw.edu.au

The Australian Medical Student Journal



AMSJ staff at the launch held in the Lowy Cancer Research Centre, UNSW

They might only be in the infancy of their medical careers but a group of New College and New College Village medical students had cause for celebration recently as they successfully launched a new academic journal, the Australian Medical Student Journal (AMSJ).

The AMSJ is a national, student-run, peer reviewed biomedical journal that publishes relevant and topical research, reviews and opinions from students all over Australia. It is the first of its kind in Australia and has already been well received by both students and doctors. Conceived in 2009, the AMSJ is distributed free of charge to 14,000 medical students across the country via print and online editions.

The journal's launch was on 29 April 2010, and was attended by medical students from across Australia as well as a host of academics and clinicians. Among them was AMA President, Dr. Andrew Pesce, who cut the ribbon from the first box of copies. Fittingly, the new publication was launched in UNSW's newest building, the Lowy Cancer Research Centre.

12 out of the 22 staff of the AMSJ are current or past residents of New College and/or the New College Village, including the three founders:

Matt Schiller (NC 2006–2009) — Chair and Editor-in-Chief

Hassan Ahmad (NC 2008–2009) — Executive Board Member and Communications Officer

Timothy Yang (NC 2006–2008; NCV 2009–present) — Executive Board Member and Editor-in-Chief

Daniel Foong (NC 2007–present) — Sponsorship Officer

Dhiva Eliezer (NC 2007–present) — Sponsorship Officer

Sean Kelly (NC 2007–2009) — Financial Officer

Helena Jang (NC 2006–2009; NCV 2009) — Secretary

Kajan Pirapakaran (NCV 2010–present) — Associate Editor

Geoffrey Arthurson (NC 2007–2009) — Associate Editor

Claire Lawley (NC 2006–2009) — Associate Editor

Jad Othman (NC 2006–2008) — Associate Editor

Chee Kong (Patrick) Teo (NCV 2009) — Print Publication Officer

Hannah Wills (NC 2005–2006) — Proof-reader

The rationale behind the journal is not only to encourage more students to become involved in medical research but also to highlight important issues. The inaugural issue attracted almost 100 submissions from 15 of the country's 20 medical schools. Academic articles were reviewed by expert clinicians and academics, many of whom are world leaders in their field. The articles in the first issue cover topics such as new surgical techniques, rural and Indigenous health, pharmaceutical promotion and complementary medicine. The focus is squarely on providing content that will appeal to a medical student readership.

The inaugural issue also included a number of guest authors, including Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, Australian of the Year Prof. Patrick McGorry, AMA President Dr. Andrew Pesce, and prominent medical author Prof. Nicholas Talley.

To download a free copy of the inaugural issue, visit www.amsj.org.



NC: The Freshers of '10

In 2010, 94 freshers joined the community at New College. Ninety-five, if you count the 'fresher' Dean.

The incoming students arrived bright-eyed and eager to make an energetic start to their new life as uni students. O'Week (called 'The Big Bang' this year) was a fantastic week. Highlights included perennials like the PT rally, Harbour Cruise and the post-fresher formal dinner festivities, as well as an energetic and unprecedentedly intricate Fresher Dance that everyone loved.

As incoming Dean, Ben Gooley met most of the new residents (and many of the oldies) for the first time in O'Week – James Pietsch had done a spectacular job in selecting another fantastic bunch of freshers. As usual, most of the new residents are from rural areas. Four new students came from Oxley High School and four from Narrabundah College in Canberra, but Oxley leads the originating-school tally with a huge total of nine College residents coming from the Tamworth school. Other 'strong performers' amongst the freshers were Canberra Girls' Grammar and (for something a little bit different) the Australian International School in Hong Kong. Across the whole college community, All Saints College, Duval High and Merewether High continue to rank highly in providing freshers. This year we welcomed almost as many Medicine students as Engineers, with a little over twenty of each.

A number of incoming residents received 2010 Engineering scholarships.

The fresher cohort brings a wealth of academic, musical and creative talent to College. Already, new residents have performed at formal dinners, been active in College Services headed up various sporting comps, and the College Play saw freshers make up almost half the cast.

On the sporting field, the freshers extend (if possible) New College's dominance of the hockey field, including the captain of the Australian School Boys Hockey Team. At the time of writing, the women are on top of the women's inter-college sporting tally and the men are equal second.

The freshers also bring such diverse interests and talents as fire-twirling, magic and kite-flying to rifles and robotics.

All of this points towards another year in which the New College community will have an amazing year together and make a difference in the wider world. 🐾



Pictured at the presentation evening are Alison Tibbett (2nd year collegian), Ben Gooley (Dean of Residents), Jacob Hyland, Oliver Kas, Michael Minett and Patrick Hoy.
Absent: Adam Teusner and Lucy Cooper.

The Old New – eighties reunion



In March 2010, a reunion of New Collegians from the 1980s was held in North Sydney. David Green (NC 1982–1983) once again was the initiator of this great event, having organised a similar event in 2005. This time our Alumni and Public Relations Officer, Mark Fairfull helped with some of the arrangements as well as greeting people at the venue, "The Living Room" at Greenwood Plaza in North Sydney.

It was fantastic to see friends from College days, especially those who travelled some distance ... with one former resident coming from Noumea!

There was a great turnout of around 100 former collegians getting together to relive old memories (and create some new ones). Plans are already underway for the next reunion in five years time.

It was fantastic to see friends from College days, especially those who travelled some distance to be there, with one former resident coming from Noumea! The night flew by in a hum of chatter, laughter and friendship.

The Master brought us up to date with current happenings at the College, albeit also bringing the sad news that the stocks are no longer in use! It was nice to see the New College spirit living on through its former collegians, with a good time had by all in a friendly, warm and inclusive environment.

Roll on the next five years! 🐾

NCV: The Freshers of '10



The many faces of NCV's united nations enjoying an evening BBQ.

The NCV community has a much higher turnover compared to New College because the majority of students are enrolled in shorter postgraduate programs. The largest student group again hails from the Australian School of Business. NCV students undertaking PhD studies tend to be longer term residents.

Unlike New College where the new residents tend to arrive *en masse* on the first day of O'Week, new students at NCV arrive progressively during the first three months of the year.

Of the 158 new residents, it was pleasing to see an incredible diversity of students. Part of the NCV mission is to be a diverse and supportive community and there is no doubt that this is the case. Students hail from 50 different countries, with large groups from China, Singapore, Australia, Iran, Malaysia and smaller populations from nations in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Pacific and the Americas. Students range in age from as young as 18 years to 50+ years. It is fantastic to see how such a diverse community is able to function and in fact thrive as students learn from each other and begin to see things from a completely different perspective. Moreover, the Master has often joked that after living in NCV, residents will never need to pay for a hotel room again – they will have friends spread right around the globe!

Aside from the exciting O'Week program, a particular highlight for 2010 (so far) has been the inaugural NCV Harbour Cruise. The cruise took place on the evening of April 22, departing from the Opera House. For many international students it was the first time that they had seen the Opera House from such close quarters. Once out on the

Harbour, students were able to take in Sydney's breathtaking views, and seeing the Harbour Bridge and Luna Park so closely was a real treat. One resident commented that they took over 250 photos in the course of the evening – the wonders of the digital age! The cruisers enjoyed a two course meal and listened to some brief words from the Master.

Prof. Trevor Cairney, who encouraged the students to make the most of community life and to seize every opportunity to build friendships with other residents. "In some ways I am preaching to the converted" Prof. Cairney remarked "but can I encourage you to make the most of your time in this wonderful community, participating in all the events that NCV has to offer." ▀



The inaugural NCV harbour cruise.



Barbeque in NCV courtyard.

NCV: Supporting Research Students



Currently New College Village is home to about 35 students undertaking PhD degrees or Masters degrees by research. In addition, many other students who are undertaking coursework are also required to complete a thesis as part of their program. To support these students, NCV runs a monthly Research Student Group with the aim of (i) encouraging researchers to socialise with other people having similar experiences (ii) to hear about different research projects and (iii) be equipped for a career in research.

Each meeting includes a short time for a drink and some nibbles, followed by a research presentation from one of our residents and a 'skills' presentation by a relevant expert. The meetings are typically attended by 20–30 students.

At the April meeting, Luke Parkitny, one of our residents undertaking research at the Prince of Wales' Medical Research Institute gave a dynamic presentation on 'Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome'. This was followed by a panel of upper year PhD students who shared their wisdom on 'Surviving the First Year of a PhD'. The panel was made up of students studying in different areas – Naadir Junaid (Faculty of Arts), Laura Sharpe (Faculty of Medicine) and James Lam (Faculty of Engineering); so there was a wide range of perspectives presented.

At the May meeting, Vivian Shek spoke about 'The effects of background music', and Ms Janice Besch (Director of the UNSW Grants Management Office) delivered a presentation entitled 'An overview of the Australian research grants system'.

Ms Besch's presentation included some invaluable tips for anyone embarking on a research career and was well received by the NCV research community.

An exciting lineup of speakers have been arranged for coming meetings – A/Prof. Sebastien Perrier from the University of Sydney will provide the students with some tips on getting a high impact publication, Prof. Christine Alexander from UNSW's Faculty of Arts will share some insights for those setting out on a career in academia and alumnus Dr Ben Waterhouse will speak about

NCV runs a monthly Research Student Group with the aim of i) encouraging researchers to socialise with other people having similar experiences ii) to hear about different research projects and iii) be equipped for a career in research.

setting up your own consultancy after completing postgraduate research. Additionally, we will hear from our own students who are completing research on topics as diverse as affordable housing in Malaysia, the mechanisms of cancer development and the use of Bengali cinema for addressing political and social issues.

We look forward to an interesting semester as we support and encourage our students undertaking research degrees. ▀



Suzaini Zaid speaking at an evening research group meeting.

NCV Academic Excellence

Residents at the NCV have continued the great New College tradition of high academic achievement. Eleven students achieved High Distinction averages, with three students having averages above 90. Eighty four students achieved Distinction averages and a further ninety seven achieved Credit averages. One of our students, Wai Ming Eugene Siew,

received the Energy Australia Electrical Energy 4th Year Prize from the School of Electrical Engineering and Telecommunications. This fantastic effort reflects the high calibre students who are attracted by both NCV and New College. ▀

Kicking Off the Year: O'Week at NCV

This year NCV hosted a formal O'Week program for the first time. Over 80% of the new residents are from overseas and for many, this was the first time they had come to Australia. The aim of the week was to introduce our new residents to each other, to the NCV, to UNSW and to the local Kingsford/Kensington area.



The week kicked off with a 'Sampling Sydney tour' to introduce students to Sydney's public transport as well as to enjoy some of the city's most spectacular vistas. The students travelled by bus to Circular Quay, and after visiting the Opera House and Harbour Bridge caught the

supper of pancakes cooked in the NCV Courtyard by the Senior Resident team.

On Tuesday, the new residents participated in a scavenger hunt aimed at familiarising them with the local community.

Wednesday night saw a large proportion of the new residents turn out for a trivia night. John Quinn was the evening's quiz master, testing areas as diverse as world geography, 80's music, scientific history and celebrity couples.

On Thursday night, we erected a screen and projector in the courtyard, so that students could enjoy the Pixar classic *Wall-E* by moonlight (with of course, the requisite popcorn!).

The Currency Lads led a group of curious students through the great New College tradition of a bush dance on Friday night. This was followed by another great Australian tradition – the NCV BBQ.

There were barefoot bowls at Kensington Bowling Club on Saturday afternoon. For some of the students, lawn bowls was a completely new experience – they had not previously heard of it, let alone played it! The Dean hosted a gathering where a number of our students gave a short introduction to their local churches. This also provided the opportunity to introduce two of the churches that meet on campus, Unichurch and FOCUS (Fellowship of Overseas Christian University Students). After this meeting, the sports day continued with indoor soccer and badminton.

The week finished with activities organised for each floor by the local Senior Resident.

All up, the week was a great success. It was a particular highlight to see many of the new people participating in these events and making new friends. The week set the tone for a great year at NCV! ■

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ferry around to Darling Harbour for some treats at the Lindt Café. On Monday night, the Master and Dean formally welcomed the students and introduced the Senior Resident and Academic Tutor teams. This was followed by a delicious

What's New? News briefs

● New College welcomes new staff member

Dr Angelina Enno works as Executive Officer to the College. Her role is to manage the two offices and assist the Master in a variety of projects that include research and policy development. She has a background in medical research and previously managed a laboratory facility at UNSW.

● Farewell Denise McCarthy

After 18 months of faithful service Denise McCarthy finished at New College on 9 April 2010. Denise has been a wonderful receptionist, loved and respected by staff alike and she will be greatly missed.

● CASE Update

The College's public theology centre continues under the leadership of the Master. CASE held its second annual Medical Ethics Conference on

27 March 2010 with over 100 delegates, this conference was again a success. CASE continues to publish its quarterly magazine that deals with topics of broad interest.

Case magazine #22 is on the theme 'God without Borders'.

In it we bring a range of theological and other disciplinary approaches to bear on the problems of life and the overlapping of local, global, national, and international spheres. How do we make sense of the various layers of community, solidarity and ethical relationships created by the relations of these spheres? What new historical conditions has globalization brought about? Writers include Stanley Hauerwas, Andrew Sloane, Matthew Tan, Luke Glanville, Erin Goheen, John Shellard, Stuart Barton Babbage



and Andrew Errington. *Case* #23 on the theology of music is due out in July.

● Alumni in the news

Graham Clarke (NC 1994–1997) featured in SMH article 'Apple fanatics prepare for iPad launch mania'. To see the article online visit: <http://www.smh.com.au/digital-life/computers/apple-fanatics-prepare-for-ipad-launch-mania-20100323-qsg.html>.

Through his *Glasshouse Apps* company, Graham is one of several Australia developers creating apps for the new iPad, travelling to New York for the US launch. Congrats Graham.

● Engineering research excellence

Dr Susan J Angus (nee King; NC 1998–2000, 2002) was awarded the Malcolm Chaikin Prize for Research Excellence in Engineering for 2009. This prestigious prize is awarded for the best PhD thesis in the School of Engineering. Susan completed her PhD in the Centre for Quantum Computer Technology and is now a Research Fellow in the School of Physics at the University of Melbourne.

● Congrats John and Premilla

New College is pleased to announce the safe arrival of the newest (and youngest) member of the New College Village. Premilla and John welcomed their first child: Indumathi Cushla Quinn on Saturday 6 March 2010 at 5:16pm, weighing 2.07kg.

Indumathi is already bringing great joy to her parents. Congratulations John and Premilla from the whole New College community!

● Café @ new

In March, New College (in collaboration with Scolarest) opened a café in what was previously the music and TV rooms. The café concept aims to increase the variety of food choices and provide flexible meal arrangements. It has become a regular stop for serious coffee drinkers and those wanting meals, cakes and treats, with residents enjoying a break in the comfy lounge area. ▶



2010 New College fundraising appeal



This year's Annual Appeal seeks the support of New College alumni in establishing more scholarships as well as helping with the proposed refurbishment of the New College building.

New College recently agreed with UNSW to create a combined scholarship for an Indigenous student. Thanks to the generosity of a UNSW donor (having no connection to New College), a half fee scholarship has been funded for four years and named the Paul and Mobs George Memorial Scholarship — Paul George was a long serving UNSW Professor of Physics. The scholarship is awarded for a two year term and New College is keen to see more funds raised to create a perpetual Indigenous scholarship.

Any former New College resident will have seen evidence of the water leaks throughout the building and perhaps even experienced the direct consequences when it rains. The College has set the goal of fixing the leaks in 2–3 years and has begun working with engineers and designers to refurbish the building. These improvements will enhance recreational space and upgrade residential rooms.

Can you help us with these initiatives?



New 'n' Old Response form

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