



New'n'Old

The Alumni Magazine of New College and New College Postgraduate Village
The University of New South Wales
2019 Edition 2



UNSW
SYDNEY

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Photography in this issue

Photography in *New 'n' Old* is primarily by New College staff, students and alumni. Special thanks to Marco Alberto.

We hope you enjoy reading *New 'n' Old* Magazine

New 'n' Old will continue to be available in print. However, we particularly encourage our international alumni to opt into receiving *New 'n' Old* electronically. If you would you like to receive *New 'n' Old* electronically, please email alumni@newcollege.unsw.edu.au and this will help us to reduce our carbon footprint.

You can also keep up-to-date with news and upcoming events online at www.newcollege.unsw.edu.au and www.ncv.unsw.edu.au



Cover photo

Attendees at the 12th October Anniversary Luncheon.

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 College Postgraduate Village was opened in 2009 and is home for postgraduates and selected senior undergraduates. 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.

The College's main programs include:

- New College, the residential college for 247 undergraduate students at the University of New South Wales
- New College Postgraduate Village, the residential village for 315 postgraduate and senior undergraduate students at the University of New South Wales.
- The Centre for Christian Apologetics, Scholarship and Education (CASE), 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.

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A Message from the Master



50 years for New College.
10 years for New College
Postgraduate Village.
Six remarkable decades of
university community life.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has joined us this year for our major celebrations – it was a great pleasure for Ruth and me to be able to meet so many of you who have made such wonderful contributions to our communities.

Those from UNSW who have joined us during the year were deeply impressed by the enthusiasm and good memories that have endured so many decades amongst our alumni. It was an invigorating experience.

The history has been launched. My sincere thanks to Adela Davis and Jonathan Billingham for their diligent work over the past two years. Books are not published without fastidious work. Their hard work and attention to detail are a tribute to both of them. Of course, there was a much larger team that are acknowledged therein but the contribution of these two to our communities is of special note.

Until recently, I have only been able to speak in vague terms about our relationships with the University, our place in the intellectual life of Australia, and the enduring and fine traditions of our communities. Adela's careful research and documentation now has this carefully reported and the story is impressive. If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to obtain your copy of this remarkable volume. Details of how to do this are



featured on the back cover of this edition.

As we look back over the year, our celebrations themselves have been impressive. The January weekend was fun-filled and community-filled as many longstanding relationships were refreshed. The astonishing Alumni Revue – in true tradition of New College – was even backed up in November by The Averagers, where present residents wove the college kitchen, light rail and popular culture into their own 2019 extravaganza.

We have had cocktails to acknowledge 10 years of New College Postgraduate Village overlooking beautiful Darling Harbour, entertained by a superb NCV band and finishing with an impressive fireworks display.

We finished with the Foundation Luncheon and the History launch. It was delightful to share this occasion with so many. Adela, Wah Guan and Jacqui retold our story amongst other speeches and reflections. How amazing it was to share that time with Professor John Hawke, who travelled in from the other side of Orange and was able to look back to the very beginnings of our colleges.

All of this happened on top of an eventful and outstanding year for our colleges. I take this opportunity to thank Susan Bazzana and Arend Boog for their careful oversight of our communities in this year of transition to Trimesters at UNSW. The work of our Deans is precious.

We finish the year with the exciting news that Jonathan Billingham will be assuming the role of Dean of Residents at New College. I look forward to working with him in the years to come.  

Adjunct Prof. William L. Peirson

50 YEARS TO THE DAY: THE ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

12 October 2019 was an historic day in the life of our communities, marking exactly fifty years since the official opening of New College. This day also provided the perfect opportunity to celebrate ten years of New College Postgraduate Village (NCV), which opened in 2009.

Dignitaries, alumni, staff, residents and friends of the College came together for a formal luncheon. Attendees heard from a range of distinguished guests and witnessed the launch of the College's history book, *Something Borrowed, Something Blue*. This occasion was the culmination of a fantastic year of anniversary celebrations, which began with the 'Back to New' weekend in January and continued with the NCV 10th Anniversary weekend in May. It was a joyful afternoon spent remembering fifty years of success at the New College communities.

The program began with the official book launch and a glowing review by Rt Rev Dr Michael Stead, the Bishop of South Sydney. He told the audience about his surprise to learn that the College's brutalist architecture was actually intended to draw on aspects of the old sandstone colleges at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. He spoke of the Colleges' Christian ministry programs, their succession of "quirky" Masters, and his pleasure to discover New College connections



The Bishop of South Sydney, Rt Rev Dr Michael Stead, launches the history book



with people who had shaped his own life and faith.

The Chancellor of UNSW, Mr David Gonski AC, followed the Bishop's speech with his own reflections on New College. He also had some personal New College connections, through long-time friend Sir Harold Knight (once Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, and an early member of New College's founding body), and through the College's construction company, Mainline Construction. As a Year 10 work experience student, Mr Gonski had been asked to calculate how successful Mainline would be between 1969 and 1974. He thought it would be "bigger than BHP". Mainline went into liquidation in 1974. Mr Gonski complimented the founders of New College and NCV for their forward thinking and praised the communities for their contribution to UNSW over the last fifty years:

I believe that New College absolutely epitomises what we believe for this university: an openness of mind, a feeling that if you want to be faith-based you should be entitled to do so...and being open to other people's thinking... There will be no stopping for this University and a lot of it comes from the strength of this College.

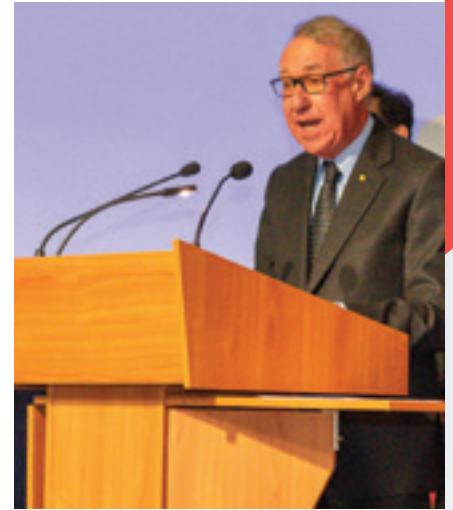
All three levels of government were represented at the luncheon: The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite, Member for Kingsford-Smith; Dr Marjorie O'Neill, Member for Coogee; and Councillor Danny Said, Mayor of Randwick City Council. On behalf of government, Matt Thistlethwaite gave a short address, thanking the Colleges for their longstanding commitments to education and social justice.

The first bracket of speeches concluded with a poignant choral item, composed by the College's very own Mr Jonathan Billingham (Public Relations, Alumni and Systems Manager, and New College's incoming Dean). 'There is a Time' is based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-11, a Bible passage that evokes the seasonal nature of life, with times allotted to all facets of existence. The 15-person choir was comprised of alumni, current staff, and friends of the College.

It was then time for a very special guest to take to the stage – Professor John Hawke, one of the original founding members of the New University Colleges Council (NUCC),



Bill Peirson and The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite, Federal Member for Kingsford-Smith



Mr David Gonski AC, Chancellor of UNSW



Bill Peirson and Dr Marjorie O'Neill MP



NCSA Honorary Life Member George Davis and NCSA President Zephan Thambar



Members of the editorial team.
L-R: Jonathan Billingham, Bill Barwick, Dr Ian Walker, Dr Dani Scarratt, Adela Davis, Adjunct Prof Bill Peirson, Prof Trevor Cairney, Clare Burgess, and Joy Lankshear.

50 YEARS TO THE DAY



the founding body of New College. Prof Hawke was Professor of Chemistry at Macquarie University and now lives in retirement on his property in Byng, near Orange, NSW. He made the long trip to Kensington to “recall the fifty years of God’s goodness” to New College. Prof Hawke was very clear in crediting God with New College’s success, and encouraged residents to “search the Scriptures” while “exploring the universe” at university.

Commemorating ten years of academic excellence, service to society and promotion of lifelong learning, NCV Dean of Residents, Susan Bazzana, gave some touching remarks about her six years as Dean. Susan praised NCV as “a model of what great societies are like” – cross-generational, cross-cultural, and an environment where difficult topics can be discussed with grace and intelligence. Susan concluded by giving thanks for the precious gift NCV has been in her life, and for the gift it is to many residents.

After this, College historian Adela Davis, New College Assistant Dean Jacqui Willing, and NCV Fellow Dr Wah Guan Lim, gave a whirlwind tour of the history of both colleges. These three speakers guided the audience through the whole story, decade by decade, with plenty of fun stories told along the way. Other speakers had refrained from discussing the more colourful aspects of the College’s past in detail, but these three made sure all present were entertained by tales of Anzac Parade

median strip lunches, Mini-Minor car reconstructions, and the ‘Brew College’ stunt at the opening ceremony.

There was still more to come in this jam-packed program. NCSA President Zephon Thambar awarded Honorary Life Membership of the NCSA to alumnus George Davis (NC 2007-2012). George has been a pillar of the community over many years, culminating in his co-direction of the New College Alumni Revue at the ‘Back to New’ 50th Anniversary celebrations this year. Following this, Prof Anne Simmons, Provost of UNSW, and the Master thanked a number of contributors to the history book, including historian Adela Davis, designer Joy Lankshear, and editor Jonathan Billingham, along with his wife, Linda Billingham. The luncheon came to a close with a ceremonial cake cutting – something of a tradition at New College anniversary celebrations. Prof John Hawke, Zephon Thambar, Prof Trevor Cairney (Master from 2002-2016) and Dawn Ee (NCV 2014-present) stood by two huge cakes made in the shape of the College crests, and cut them to enthusiastic applause.

The afternoon ended with photographs and mingling over coffee and cake. Many were excited to catch up with friends, peruse the history book, and enjoy the festive atmosphere. The whole occasion was a wonderful and fitting celebration for the anniversaries of our two college communities.  



Past and present staff of the New College Communities



Choral item, composed and conducted by Jonathan Billingham (far right)



NCV residents Dr Wah Guan Lim, Julia Wijaya, Connie Cheah (staff), and Dawn Ee



New University Colleges Council (NUCC). L-R: Andrew Lyons, son of NUCC founders Lawrie and Alison Lyons; Prof John Hawke, founder of NUCC; and Prof Simon Hawke, son of John Hawke.



Former and current Deans of New College and NCV. L-R: Perry Wiles, Susan Bazzana, Adjunct Prof Bill Peirson, Dr Ian Walker, Dr James Pietsch, and Ben Gooley



Adjunct Prof Bill Peirson (centre) with Rev Canon Bruce Morrison (Chair of the New College Board, far left) and former Masters Rev Dr Bruce Kaye AM, Dr Allan Beavis OAM, and Prof Trevor Cairney OAM



NCSA Honorary Life Members. L-R: Perry Wiles, Ben Gooley, Katherine Theodor, George Davis, and Dr James Pietsch

MEET THE ANNIVERSARY HISTORIAN



Adela Davis

Adela Davis is the College's anniversary historian and has helped to organise the anniversary celebrations that took place in 2019. Her last two years of work recently culminated in the release of the New College and NCV history book, *Something Borrowed, Something Blue*.

Adela graduated from UNSW in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction), majoring in history and psychology. She lived at New College for the majority of her studies, arriving in 2014 and leaving at the end of 2016. While a resident, she was a member of the New College Christian Fellowship Committee (2015) and an Academic Tutor (2016).

It's certainly not your typical job, so we asked Adela a few questions to get some insight into the life of an anniversary historian.

How did you become the College's anniversary historian?

It was all quite unexpected! I had finished my degree, moved out of College, and was unsure what my next move would be. In the middle of 2017 I visited a College Service and began chatting to Bill Peirson at supper. When he discovered that I was at a bit of a loose end, he let on about some mysterious project he had in the works and assured me that he would be in touch. A few weeks later, I received a phone call asking me if I'd be willing to consider documenting the history of New College and NCV. I knew I couldn't turn down such an amazing opportunity, so I accepted the offer and started work in August that year.



Adela Davis (centre) with her parents, Debbie Jamieson and Prof Tom Davis

Can you take us through the process of the book's production?

I started by reading everything. We pulled all of the archive boxes out from the college cupboards, and I went through, box by box, reading all of the material I could find: decades of board papers, weekly notices, student magazines, Masters' correspondence, NCSA Executive minutes and more. I began to interview people at this stage as well.

After about six months, I was in a position to start drafting chapters. That took a number of months. I sent each finished draft to various reviewers, while still researching and making preliminary decisions on the design of the book. When this was finished, it was time to refine all the drafts into their final form. That was definitely the most difficult part of the project. I completely reworked the structure and content of each chapter. They then went to my supervisors for further editing and discussion, and I kept tweaking them until we were satisfied.

There was so much more to do even once the writing was on its way. Digitising, selecting and captioning photos; obtaining permission to print images; collaborating with our designer; collating the appendices; choosing chapter titles; liaising with the printer; indexing; referencing; proofreading... It was demanding, but it was a privilege to be involved in such a stimulating project.

Which chapter did you find most interesting and which did you find most challenging?

The first two chapters, which discuss the foundation of New College, actually fit into both categories. It's a fascinating story, and I loved learning about all the different personalities and societal factors involved. However, because it's the oldest part of the College's history, it was also the most difficult to



L-R: UNSW Provost, Prof Anne Simmons; Adjunct Prof Bill Peirson; Adela Davis; and UNSW Chancellor, David Gonski AC

illuminate. Sifting through conflicting perspectives, conducting research beyond the walls of the College, and contending with incomplete records were all challenging at times. Although, to be honest, it's difficult to choose to just one (or two) favourite chapters – it feels like choosing your favourite child!

What were you surprised to learn about the College?

I hardly knew anything about the College's history when I started, so there were plenty of surprises: the New College site used to be a racecourse; students used to have their beds made daily; the New College architects were also fountain designers; collegians used to play sport in red and black jerseys; there were once only three telephones in College for resident use; the college was named 'New College' essentially by accident; and NCV could have been built in Canberra, Armidale, or even Singapore!

How did you feel on the day the book was launched?

Over the moon! It was such a special and joyful day. I was touched to have so many friends and family members there, and hugely enjoyed celebrating the culmination of two years of work. It's not every day that you get to attend your own book launch, and I'm grateful to have experienced it just once.

...

Something Borrowed, Something Blue is the engaging and informative story of the New College Communities, and it is on sale now. You can buy one copy for \$60 or two for \$100. To purchase, go to newcollege.unsw.edu.au/historybook or contact the College. ■



Joy Lankshear, the designer of the book, with Bill Peirson

NCV ALUMNI FOCUS

THE EARLY YEARS: DR AMINA TARIQ



Dr Amina Tariq lived at New College Postgraduate Village (NCV) from 2010 to 2014 while carrying out a PhD in Health Informatics (2010-13) and working as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at UNSW (2013-14). She also served as an Academic Tutor for each of her years in NCV post-2010. Dr Tariq now lives in Brisbane and lectures at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Curious to know a first-hand experience of the research community from NCV's formative years, *New'n'Old* asked Dr Tariq a few questions about some of her fondest memories from that time:


Dr Tariq, you moved into NCV not long after the very first cohort of residents and remained a part of the community for five years, half of NCV's 10-year life. What can you tell us about those early days in the community?

My early memories of NCV are of having a very friendly community around me. As a novice in Australia I was not only provided guidance around how to find places and feel at home but was also provided opportunities to learn about diverse cultures through all the fun-filled events. I remember going to the first BBQ; I went as a stranger and came back knowing so many wonderful people.

I understand you were completing a PhD at UNSW, and you were also an Academic Tutor at NCV for four of your five years there. What were the advantages of living in a postgraduate community on campus?

I can easily endorse the NCV administration; they really did put in the effort of making sure that research students were looked after and felt part of a community. Over my five years of stay, I saw the numbers of HDR [Higher Degree Research] students staying increase and those who started their PhD journeys like myself staying throughout their entire PhDs at NCV. We felt at home.

You are currently a Senior Lecturer in the School of Public Health and Social Work at QUT. What does work and life look like for you these days in the Sunshine State? Are there any significant projects you are working on currently?

Life in Queensland is nice and sunny. Brisbane is a lovely city, though I miss Sydney (especially eateries) sometimes. When I chose to be an academic, I knew life would be hectic, and that's what it is at the moment, but I am really enjoying my research. It is very multidisciplinary and focuses on a wide range of projects around evaluating how technology is being used for health and well-being. A project very close to my heart now is centred around how social media technologies, like Facebook, impact family connectedness. 

NCV ALUMNI FOCUS

A SLICE OF LIFE: DR THAMALI LEKAMGE

Thamali Lekamge was a well-loved member of the NCV community from 2012-17. A Senior Resident (SR) in 2015 and 2016, Thamali threw herself into the social and cultural life of the college throughout her years in the community. Thamali still lives in Sydney, working as a Data Scientist. She recently shared with *New'n'Old* about the wonderful friends, experiences, and opportunities she enjoyed while living at NCV:

Thinking back on your time at NCV, what was it about the community that made you continue as a resident throughout all the years of your PhD?


It was the first time I stayed away from home, and friends at NCV made it much easier for me. It felt like home! I enjoyed participating in NCV events, which always provided a nice time away from thinking constantly about uni. Another main factor was that there were a lot of us residents going through similar challenges with research and living in the same community with other postgraduates made life easier, since we were able to discuss ideas and share our problems with each other.

As a woman from Sri Lanka, what opportunities were there for you to share your culture at NCV and socialise with those from other cultures?

“Culture Nights” were the highlight when it came to sharing culture. We also enjoyed a lot of pot-luck meals among friends and flatmates. I didn’t have Sri Lankan flatmates until my final couple of months in NCV. We would often share food and stories. Most of my best friends in Australia are friends I met at NCV, and I still spend time with them regularly. So NCV provided long-lasting friendships as well!



You’re now in the computing industry. What do work and life look like for you now?

My PhD topic was “An Automated Approach for Analysing, Classifying and Predicting Protein X-Ray Crystallography Images”, mainly in Machine Learning and Computer Vision. I now work as a Data Scientist in a start-up company. My work includes both research and development of machine learning models. The NCV community helped me with communicating my ideas and results with different people hailing from different communities, and the ability to relate with them. The opportunity to be an SR also provided me with the foundations to respond well to different challenges. 

HUGH MILLER ON MASTERMIND AUSTRALIA



Earlier this year, alumnus and renowned NCV quizmaster Hugh Miller (NCV 2014-18) graced screens across the nation as he impressed audiences with his superior-albeit, perhaps niche-knowledge of Greek Mythology on SBS quiz show *Mastermind Australia*. Hugh shares the exciting tale of his brush with fame and small screen glory as he proceeded through to a weekly final episode:

“SBS films a whole week’s worth of *Mastermind* episodes in a single day. In my case, that was the same day as the NCV 10th Anniversary Celebrations’ Trivia Night; Friday, 10 May. For people unfamiliar with *Mastermind*, it is a quiz show with each episode lasting 30 minutes and featuring four contestants. Normally Jennifer Byrne would host the show, however, this time Marc Fennell stepped in.

“In Round 1, the contestants each have two minutes to answer questions about their chosen specialist subject. My first choice was James Bond films, but the producers instead opted for my second choice, which was Greek mythology. In Round 2, the contestants each have 1½ minutes to answer general knowledge


questions. The player with the highest score at the end is the winner and progresses to the weekly final.

“There are no special subjects in the weekly final. Round 1 featured Australian questions. I was quite intimidated by the first contestant, John Crittenden, who scored six points from questions about *The Castle*. When I finished my first round, I knew I had done well, but I wasn’t sure whether I had been able to match John. As it turns out, I was far ahead on nine. When John finished Round 2 on 11, I knew I’d probably win but then started worrying about how humiliating it would be if I somehow didn’t. When I got my third point, I felt a huge relief in my mind, although I kept a poker face for the camera.

“Episode 30 (the weekly final) was far more interesting, since the contestants were much better and closer in skill. While Thursday’s episode was still being filmed, the other contestants and I watched in the green room. All of us were intimidated by [contestant] Robert Hunt, who we saw doing exceptionally well in Round 2 of his episode, so I was very happy to come second in the weekly final. I was a bit annoyed by being wrong about Torres Strait, Batman Begins, and Ally McBeal, since I knew those answers but just couldn’t remember them in the moment. Nevertheless, that wouldn’t have been enough to match Robert’s 20 points.

“Robert was eventually defeated in the semi-finals. I was greatly impressed by the winner of the grand final, a 40-something year old science teacher. I would have been useless against him even if I had somehow made it that far.”

A big congratulations to Hugh on progressing to a weekly final!

Mastermind Australia airs on SBS, weeknights at 6pm. Episodes can also be viewed online at SBS On Demand. 



NEW WEDDINGS

Marriages



Robbi Bishop-Taylor and Elisa Holgate

Robbi Bishop-Taylor (NC 2009-11) and Elisa Holgate (NC 2010-12) tied the knot at Wildwood, Kangaroo Valley on 27 April 2019. The day included a relaxed ceremony overlooking sandstone cliffs and beautiful forests, and an afternoon reception filled with delicious Di Lusso wine (from the Mudgee Wine Trip 2011!), cheese, gelato, coffee and cake. The wedding party included Elise "Tincan" Matthyssen (NC 2009-11) and Sarah "Crocker" Hayes (NC 2008-10). College friends Eddie Bird (NC 2006-08) and Adam "Moose" Teusner (NC 2010-12) acted as MCs at the reception.



Tad Wysocki and Eva Lee

Tad Wysocki (NC 2004-07) and Eva Lee (NC 2008-09) married on 26 August 2018 at Castello di Meleto, a castle in the Tuscan countryside in Italy - approximately 9 years after they met at the 21st birthday party of Jad Othman (NC 2006-08). Eva and Tad were lucky to have many New Collegians in attendance, including Annette Alchin (mother of the bride; NC 1979-81), groomsman Michal Wysocki (NC 2007-08), Michael Lee (brother of the bride; NC 2011-13) and bridesmaid Bonnie-Rae Phoebe (NC 2009-10). Elisse Zarimis (NC 2004-07) was even kind enough not to tell too many embarrassing stories in her speech!



Tom Waller and Kate Mostert

Tom Waller (NC 2015-16) and Kate Mostert said their vows on 4 May 2019 at the breathtaking Allview Escape in Blackheath. A large number of friends and family joined in the party, including New Collegian Yulia Bogdanova (NC 2015-16) as a bridesmaid. It was a wonderful day where the newlyweds were able to publicly declare their faith, and commit to one another in front of God and many loved ones.



Blair Welsh and Harriet Radford

Blair Welsh (NC 2013-15) and Harriet Radford (NC 2013-14) had their wedding on 6 October 2019 at St Mary's Church in Bellingen, followed by a sunny afternoon reception at Glennifer Hall and much dancing under fairy lit trees. A number of Collegians attended and were involved in the occasion, with the bridal party including Emily Hong (NC 2013-14), Jennifer Govey (née Radford; NC 2005-06), Matthew Hill (NC 2013-15) and Nicholas Jacob (NC 2014). Genevieve Fair (NC 2013-14) played piano beautifully during the ceremony. "We feel blessed that the wedding was everything we could have hoped for," shares Blair.



Michele Ferguson and Mark Flett

Michele Ferguson (NC 2009-11) and Mark Flett were married on 13 July 2019 in a spectacular ceremony at Jasper's Brush, Berry. Three ex-Collegians made it into the bridal party as Michele's bridesmaids: Rebecca Ainsworth (NC 2009-10), Ellie Gribbin (NC 2010-12), and Samantha Law (NC 2009-11). It was a stunning, wintry day with all of Michele and Mark's family and friends surrounding them. The event was made into a weekend affair, with festivities starting on the Friday evening and continuing on through to a beautiful vineyard lunch on the Sunday.

Sam Kellahan and Rebecca Lang

Sam Kellahan (NC 2013-15) and Rebecca Lang got hitched on 17 August 2019 in a joyous ceremony at Bolton Point Park, Lake Macquarie. The celebrations continued with a reception held at the Toronto Yacht Club. Many Collegians attended Sam and Bec's special day, and some helped take part in the wedding. Amy Pratten (NC 2010-13) and Mark "Golly" Gilmour (NC 2010-12) led singing in worship, and Annabel Paul (NC 2014-17) read the Bible passage during the ceremony. Jethro Dickens (NC 2013-15) and Rowan Thambar (NC 2013-15) were co-best men and gave a whopper speech that had the room crying with laughter.



Zisheng Chen and Cathy Ma

Zisheng Chen (NCV 2014-16; NCV SR 2015) and Cathy Ma tied the knot on 12 October 2019 at Ben Ean in the glorious Hunter Valley. The couple enjoyed the company of a number of friends from NCV, including Thamali Lekamge (NCV 2012-17), Sheetal Gur (NCV 2013-17), Allison Taylor (NCV 2013-17), Matthew Males (NCV 2017-18), and Hugh Miller (NCV 2014-18) who MCed the reception. "It was wonderful to have everyone be part of our special day and we couldn't be happier with how it went. Our only regret is that we couldn't spend more time with everyone!" shares Zisheng.



Sameera Durrani and Mohammed Mosheen Nazeem

Sameera Durrani (NCV 2012-19) and Mohammed Mosheen Nazeem enjoyed not one but two wedding ceremonies earlier this year, celebrating in both Pakistani and Fijian style! NCV friends Jane (Zhuangsi) Xu (NCV 2016-19; first on left) and Maddy Wykes (NC 2011-12, NCV 2015; second from right) joined in the festivities. The first 'Nikah' ceremony was held at Sumeera's brother's Canberra home on 12 April 2019, where the first picture below was taken. Sumeera and Mohammed can be seen, cutting their delicious wedding cake at their second 'Walima' ceremony on 14 April 2019 in Sydney at the Mercure Hotel, Liverpool.

NEW FAMILIES

Gilmour

Mark (NC 2010-12) and Christine Gilmour (née Lang; NC 2004-09) are excited to have a new little girl in their family.

Abigail Ruth Gilmour was born on 15 May 2019, weighing 2.7kg, and is very much adored by her big, nearly-2-year-old sister, Grace!



Webb

Nick (NC 2006-08) and Bek became proud new parents to a beautiful little girl on 9 November 2018. Susannah Ruth Judy, born at 3.64kg, brings much joy to Nick and Bek as their little family prepares to move overseas in January, 2020.

Latten

Michael and Erin Latten (née Charters; NC 2011-13) are happy to now call themselves parents to a beautiful little girl. Hannah Alexandra Latten was born in July, and provides cuddles not only for the new parents but also Unichurchers on Sundays!



Masango


Tawanda (NCV Assistant Dean 2016) and Shupi Masango (NCV 2016) are thrilled to announce that Unathi (now nearly 3!) has a new baby brother. Sanele Ethan TJ Masango was born in Zimbabwe on 4 July 2019 and is a delight to the family.

Harland

Lachlan and Rachael Harland (née McLaren; NC 2009-11) had a sweet little boy on 7 September 2019. Weighing in at 3.65kg and measuring 52cm, Ian David Harland is a wonderful gift to his excited new parents.




Pritchard

Callan (NC 2008-10) and Kat Pritchard (née Marrett; NC 2008-11) welcomed their first child on 9 October 2019. James Edward Pritchard was born at Westmead Hospital, weighing 3.5kg and measuring 51 cm. He is a bundle of joy! 

NCV COMMUNITY

BIGGEST CULTURE NIGHT YET

NCV's Culture Night was held on 20 July and was again a huge success. According to the Master, Adjunct Prof Bill Peirson, it was the best-attended event of the year, with about 200 attendees throughout the night. A dozen different nations were represented, with delicious cuisine available from regions such as Australia, Barbados, Bulgaria, Hong Kong, Italy, Mongolia, and the USA. Several of the countries and cultures were represented for the first time as well! Italy's pizza disappeared within minutes, team USA's chili and cornbread got glowing reviews, and team India provided popular dishes as usual. 



NCV COMMUNITY

JOSH GONCALVES AT ROBOCUP



Josh Goncalves (above) far left



You've heard of the FIFA World Cup but have you ever heard of RoboCup? It is an international robotics competition where teams enter robots of different skills, shapes and sizes to compete in various challenges. NCV resident Josh Goncalves has been part of rUNSWift, the UNSW team that placed 3rd in the "Champions Cup" leg of the RoboCup competition in October 2019. Josh is a PhD candidate researching in the area of machine learning. He moved into NCV in May this year. Josh was able to share a bit about RoboCup and the requirements of participating teams from around the world:

RoboCup officially began in 1997 with the aim of building intelligent robots that could win a game against the FIFA World Cup champions by 2050. Every team has to write a pre-qualification report and send in a video of their bot kicking a goal before they can take part.


The major leagues at RoboCup fall into three main categories: soccer (a team of robots communicating and making autonomous decisions to win a soccer game), industrial (three robots that transport manufactured goods collaboratively between processing machines), and rescue (robots search for victims placed in a simulated disaster site and rescue them). Josh's

academic supervisor, Dr Claude Sammut, has been involved in RoboCup for many years and was one of the key organisers of RoboCup 2019.

It was Josh's co-supervisor, Dr Raymond Sheh, a member of the UNSW team that won the Rescue League at RoboCup in 2003, who recommended he get involved in rUNSWift this year. With about 2 weeks left until the competition, Josh jumped on the opportunity and helped the rUNSWift team talk strategy and details of implementation, as well as work on some calibration. The dozen or so rUNSWift team members, made up fairly evenly of UNSW alumni, post-graduate, and undergraduate students, worked collaboratively to prepare for the competition. Josh was responsible for what's called the "whistle challenge"; a test where a whistle sounds from various locations and the bots have to identify where the sound has come from.

Despite rUNSWift's previous success, Josh says there is still a lot of room for growth and development in the research of consciousness in machines:

We hope to make some large modifications before the team heads to France for RoboCup 2020.

All the best to Josh and rUNSWift as they work towards scoring goals in the future! 






MEDICAL MUSICAL SOCIETY PERFORMS AT NEW COLLEGE



On Wednesday, August 14, New College hosted *Ultrasounds*; the annual concert presented by the UNSW Medical Music Society (MMS). *Ultrasounds* concertmaster, May Gao, is in her 2nd year of studying medicine and living at NCV. May co-chairs the MMS alongside New College alumna Isabella Pak (NC 2016-17), one of the orchestra's cellists. The pair performed Beethoven's 'Duo for Violin and Cello' and Arlen & Harburg's 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow'. The remainder of the program showcased music from various genres across time, performed by the MMS band, orchestra and choir.

Other NCV residents are also members of the MMS and performed in the concert, including Kiana Chan, Joan Sim and Tivona Thach. Alumni Yuji Nishitani (NCV 2018) and Xinyi Shen (NC 2014-18) helped make up the strings section of the beautifully talented orchestra. The MMS was established in 2015 as a means to enable medical students to continue in their passion for music and serve the wider community through charity concerts and community outreach programs. All proceeds from this year's *Ultrasounds* were donated to the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation. 

NCV RESEARCH ON THE UP AND UP



Matt Bagg has been heading up the NCV Research Community for the last two years. While residents celebrated a record 20 research seminar meetings held throughout the course of 2018 (cake included!) it seems that achieving 20 meetings in a year – relatively one held every fortnight – was merely a sign of many more exciting things to come. 2019 has continued to carry the torch, with its frequent opportunities for NCV residents to come together and listen, learn, and present findings from various branches of postgraduate study. “When I joined NCV in 2015, meetings only occurred monthly. The growth we’ve achieved and sustained in the past 2 years has been a privilege to be part of and I’m proud of it,” shares Matt. And the number of meetings is not the only way in which NCV Research has flourished over the last couple of years.

The number of participants has grown too, with anywhere from 20 to 40 eager learners walking through the doors each fortnight. “The last two years has also seen roughly 50 presentations of work or ideas from Honours, Medicine Independent Learning Project, Masters by Research, PhD, and Postdoctoral researchers who reside at NCV,” shares Matt. Meetings consist of sharing research-related news and methods, as well as presentations and achievements

such as publications, conference proceedings, successful experiments, completed chapters, and ethics approvals.

Particularly noteworthy meetings have involved visiting Fellows of the College presenting their own research, and even having the Master, Adjunct Professor Bill Peirson, share his passion for water research with a live demonstration of his recent work. The 10th Anniversary Celebrations of NCV saw Professor Nicholas Fisk, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of UNSW Research, amongst nearly a dozen UNSW Faculty staff, share his excitement over the impressive NCV Research Community at the Research Afternoon Tea. Professor Fisk also unveiled the new NCV Honour Boards, detailing the 78 PhD graduates who have been part of the community.

The last two years has also brought about another initiative that seeks to congratulate and encourage those who are a vital part of NCV Research. A cabinet in the NCV foyer is dedicated to displaying the published work of current residents. “The cabinet is updated every few months; a testament to the output of our resident scientists,” shares Matt. The Research Community has had a tremendous two years, and NCV is committed to seeing the continued progress and success of all its researchers. 



NCV HOSTS MINISTER WANG XINING




On 23 October 2019, the NCV community, a number of UNSW academics, and others from the wider community gathered for NCV's Spring Formal Dinner. The speaker was Mr Wang Xining, the Minister of the Chinese Embassy in Australia. He was asked to share his perspectives on the future of China and Australia, particularly in regards to emerging opportunities over the next decade.

Minister Wang Xining began his address by crediting China's rapid economic growth to the people's work ethic, inclusiveness, adaptiveness, coherence and compassion. He then spoke of the mutual benefits of China and Australia's trade and investment relationship and identified possibilities for growth in this area. Minister Wang Xining encouraged Australia and China to continue managing their differences for long-term and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Minister concluded by addressing the residents more directly: "I hope the younger generation will look ahead and think about what the world will be, [what] the Asia-Pacific region will be and [what] China-Australia relations will be 10 or 20



years [from now], and what we can do together to make the world a better place, to make our region more prosperous, and China-Australia relations more productive and influential".

The evening's program featured a piano performance by NCV resident Jagdeeshwar Gupta, a question time with the speaker, and vote of thanks delivered by resident Alex Downes. The NCV Spring Formal Dinner was a stimulating evening, providing a perspective on issues that are highly topical for both Australia and the world. 

THIS YEAR IN SPORT



A word from the 2019 New College Sports Directors, Lorna Arkell and Zach Browning:

Sport this year. Trimesters, low budgets and less time (yet somehow, more time???) Adjusting to the change of pace with trimesters has been interesting, but ultimately provided a place of competition, athleticism and fun for all participating collegians. It's been great to see a bunch of people coming to sport all year, and New College prides itself on college-wide participation and support.

Some noteworthy moments:

The boys finished with a -196 goal difference in basketball, while the girls made the grand final in basketball. The boys got ABSOLUTELY ROBBED in the final pool round of frisbee, and the girls won ultimate frisbee. The boys were not quite up to scratch in netball. The girls got down to extra time in the touch grand final. The boys crashed out of the soccer semi-finals. The girls were able to seal the women's soccer final with a win.

You may see a slight pattern appearing here. The boys fought valiantly and had a load of fun, however, the scoreboard was not always desirable. They held their own and had some proud moments, beating UNSW Hall in the last five minutes of their opening rugby match, getting to the semi-final in volleyball, and winning all of their pool matches in Hockey. The girls, having won the women's shield last year, were hoping to continue their streak. After coming 3rd in tennis and winning the soccer and cross country, they fell just shy but brought home a hard-earned 2nd place in the overall shield.

Well done, Collegians, on a hard effort and great sportsmanship! ■



BIG WIN FOR 4 WEEK-OLD NEW COLLEGE BAND



The band *Dirty Movies* is comprised of six incredibly talented New Collegians: (pictured, L to R)

- Luke “Kenobi” Blanch: bass
- Laura “Poise” Higgins: vocals, acoustic guitar and ukulele
- Luke “Cornsilk” Morissey: electric guitar
- Priyanta “Blues” Islam: electric guitar
- Declan “Axilla” Kirk: drums
- Zac “Bowie” Beckton: vocals and acoustic guitar (front)

Dirty Movies formed when the Roundhouse Band Comp was announced in June. With just four weeks until competition night the group prepared a set of five original songs and delivered a polished performance during the first heats on Wednesday, 17 July 2019. When they were selected as one of the top three bands, they were asked by the judges to prepare a new set of songs for the finals. Without batting an eyelid, the group produced an additional five original songs in the space of a week and were

awarded the top prize on 24 July, much to the delight of an energetic audience of New Collegians and alumni.

As the prize winners, the band secured the opportunity to spend four days in a recording studio and a \$200 Roundhouse bar tab.

Dirty Movies performed a selection of songs from their two sets a few nights later at the NCSA Soirée Night. Zac Beckton also performed one of his original songs (“Fortune”) at the Scientia formal dinner on August 7.

A huge congratulations to these gifted Collegians! We hope to hear more music from them in the future.



RECORD NUMBERS BLEACH HAIR FOR A CAUSE

For the last three years New College has had an ongoing partnership with Mary's House, an independent charity hostel that relies on public donations to provide refuge support to domestic violence victims. Since 2017, Collegians have been using their annual *Night in White* party to raise awareness and funds for women and children escaping domestic

violence. This year, 15 collegians bleached their hair to raise money for Mary's House and Collegians pulled together an impressive \$861. *Night in White* is a wonderful example of the spirit of community service that is a core part of being a New Collegian, and an expression of the compassion fostered in the hearts of collegians during their time at New! (AB)



MENTAL HEALTH WEEK: HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Assistant Dean Jacqui Willing shares an account of the incredible growth of Mental Health Week over recent years:

Mental illness is one of the single greatest issues facing young people aged 18-24 years old today, and rates of psychological distress in this age group are still on the rise.¹ Residential colleges can often house some of our nation's most at-risk groups. Research conducted by The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health in 2017 found that students at Australian universities at greater risk of poor mental health are international students, rural/regional students, medicine students, and those undergoing major life transitions – the primary demographics for New College. This threat to residents is front of mind amongst the Administrative leadership, with several appointments of dedicated pastoral care roles in recent years.

But, as a current collegian myself, what I have found most inspiring over my four years is the passion with which residents have championed action within the community and adopted the fight against societal taboos on the front line, in our everyday conversations and culture.


Beginning in 2014, Mental Health Day was a new initiative by the NCSA Exec: an exercise in wellbeing and building care and connection amongst collegians. But in 2016, a group of collegians came forward to transform the wellbeing day into a bi-annual week-long festival of activities with mental health directly in the spotlight.

Over the coming years, professional guest speakers from the Black Dog Institute and Headspace were invited into college to raise

awareness and education on mental illness. College subcommittees also stepped up with collaborative initiatives: craft afternoons, tea and music on the bridge, meditation, slam poetry, blanket forts in the courtyard, dumpling-making, mural painting, and exercise mornings. In 2017, our beloved college Receptionist Vicki Vardaoulis began to run cooking classes, which proved to be very popular, and in 2018, residents with local family brought in their pet dogs for some well-needed patting on the Village Green.

In 2017, the NCSA also wrote to the Administration to formalise a long-running cry in the community for a consultant counsellor to be made available and Residential Advisors to receive mental health first aid training. These steps eventuated in 2019, when after many repeated requests by the NCSA, Master Bill Peirson established a partnership between New College, New College Postgraduate Village, and Anglicare via counsellor and alumna Jenny Nixon (née Wigg, NC 1989-90).

Through all of this, collegians were explicit in their courage to stare down the issues that claim more lives of youth every year than accidents on the road.² In 2017, we began a story night inviting residents to bravely share their experiences with mental illness, many speaking for the first time in public. Six story nights have now been held with fifteen collegians leading by example to show that there is no shame in being vulnerable with our mental health or in asking for professional and personal help.

In my four years in the building, I've seen residents transform the culture around this issue in our community. While there's still much to be done, I am incredibly proud of their leadership and the legacy residents continue to carry on in their advocacy and support for each other. 

¹ www.abc.net.au/news/health/2019-10-23/mental-health-concerns-increasingly-common-young-people/11628094

² www.aihw.gov.au/reports/life-expectancy-death/deaths-in-australia/contents/leading-causes-of-death




NC REVUE THE AVERAGERS



With such a wealth of comic superhero material to draw from, it's no surprise that a parody about a group of friends who must learn how to fight a Scottish galactic villain would be well-received by the great crowds that flocked to *The Averagers* over three nights from 31 October to 2 November. In fact, many have been claiming this New College Students' Association Revue to be the best they've seen to date. The script was slick and full

of surprises. The backdrop and sets were a startling imitation of comic books and animation. The main story was complemented by a variety of nostalgic songs direct from superhero movies, performed by no less than 20 highly talented collegians and no shortage of saxophonists. The dances were a choreographic marvel (pun very much intended). The skits and fillers continually had everyone in stitches, and even the tech desk had their moment to shine. A real highlight

was the Revue film, depicting the integration of superheroes into college life, hilariously commented by the Master, Bill Peirson, and featuring a cameo by New College receptionist, Vicki, who now intends to watch the film that her scene was derived from.

All in all, directors Andrew Burvill and Sam Pietsch, and producers Maddie Sedgwick, Melody Ranger and Tom Tugwell, created something infinitely more than average. 



2019 NEW COLLEGE LECTURES



On the evenings of 24-26 September 2019, many from New College, UNSW and the local community gathered for the 33rd annual New College Lectures series.

This year was a landmark in Australian history with the College hosting the first set of public lectures to be jointly delivered by the Catholic and Anglican Archbishops of Sydney. The topic was “Faith, Hope and Love: Unchanging Virtues for a Changing World”. Each night, the Archbishops gave a short address, followed by a discussion moderated by historian and broadcaster Dr Meredith Lake, and an open question time.

The Anglican Archbishop of Sydney is The Most Rev Dr Glenn Davies. He was originally a schoolteacher before studying at Westminster Theological Seminary and Moore Theological College. He also holds a PhD from Sheffield University. As a member of the clergy, Davies has served as Canon Theologian in the Diocese of Ballarat, as rector of St Luke’s Miranda, and as Bishop of North Sydney. He was elected as Archbishop in 2013.

The Catholic Archbishop is The Most Rev Dr Anthony Fisher OP, a member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans). Fisher studied Arts and Law at Sydney University before practising law at Clayton Utz. He also has an honours degree in

theology and a doctorate in bioethics from Oxford University. He has held academic posts with the Australian Catholic University, the Catholic Institute of Sydney and the University of Notre Dame. He was appointed Bishop of Parramatta in 2010 and has been Archbishop of Sydney since 2014.

Dr Meredith Lake is a historian of religion, society and culture with a PhD from the University of Sydney. Her books include *Faith in Action: HammondCare* and *The Bible in Australia: A Cultural History*. She is an Honorary Associate of the Department of History at Sydney University, and presents *Soul Search* for ABC Radio National.

On the first evening of the Lectures, Archbishop Davies discussed “faith in a sceptical society” and Archbishop Fisher spoke about “faith in a secular society”. Davies reassured Christians of the rationality of faith, and explained faith as trust in the person and promises of God. Fisher brought a personal dimension to the dialogue, sharing about the valuable role of his faith during five months of paralysis caused by Guillain-Barré Syndrome. He concluded that “a healthy secularity will allow both Church and State respectable spaces to do their own thing, as well as [provide] opportunities to collaborate and critique”. The ensuing conversation explored the relationship between science and faith, and acknowledged the need for Christians to strive for love and unity amidst disagreement.


The following lecture began with an address from Fisher on “Hope: the virtue of life”. He characterised



Christian hope as “that ‘can’t live without’ virtue” that has Christ as “its foundation and fulfilment”. Davies described “hope in anticipation of heaven” as uniquely certain, providing both hope for the future and reshaping life in the present. The moderated discussion and question time had a strong focus on Christian responses to climate change. Both Archbishops agreed that society requires a “cultural conversion”, calling for a willingness to undergo self-sacrifice for the benefit of the earth and humanity.

The final night saw Archbishop Davies address “God’s love for us”, while Archbishop Fisher reflected on the converse – “Our love for God”. Davies unpacked the idea that “God is love”, which makes him both the fountain and arbiter of love. He identified God’s love as self-sacrificial, a theme which Archbishop Fisher also picked up. Fisher spoke of love of neighbour being love that requires serving

the other’s genuine good. The interactive portion of the program touched on many topical issues in Australian society, including same-sex marriage, tolerance, hyper-sexualisation and celibacy.

The 2019 New College Lectures sought to create a forum where the Archbishops could articulate the importance and relevance of faith, hope and love for contemporary Australian society. This was especially pertinent in a time when competing voices and institutions wrestle to define and influence the national conversation. Archbishop Davies, Archbishop Fisher and Dr Lake covered a wide breadth of topics with deep insight and respect. If you are interested in finding out more or listening to the lectures, you can visit our new website or listen out for their broadcast on ABC Radio National’s Soul Search in 2020. 

NEWS IN BRIEF



Wildlife Walkabout

On Saturday, 29 June, Senior Residents Jono Hopkins and Medha Gupta organised a group of a dozen NCV residents to spend a gloriously sunny day at the Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park in Calga. The Park is a wildlife sanctuary offering a fun, interactive and educational experience to its visitors, which includes animal feedings and guided tours of Aboriginal sites. The excited group of NCV residents enjoyed learning a lot about Australian culture and wildlife; they cuddled koalas, took selfies with snakes, and even took turns throwing a boomerang. "Everyone had a great time and we all learned something new", shares Jono. The Wildlife Trip is certainly a much-loved event in NCV's social calendar each year, and a fantastic opportunity (especially for residents from overseas!) to become acquainted with some of Australia's most iconic animal friends.

Presenting for hundreds at CMX Summit, California

Shana Summers (NCV 2014-15) enjoyed the opportunity of a lifetime when she spoke at CMX Summit in Redwood City, California on September 5-6. CMX Summit "seeks to expand discussions, techniques, and tactics applied to community building for businesses and support communities," according to their website. Shana, Head of Community at HER Social App, a dating and social app for LGBTIQA+ people, presented on 'rebuilding, regrowing and rebranding community' to 1000+ professionals at CMX Summit this year. Congratulations Shana on your growing career success!



Pastoring in the US

Brian Stolarczyk, a Fresher from the USA back in 1997, recently walked back through the New College doors during a visit to Sydney. It was great to hear an update from Brian on the last 20 years or so since his time at New. In May this year, after seven years of doctoral work, Brian graduated with a Doctorate of Ministry from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. "My area of study was in Missional Leadership and my Major Applied Project covered the topic of congregational budgeting and its connection to a church's mission," Brian shares. Now 'The Reverend Dr Stolarczyk', Brian currently serves as the Senior Pastor at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Port Charlotte, Florida. Brian, his wife Sarah, and their sons Raymond and Luke (pictured) look forward to visiting New College again in the next couple of years.





Jonathan Billingham appointed as New College Dean of Residents

Jonathan Billingham, our former Public Relations, Alumni & Systems Manager, has been appointed as the new Dean of Residents of New College. He won the position against a very strong field of external candidates and transitioned into the Dean's role late November from another senior staff position he held for several years, managing the office staff, admissions processes, events, alumni relations, marketing and publications. He is married to Linda and they have a daughter, Bethany (2), and are expecting another child in April. Jonathan and Linda have been leading the pastoral care program for uni students in their local church for the past couple of years, following similar roles previously held. Jonathan is a New College alumnus, who originally came from the country (Taree) to live at New College from 2006-09. He and Linda are both musicians and enjoy kayaking on weekends. Bethany loves books and playing with just about anyone. They are looking forward to immersing themselves in the life of the New College community.



Welcome Jenny Nixon

Since August, the Master has invited Anglicare Counsellor Jenny Nixon weekly to offer professional care and support for residents in our communities. Jenny lived at New College from 1989-90, and therefore understands what it is

to study at UNSW and live in college: both the joys and the challenges. It is crucial that counselling services comply with both professional protocols and government regulations. Working with Anglicare enables us to do this. We also value the privacy of our residents, and so working with Anglicare ensures confidentiality and that records regarding counselling consultations are not kept within our college facilities. We welcome Jenny and appreciate the wonderful support she will offer our communities on behalf of Anglicare.




A new website on the horizon

Very soon, when you search online for New College and New College Postgraduate Village, you will find only one website for both residential colleges under the heading 'New College Communities.' This new and exciting development will converge information from the two separate websites into one refreshingly cohesive online experience, solidifying the conclusion of a very special year for both colleges, and taking them into a new era. The website will give prospective residents and the whole college family, both past and present, a better overall perspective of our two communities. With its fresh new design, complemented by encouraging testimonials and a 360-degree photographic virtual tour, New College hopes that the website will give an even clearer picture of the high-quality accommodation, resources, service, and community it strives to achieve. Keep your eye out for the new website!



Farewell from Ash Braithwaite

The end of an era. What words to say? It is with this edition of *New'n'Old* that I say 'farewell' to New as I head to study at Moore Theological College. Since starting my role as the Public Relations Assistant in 2017, I have thoroughly enjoyed all that working with New

has offered me; from improving my PR skills and pushing me out of my comfort zone, to being wowed by overachieving residents and alumni, and leading office antics (the staff team is wilder than you think). I must express my sincere thanks to the Master, Bill Peirson (oh Captain, our Captain), and my friend Jonathan Billingham (whom I was 'assisting' in PR), for their grace and leadership, and startlingly loud laughs. I also cannot comprehend what these last few years would have been like without my best friend, office companion and banter buddy, Adela Davis. I am so very thankful to God for the wonderfully rambunctious staff team at New College, who would have made an excellent candidate for a spin-off of my favourite show, *The Office*. So long, New College. Be assured, I'll come back to visit. 

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