



New'n'Old

The Alumni Magazine of New College and NCV
The University of New South Wales
Summer 2013/14



UNSW
AUSTRALIA

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Photography in this issue

Photography in *New 'n' Old* is primarily by New College staff, students and alumni. This issue includes photography by students Michael Babbage, Platini Lee, Michael Sturm, Ivy Erlinger and alumnus Daniel Motezuma-Baker. Effort is taken to acknowledge professional photography submitted by alumni for the magazine.

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 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

New College sportswomen are triumphant in winning the Inter-College Women's Shield for the 3rd year in a row.

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.

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ISSN 1447-8161

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From the Master

I was reflecting just this week on the massive technological changes that I have witnessed in my lifetime. As a child of the 1950s and 60s we dreamed of human space travel and saw it achieved, we were recipients of the first televisions, we now have forms of communication that were only imagined by writers of science fiction and visionary scientists, and medical research has been extraordinary. We continue to live during a period that will be remembered for quantum leaps in technological innovation and scientific understanding. In this issue of *New 'n' Old* we give attention to a number of alumni and current residents of New College and New College Village (NCV). All are at the forefront of research, innovation and management in their chosen fields. The magazine also focuses on how New College and NCV engage with the University of New South Wales and the wider community to bring about qualities of community service, academic excellence and collegiality.

So what will you find inside this issue? New College alumna, Jessica Dempsey, sheds light on her experience operating and building astronomical instruments in Antarctica and Hawaii. NCV resident Amina Tariq recently completed her PhD that considered the impact of information exchange processes for medication in aged care facilities. Another NCV resident Ignacio Ortega Piwonka is developing a theoretical approach for an experiment involving optical tweezers. These tweezers aren't for extracting splinters, but for manipulating living cells. Ignacio's Chilean background also offers an interesting perspective on life as an international student in Australia.

We have three articles relating to roads, driving and road-safety. We start with alumnus Chris Barnett who is a senior Engineer with the Roads & Maritime Service of New South Wales. Then we have an interview with NCV alumnus, Dr Prasannah Prabhakaran, whose research looks at how theoretical cognitive structures in the mind model and guide people's driving behaviour. We also have an article reflecting on the speech given by prominent road-safety activist, Associate Professor Brian Owler, who was the guest speaker at the NCV Spring Dinner.

The guest speaker the Winter Dinner, Dr Terry Percival, is an inventor of a technology that will be utilized in over five-billion devices by the end of 2013. Dr Percival's address to our community inspired and surprised our residents reminding them that Australia can be at the forefront of technological progress.

Outside the realms of science and engineering there is much to honour and celebrate in this issue of the alumni magazine. Alumna Joanna Shulman offers an inspiring story as she leads the Redfern Legal Centre and works against discrimination,



(L-R) 2013 New College Lecturer, Professor Stanley Hauerwas, with Professor Trevor Cairney and both the incoming 2014 New College Students' Association (NCSA) President, Michael Babbage and the retiring 2013 NCSA President, Edward Rose.

racism and exclusion. As always we are pleased to share the joyous news of Marriages and New Families. You will also find that New College's relationship with the Bourke community continues to grow and New Collegians continue to exemplify the College's commitment to promote service to society.

There is an Historical Snapshot of how the New College Ball has changed over the years and we have a number of articles focusing on the highlights from within the New College and NCV communities since the last issue of *New 'n' Old*. These include a New College Lecture series featuring internationally acclaimed theologian and ethicist Professor Stanley Hauerwas, and the performance of the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* by the New College Students' Association. And as you will have seen on the front cover, the New College women have won the Inter-College Sporting Shield for the 3rd year in a row!

On a personal note, I was honoured to unexpectedly receive an Honorary Fellowship from the University of New South Wales this year. As mentioned in 'News in Brief', I see this award as an acknowledgement of the work of New College on campus rather than an individual contribution. New College and the NCV have a significant role in the life of UNSW. Residents, staff and board members past and present have helped New College and the NCV to set the standard for quality accommodation on campus, and communities that are second to none! While college accommodation isn't possible for all students at UNSW, I want to thank those who have supported our scholarship fundraising program in 2013, that helps students with less financial support to be able to call New College home. Your donations really do make a difference to the lives of the collegians.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *New 'n' Old*. It begins with a fascinating story about New College alumnus, Mark Darby, who lives by the mantra 'What if? And "Why not?"'

Trevor Cairney

MARK DARBY

The Road Less Travelled

Walking past the White House on the way to work at the Australian Embassy I used to regularly shake my head at the thought of what had brought me here as the Australian Government Education Counsellor for North America. Not the recent journey, but the time I first visited Washington DC thirty years before as a backpacking, Australian university 'drop out'.



Mark Darby in front of the Washington Monument in Washington D.C.

High school graduation – you did well! Apply for university – not sure what else to do. Accepted to engineering! Four weeks before classes – better find a place to live. New College – what's that? There was not much strategy or planning about it, but a few quick decisions opened a new world and learning experiences far beyond expectations.

For a young, naive guy New College provided a community that was welcoming, supportive and somewhat

forgiving in the journey of life. Champagne breakfasts in the median strip of ANZAC Parade; strategic, multi-level water fights to break the stress of summer study; impromptu picnics at any hour in many locations around Sydney and amidst all this a wonderful introduction to music.

As one of the College Social Directors in 1977, I booked Midnight Oil for \$180 to play a College Harbour Cruise. Minister for Education, Peter Garrett smiled when I reminded him of this during his visit to Washington

DC last year. Jimmy Barnes and Cold Chisel also played at the College Ball that year for the slightly higher fee of \$250. I remember asking Jimmy if they could turn the sound down a little at 1.30am. They turned it up and shook most of the tiles off the College kitchen walls.

Maybe all these new experiences (beyond a lack of engagement with my studies) were why I left college and then university in my third year. This was in a time before the term Gap Year existed and any possibilities of study abroad.

I felt the need to know my own country, as well as the rest of the world. I hitch-hiked from Sydney to Mt Isa, what any North Queenslander will tell you is the “real Australia”, and got a job in the mines. Eighteen months working as a geology assistant gave me the funds to spend the next year backpacking across North and Central America opening up new windows to people and unique places.

It was the natural beauty of North America that surprised and captivated me. It still does. The ragged snow capped peaks of the Rocky Mountains, driving Route 66 through Arizona, looking into the depths of the Grand Canyon and snorkelling the Caribbean were so different to Australia.

It inspired me to explore a



new direction and I returned to study Recreation at Mitchell CAE in Bathurst, followed by two years as an outdoors instructor with Outward Bound Australia. It was a rewarding introduction to the world of experiential learning to work with 8 to 65 year olds, children with disabilities and youth at risk; hiking, climbing, canoeing and caving. I felt proud to consider myself an educator.

I returned to the USA to complete a degree in Recreation and Parks Management which led me to Operation Raleigh, an international program taking 4,000 youth on three-month projects of science, community service and adventure around the globe.

This way of thinking was contagious and challenged me to stop talking about and actually undertake a dream to sail around Australia, to see my own country. I did this in a 16' catamaran with my American girlfriend for almost two years, sleeping on the beaches of Australia and visiting Perth for The America's Cup. I later wrote the book “Keeping Australia on the Left” that shared the story of a unique country and journey.

My mother was relieved when I returned to a ‘real job’ lecturing at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) in Leisure and Tourism Studies but I was soon working on a more practical project, taking UTS staff and students on projects in Guyana and Costa Rica with the Canadian program Youth Challenge International. We then set up the Australian branch of the organization and their inaugural program in the Solomon Islands. But I returned to Australia with Ross River and Glandular Fever and retreated to the south coast of New South Wales

at Tathra to recuperate and write a Masters thesis.

Then a New College friend sent me a small advertisement for the position of Executive Director for the Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development Program. The program provides the opportunity for young Australians to work in developing countries of the Asia Pacific for 3 – 12 months. With a great team of people we established what has become a core Australian international volunteer program.

I was inspired by others who dared to dream, have a life-long commitment to learning and most importantly, actively explored ‘What if?’ and ‘Why not?’

That experience opened up the privilege and honour to head the Australian-American Fulbright Commission. For the next nine years

I worked in this role with talented scholars, researchers, Prime Ministers, Ministers, Ambassadors, Vice Chancellors, corporate CEOs and the two previous Education Counsellors to Washington DC. And then I was appointed as the Australian Government Education Counsellor for North

America. In this role I again came to be walking past the White House... this time on my way to work.

There have been many memorable moments in my journey so far. Friends have considered me lucky in my career, yet while I have highly valued the experiences, I do not consider it luck. I was inspired by others who dared to dream, have a life-long commitment to learning and most importantly, actively explored ‘What if?’ and ‘Why not?’



NCV WINTER DINNER

How can you just be so humble?" A resident of New College Village asked the guest speaker at the Winter Formal Dinner. "Do you ever...like...walk into a Starbucks Cafe and just say, 'THANK YOU' to everyone there?"

Among scientists and engineers (particularly electrical Engineers) Dr Terry Percival is a superstar. You might think, "Ppff...that's not saying much", at which point it might be appropriate for you to relinquish wireless internet-connectivity for your phone, television, camera, laptop, printer, routers and games consoles.

The endearing Dr Percival is, just quietly, one of the most influential, Australian inventors living today. Why? Well in the words of one very excited NCV resident, "I need to get a photo with the Wi-Fi guy!!!"

Dozens of NCV residents lined up for over an hour at the end of the dinner to get in a photo with Dr Percival. So why was he so popular?

Dr Percival has had a long and distinguished career in electrical engineering, having worked on radiotelescopes and optical fibre technology. In 1996, Dr Percival patented Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) which he created with fellow CSIRO inventors Dr John O'Sullivan, Mr Diet Ostry, Mr Graham Daniels and Mr John Deane.

Dr Percival's research has had a direct impact on almost everyone's day to day life. It is used in offices, public buildings, homes and coffee shops—often called 'WiFi Hotspots'. The CSIRO wireless invention lies at the heart of what is now the most popular way to connect to the internet without wires. The CSIRO team, of which Dr Percival was a leading member, is credited with creating a technology that will be in over five billion devices worldwide by the time the patent expires at the end of 2013.

At the NCV Winter Formal Dinner Dr Percival shared his amazing story as a researcher and innovator. He reflected on the scientific developments he has been involved in and offered some comments about current Australian telecommunications policy.

Dr Percival spent the first ten years of his career researching how to improve sensitive radio receivers for large radio telescope arrays. In the late 1980's and early 1990's Dr Percival was a Research Manager for the Overseas Telecommunications Corporation's Satellite Communications Group, which was taken



over by Telstra. In that role Dr Percival achieved the creation of a world-wide standard for new digital satellite communications. Now Dr Percival is the Managing Laboratory Director for National ICT Australia (NICTA) and also Director of the Centre for Networking Technologies for the Information Economy (CeNTIE).

As well as a wonderfully engaging talk from Dr Percival, another highlight from the NCV Winter Formal Dinner was a performance of Stanley Myers' work *Cavatina* from *The Deer Hunter*. It was performed by NCV resident and classical guitarist Callum Savage. Callum, who actually studies chemistry and physics, gave a lovely recital of the work. He performed to the 110 NCV residents who attended the three course dinner.

All of our 315 NCV residents are given the opportunity to attend an NCV Formal Dinner during the course of the academic year. This is just one advantage of living in a residential college that cares so much about community and supporting those engaged in research and study at the University of New South Wales. ■



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jessica Dempsey

Jessica Dempsey is an alumna of New College. As a collegian (1996-97) Jess lived in the group 1E for two years. She is now an accomplished astronomer who has experienced living and working in the tropical paradise of Hawaii and the beautiful but incredibly harsh climate of Antarctica.

When Jess arrived at New College she was starting out on a double degree in a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre and Film) and a Bachelor of Science (Physics). A regular on the stage for

college plays and revues, Jess had planned on applying to NIDA and she still performs in a theatre in Hawaii. However, when Jess began studying astronomy, and the university started dangling adventures of Antarctica in front of her, she instead went on to complete a Bachelor of Science (1999) and then a PhD (2004) in Astrophysics.

New 'n' Old recently interviewed Jess to find out a little about her memories of New College and her fascinating experience as a scientist. You can read the interview on the next page.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jessica Dempsey cont...



Pictured: Jessica Dempsey stationed in Antarctica and standing inside a telescope that is looking for signatures of the Cosmic Microwave Background.

What are some of your memories of New College?

The girls of 1E really adopted me as a fresher and we partied with commitment. It was just so much fun. Mainly, I remember that New College was my support system when I started out at uni. Great friends, wonderful experiences... I am very thankful for it. I think for at least a while I held the record for spending the longest ever time in the stocks—several hours in the middle of winter. I can't remember which prank I was being punished for but I am very certain I deserved it.

What fields have you worked in as an astronomical scientist?

My primary field has always been astronomical telescopes and instrumentation. It has ranged over different types of astronomy and in a crazy variety of environments—from scraping sheep crap from radio telescope tracks in the bush behind Narrabri, freezing my tongue to optical fibres at South Pole Station (don't ask), to installing a state-of-the-art £40 million (UK) submillimetre camera in Hawaii, and being in charge when they nearly lost control of it on a forklift and came inches from dropping it off a truck.

What challenges have you most enjoyed?

I love problem-solving. Astronomy is full of puzzles but my area of expertise is taking the wild predictions of the theoreticians and cosmologists and saying "Ok, but can we observe that? Test it? And what kind of instrument can I build that will find it?" And I enjoy defying the norms. There are not many women in the astronomical instrument field—even now. I'm working to try and change that.

Apparently you were one of the first female Australian scientists to work at the South Pole.

I was the first, actually. It was cool, I was only just completing my Honours year when I first went down there, at age 21. It was intoxicating, I was completely hooked. I ended up spending four summer seasons at South Pole Station for my PhD project, building a robotic, optical telescope.

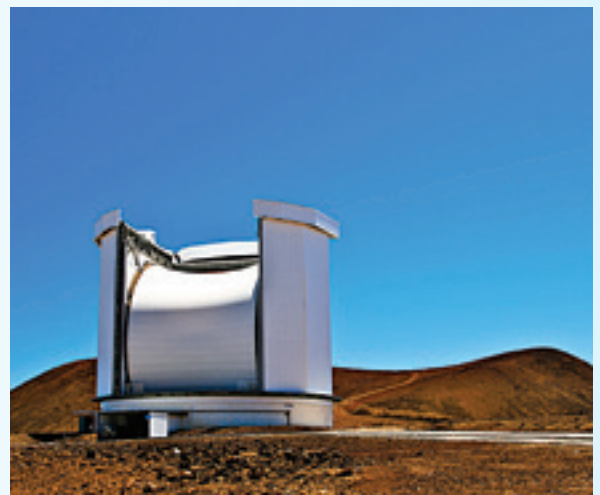
Then after I graduated, I was hired by Berkeley to winter and run their telescope looking for the signatures of the Cosmic Microwave Background. I spent thirteen months straight down there from November 2004 until December 2005. I loved it—though it was physically and mentally taxing on a level it is hard to describe. For eight months you are less accessible than on the Space Station. You are truly on your own. And it's dark for six full months. I have permanent frost-bite on three fingers from all of the daily work I needed to do outside. But I would do it again in a heartbeat.

What is your role at the Joint Astronomy Centre, Hawaii?

I am the Head of Operations of the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope, a 15-metre submillimetre telescope at the summit of Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawaii (pictured below). It is used to study our Solar System, interstellar dust and gas, and distant galaxies. It is the largest telescope on the mountain, and of its kind in the world.

In essence, I try and make sure everything works—from ensuring smooth nightly operations to data checking, instrument repair and troubleshooting. In my spare time I try and get some research done, but I don't get much of that these days.

For Jessica Dempsey life after New College has been full of challenging adventures. Though no one else will be able to claim the title of 'first female Australian scientist to work at the South Pole', Jessica will inspire current and future New Collegians studying science to make the most of the opportunities that come their way. ■



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Joanna Shulman



Joanna Shulman is an alumna of New College, where she lived from 1997-98 while studying Law at the University of New South Wales. Now Joanna has her own family, being married to Doug with baby Amelia. She is also the CEO of Australian's oldest community legal centre and is passionate about meeting the diverse challenges that come her way.

Joanna initially had trouble settling on a course of study for university. She tried occupational therapy, social work and arts before discovering a double degree in Social Policy and Law on offer at UNSW. "Law introduced me to a new way of thinking. It completely opened my mind. Instead of just accepting things as they are, the law allows you to transform them through argument."

When Joanna and a fellow UNSW student went out for a drink one night, they couldn't get into the bar... literally. There was no way her friend's wheelchair could negotiate the entrance of the inner city premises. Joanna went home that night incensed. Less than a decade later, Joanna walked into the United Nations headquarters in New York. Now a young lawyer, she was attending the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee considering the Convention on the Rights and Responsibilities of People with Disability, on behalf of Australia's community legal centres.

The bar incident was a defining moment. Joanna became an outspoken advocate for the disability community, and spent three years at the Disability Discrimination Legal Centre NSW as Principal Solicitor. Today she is the CEO of Redfern Legal Centre and lectures in discrimination law at UNSW.

"The Redfern Legal Centre is about increasing access to justice in a very real way", Joanna says. "There is a lack of funding for resources and my work often feels a bit like David and Goliath with us taking on the big guys all the time."

Redfern Legal Centre, established in 1977, has achieved great things as the oldest community legal centres in NSW. Under Joanna's direction the Centre is expanding and seeking to be more innovative. One recent initiative has been to provide legal advice via the National Broadband Network (NBN). Redfern Legal Centre is making use of the new infrastructure, where it has been rolled out by the

government, enabling them to service rural and remote clients who didn't previously have access to community legal services.

Joanna's experience working in disability discrimination gives her a well informed perspective on what still needs to be done in Australia to stamp out disability discrimination. Joanna says, "We need to strengthen discrimination law because as it stands it's just a toothless tiger. It is very difficult for people with disability to bring forward claims, in that they require entry into very complex and expensive processes at a Federal Court level. Very few cases make it to court. It is often easier for people with disability to simply give up."

One area where Joanna has seen improvements to disability law is around clarifying the legal status of people with disability. "This advance has been a good starting point", she says. But, according to Joanna, the way to make the legal system more just for people with disability won't be found without including them in the process. "One way to improve the system is to increase representation of people with disability in decision making roles".

There is still much that all of society must work together to change. It is often stated that Australia has a legal system but not an effective justice system. Joanna says "One of the most common things that we tell our clients is that the law is not just, so one of our core activities is to promote change".

"Discrimination, racism and exclusion still push my buttons" Joanna says of the future. "I've been privileged and I feel I have an obligation to give something back."

This article is based on an interview Joanna did with New 'n' Old and includes some content originally published by the UNSW Law Faculty. The borrowed content and photo have been used with the permission of UNSW Law.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

On the Road Again with Chris Barnett

Chris Barnett lives on the western side of the Blue Mountains in the town of Lithgow. An engineering graduate of The University of New South Wales, Chris was a New Collegian from 1977 to 1980. In this time he met his wife Julie, a Science graduate from UNSW who went on to practice physiotherapy after further study through Cumberland College.

Together Chris and Julie have three adult children, Jonathan (currently an intern at Prince of Wales Hospital, Catherine (a nurse at Port Macquarie Hospital), and Elizabeth (a Med student at UNSW). With all three children following their mother into medical professions Chris sometimes wonders whether he has failed as an engineer.

But in all seriousness, Chris shoulders the significant responsibility of maintaining and upgrading major roads for the NSW Roads & Maritime Service. Much of his time is spent working on the section of the Great Western Highway between Lithgow and Mount Victoria. The mountainous terrain makes this one of the most technically difficult pieces of highway infrastructure to work on in New South Wales.

It is a challenging role but Chris enjoys managing the delivery of projects to competing time, cost and quality requirements. "I like working with the variety of people and issues you come across in road projects", says Chris, "Whether they are technical staff and issues, environmental matters, politicians or the media".



No matter the size of the project, frustrations come along. But Chris says he focuses on the end goal. "You have to have routines that you stick to and yet remember that work isn't everything in life!"

Everyone thinks that they have the solution to better transport infrastructure in New South Wales but speaking from the standpoint of many years experience delivering projects Chris says, "Projects must simply deliver measurable value, not appease the noisiest voices."

"Living in the country this means consistency in travel conditions, rather than big improvements. In the city, I believe that greater planning for future travel demands and providing the right mix across all transport modes is essential...it's not just about roads."

The university experience taught

Chris more than just 'how to be an engineer'. "I think university teaches us all to be more resourceful, and seek ways to find answers, and solve problems. This is not peculiar to engineering, but may be heightened."

As Chris reflects back on his time at New College, the things he remembers most fondly are the great friendships he made, which continue to this day. He also remembers people wanting to tell others about Jesus, not always well or tactfully, but convinced that Jesus is the hope of the world.

Chris Barnett's link to New College didn't end in 1977. Two of his children have recently lived at New. Jonathan was a resident from 2005-2008. In that time he was involved in various musical activities (including the New College choir and the barbershop sextet), the Christian Fellowship, and in



his final year he was a Resident Advisor (RA). Chris' youngest daughter Elizabeth was living at New College as recently as last year. She is still studying Medicine through UNSW but after three great years at College (including one as an RA), she made the move out of College and was not long after very happily married (but that is another story, which you can find on page 16).

Having had two children come through New College, Chris says, "It is still the best college on campus—one that looks after the whole person. I think New allows people to consider a variety of world views in a non-judgemental atmosphere, but still promoting the Christian world view. I have seen my two children develop there as mature individuals with enquiring minds, independent thought but also convinced by Jesus of his reality." ■



DR PRASANNAH PRABHAKHARAN

Prasannah Prabhakaran is an alumnus of New College Village (2010-11). The first son of Sri Lankan parents he was born and raised in a modest, middle-class household in the inner-western suburbs of Sydney. Prasannah attended Christian Brothers' High School in Lewisham where he developed a keen interest in Science and Maths. He has gone on to pursue this interest at the University of New South Wales, completing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and then a PhD. Prasannah was recently offered a Postdoctoral Research Fellow position at the University of Nottingham. He is glad of the opportunity to pursue an academic career in another country and is also looking forward to travelling around Europe.

Prasannah's PhD at UNSW involved developing driver training methods aimed at reducing speeding behaviour. This is valuable work, given how many Australians have been affected by tragic accidents on our roads. Prasannah shared some thoughts with *New 'n' Old* on his last few years researching whilst living at New College Village.

What has your research focused on?

My Research has largely focused on the addressing the "young novice driver problem". Young drivers in Australia (16-24 years olds) represent about 15% of the driving population but account for 35% of all fatal accidents and around 50% of injury crashes. My research aims to explain and attempts to mitigate this overrepresentation. Specifically, I investigate how information is processed (an area of research called cognitive psychology) by young novice drivers and develop training methods that may facilitate in their learning of safer driving skills.



DR PRASANNAH PRABHAKHARAN CONT...

What are the challenges and opportunities you have encountered?

I've always lived by the philosophy that you should never let a good opportunity pass you by. You never know if you never try! In the case of my PhD, "you'll never know, if you never apply" was the attitude I took and I've never looked back. My PhD has been one of the most challenging and most demanding endeavours I've ever embarked on. Unlike a typical 9-5 job, my research became my life and I never got an opportunity to switch off. It was cognitively and emotionally challenging and it took a toll on my some of my close relationships. In the 9 months I took to finish writing my PhD, I lost 13kg and became vitamin D deficient! But this story has a happy ending. Since submitting my PhD, I've been working at the Transport and Road Safety Research Centre at UNSW developing young novice driver training with a fantastic team!

How does your research indicate we can reduce speeding behaviour in young drivers?

My research suggests that one possible mechanism to reduce speeding behaviours is to modify people's "scripts". Scripts are theoretical cognitive structures in the mind which model people's behaviour, guiding them as to what is appropriate in certain environments. It is hypothesised that young novice drivers may (wrongly) feel that speeding is appropriate. By demonstrating that speeding behaviour is inappropriate (in a simulated environment) by providing immediate personalised feedback about the increased risk of their behaviour, my research demonstrates that there are significant reductions to speeding behaviour when tested one week later. An example of the personalised feedback might be "with the behaviour you just exhibited, you could have injured or killed other drivers, pedestrians or your passengers".

What do you most value from the time you spent living at NCV?

My time at NCV was invaluable as it provided me with the perfect environment to complete my research. The move to NCV meant that I no longer had distractions from the family household and gave me the freedom I needed at the time. The modern, refreshing atmosphere provided me with a place to not only focus on my writing but also to unwind with friends after a long day. ■

SPRING DINNER



Would you rather:

- a) Miss the start of the footy?
- b) Run a red light, T-bone another car and give your mate brain damage?

Should you:

- a) Arrive a few minutes into the film?
- b) Rush, lose control in the rain and snap your girlfriend's spine?

The guest speaker at the 2013 NCV Spring Dinner too often sees the trauma when motorists get it wrong.



Spring Dinner

Associate Professor Brian Owler is a neurosurgeon with a heart to prevent unnecessary injuries and fatalities inflicted through accidents caused by a lack of care or just plain irresponsible behaviour. Already, in his life, Dr Owler has achieved much as a surgeon. Yet, perhaps it is in the areas of public health and safety policy and in the pursuit of improving medical practices that Dr Brian Owler has made the biggest contribution. You will probably recognise him from the challenging road safety television advertisements in which he appears.

At the NCV Spring Formal Dinner, Dr Owler challenged and encouraged the NCV community by sharing some powerful stories of tragedy and hope. Road accidents are not the only category of avoidable tragedies that he is working to prevent; as the following graphic and tragic description from his address to the NCV community illustrates.

“When a toddler falls from a window or balcony they fall head first. As they see the ground rushing towards them they try to protect themselves with outstretched hands. I know this because they often break both wrists. Their head then hits the pavement. And yet another child is admitted to intensive care after a preventable fall. Of course, some don’t make it to hospital.”

Dr Owler takes no delight in describing this terrible but all too common situation. Outside the operating theatre he is the President of the New South Wales Australian

Medical Association. In that role Dr Owler is working with the NSW Government to educate parents about the risks of their children playing near open windows. Speaking to the NCV community, Dr Owler shared how important it is to build support through the media to influence government policy. In this instance a media campaign was generated by releasing a statement every time a toddler fell through a window.

The government was compelled to take action leading to new building codes for strata dwellings. Dr Owler hopes this will help prevent toddlers from falling out of windows.

Dr Owler challenged the whole NCV community, and particularly those on track to work in a medical profession, to always be looking for ways to improve work practices. He cited as an example his own initiative to improve the emergency care provided to patients living outside metropolitan areas.

In the past if a person sustained a serious brain injury in a rural or regional area it was necessary to transfer the patient, by road and helicopter or aeroplane, to a large metropolitan hospital where a surgeon could operate. While this is still sometimes necessary, it usually is preferable to minimise the need for a patient to travel after sustaining a brain injury. Convinced that better care could be provided to people in country areas, Dr Owler spearheaded

a campaign to send both surgeons and patients to the closest hospital to the scene of the accident.

Now if someone sustains a brain injury in a country town like Dubbo, a surgeon on duty in a metropolitan hospital may be flown to the regional hospital where the casualty is first

Road accidents are not the only avoidable tragedies that Dr Brian Owler is working to prevent.

taken. There the surgeon can lead a local team of medical professionals to perform whatever procedure is necessary. The time saved by not having to prepare the patient for safe transportation to a metropolitan hospital can be the difference in whether or not surgery can save a life.

As well as the thought-provoking talk the Spring Formal Dinner was a wonderful occasion for the community to share a delicious meal and hear the NCV Band perform a tribute to Johnny Farnham. Formal Dinners are just one example of why NCV and New College are far more than just a place to live while studying at the University of New South Wales. ■

THE NEW COLLEGE BALL DO YOU REMEMBER?



Above: Photos from the 2013 Ball which revisited the Prohibition theme originally used for the 1969 and 1975 New College Balls (this time with the added theme 'The Great Gatsby').

The New College Ball is one of the biggest nights on the New College social calendar. In 2013 the theme was 'The Great Gatsby Prohibition Ball' Party and was held at Le Montage Bayside. It was a wonderful night (as the photos above testify) co-ordinated by the 2013 Ball directors, Caroline Leach and Georgia Freeman and their committee.

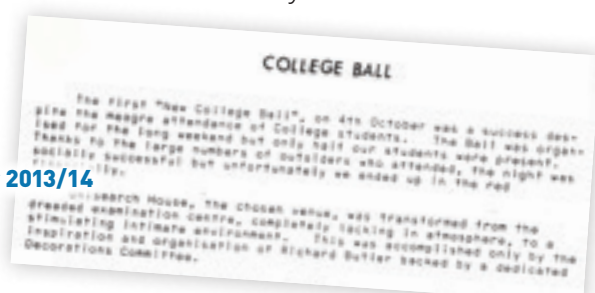
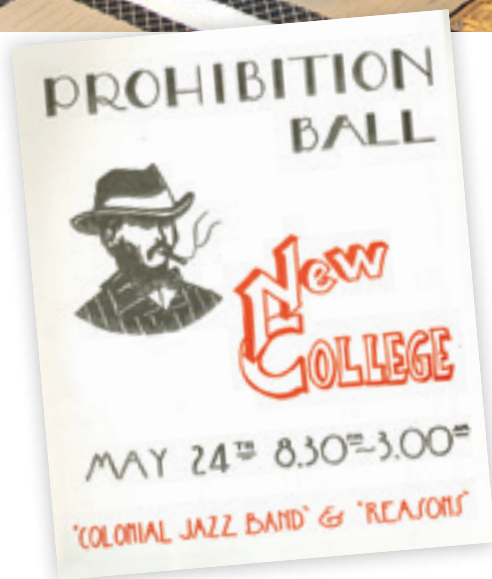
The New College Ball has had many incarnations over years but a fun night for all has always been the aim. Here are some highlights and reflections on how the annual event has changed over the years.

A Historical Snapshot of the New College Ball

1969 The first New College Ball was held on campus at Unisearch House with the theme "Prohibition Era" reflecting the no alcohol policy of the college. Unisearch House was decorated for the occasion to mask its ordinary life as an exam centre.

1971 "Who would ever have believed that a dry ball could have such a large attendance and be absolutely enjoyed by all and sundry? The Ball was attended by 410 people including guests of New Collegians." Warren Beckett, Ball Director 1971.

1974 This dry ball was reputed to be the best yet. The show floated to success (except in the Treasurer's quarter) due to fantastic help from Collegians and staff (including Dr Babbage) blowing up 2000 balloons.





1976 The New Year Ball cost just \$10 a ticket.

1977 The theme was 'Shanghai Shindig'. The ticket price had skyrocketed to \$14 per person but, looking on the bright side, the Ball committee did hire Jimmy Barnes and Cold Chisel for \$250! Mark Darby remembers asking Jimmy to turn the music down a bit at 1:30am at which point they cranked it up even louder and shook most of the tiles off the College kitchen walls.

1978 The ball themed Disney Scene Anew was held in the dining room of college. The walls were decorated with Scenes from Disney films and 1000 helium balloons lined the ceiling.

1979 Entrance to the 'Horrorball' was through a giant coffin for two.

1983 The 'Gourmet at the Gate' ball broke the 1970's tradition of holding the ball in the College dining room. Instead

it was held at the Hyatt Kingsgate International Hotel.

1984 The Ball is held at the New Chevron Hotel, Potts Point in the Candle-lit Grande Ballroom.

1991 The Ball, thanks to the illustrious committee will go down in history as one of the classiest – the Q.V.B will remember it until they can find their flag.

1994 The 25th Anniversary Ball at the Gazebo Hotel, Elizabeth Bay attended by Collegians and alumni from the 1st 25 years of the College.

1996 The Ball featured the week prior to the revue in a move that should never be repeated... but the committee did not let down the College as the Townhouse put on a great show featuring Slide McBride for the first time. The Band Slide McBride has been a fixture of the New College Ball ever since!





PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER KARP

Ross Fox & Joanne Gale

Mr Ross Fox (NC 1995-98) & Dr Joanne Gale were married (pictured below) at St Mary, Star of the Sea, West Melbourne at 4 pm on Friday 20 September 2013. Joanne's sister, Marianne, was her Maid of Honour and Anna Arnth-Jensen a bridesmaid. Ross was supported by Best Man, Ben McLean and groomsman Paul Stacy (NC 1995-96). More than half a dozen former New Collegians were present for the celebration.

Since leaving New College Ross has done a range of things including studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford. For the last five years he has been working in Catholic education on policy, communications and funding negotiations. Ross was recently appointed as the Executive Director of the National Catholic Education Commission.



Sian Elliott and Rowan Humphreys

Sian and Rowan (both NC 2006-07) were married (pictured above) at St John's Anglican Church in Mudgee on the 7th of September at 2:30 pm. Their bridal party were all from New College except for the Best man and Maid of Honour. The bridal party included Sian's sister, Caitlin Elliott, as Maid of Honour and bridesmaids Sally O'Neill, Bronwyn Carr and Amy Atkins who all lived at New College 2006-07. Also in the bridal party were Best Man Warren Lawrence, Andrew McGuire (NC 2006-07), Chris Bailey (NC 2006-08) and Daniel Atkins (NC 2006-07). A special mention must go to Rowan and Sian's 'Old Chook' Renee Chow (NC 2004-06) who travelled to Mudgee all the way from Cambridge, UK where she is currently doing her PhD.

Since graduating, Sian has worked for the City of Sydney as a Transport Data and GIS Analyst for 3 years while Rowan has worked as a Biomedical Engineer. Two weeks after getting married, they moved to London, UK so Sian can undertake a Masters of Research in Advanced Spatial Analysis and Visualisation at University College London. Rowan is working in London as a Hardware Engineer. They are enjoying exploring the city and travelling through Europe on the weekends as everything is so close.

Amy Harris & Jesse Morrison

At 2 pm on Saturday, 13th July 2013 Amy Harris & Jesse Morrison (NC 2010-11 & NCV 2012-13) were married in a service held at St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone, Kent, United Kingdom. The Rev Canon Bruce Morrison (the Chairman of New College) had the special honour of marrying off his own son Jesse to the lovely Amy. Jesse's groomsmen were his two brothers in law Sahm Nasser (NC 2003-06) and Luke Pearce. Amy's sisters Lydia and Clara Harris were her bridesmaids. Amy Nasser (2003-04) read and Laura Pearce (both formally Morrison) both gave bible readings during the service. Professor Trevor Cairney and Mrs Carmen Cairney were both delighted to be able to attend the wedding and represent New College, as they were already in England.

Jesse and Amy are now taking some time off (a semester from Uni) before heading back to Australia in late September. They will be spending time in different places between England and Australia, including India, where they met.



Timothy Amos and Laura Sharpe

Timothy Amos and Laura Sharpe were married at St Martin's Anglican Church, Kensington at 2 pm Saturday, 20th July 2013. Their bridal party was made up of friends and family. Several members of the New College Village community were involved in the ceremony and the Dean of NCV, Dr John Quinn, was the MC for their reception. Tim and Laura have a long association with the both New College and NCV. Tim was a New Collegian from 2006 to 2008. From 2009 until this year Tim was a resident of NCV whilst undertaking research within the university. Also a researcher, Laura was both NCV's very first resident and PhD graduate. After honeymooning in New Zealand, they are enjoying their new place in Waterloo. Both Tim and Laura continue researching at the University of New South Wales and as part of her Postdoctoral research Laura's work recently took them on a trip to Europe for a conference in Italy followed by some travelling.

NEW FAMILIES



David & Gemma Conway are very happy to have welcomed their first child, George Elliot Conway, who was born on 27th June 2013.



Cristian & Karen Leyton (NCV 2009-10) are delighted to have welcomed their second son, Lucas Owen Leyton Ortega, who was born 5th November 2013.

Alumna Lisa McKay and her husband Mike Wolfe have recently welcomed their second son; Alexander McKay Wolfe. Alexander was born August 10, 2013.



Dr John Quinn, the Dean of New College Village and his wife Dr Premilla Chinnappa-Quinn welcomed their third daughter, Amirithini Morwenna, to their family on the 1st July 2013. Her older sisters Indumathi and Kanmani are enjoying having another sibling. She is also a very popular addition to the wider NCV family.

Amina Tariq Embracing the chaotic in health care



For the last three years Amina has been a resident of New College Village. In August, she submitted her PhD Thesis titled, 'Medication safety in collaborative healthcare settings: An investigation of the impact of information exchange processes in residential aged care facilities'.

Whilst undertaking her research, Amina had extensive engagement with the residents and management in a number of aged care facilities. On visits to nursing homes the elderly people were very enthusiastic to know what she was doing. "Often they were just lonely and want to talk to someone" says Amina. But these conversations gave her a way to explain to the elderly residents how the information she was collecting would be used. Amina says, "When trying to inform consumers about research it is important not to use sophisticated jargon. This is particularly pertinent when dealing with elderly

people, especially when they are not well."

Most elderly people are on 7-8 daily medications. Amina's research is the first extensive study into Australian residential aged-care information exchange processes. Her research centres on how different categories of health professionals coordinate and share information with each other to coordinate medication management for elderly people living in aged-care facilities.

"Many elderly people don't know what medicines they are taking", says Amina. "The responsibility falls back on to pharmacists because Aged-Care workers are often not as specialised as employees in hospitals. Frequently it is complexities of information exchange that lead to system errors and bad experiences for patients".

As a nation, Australia is currently looking at how to use technology to automate systems. Some implementation has already begun. But if the underlying processes are fundamentally flawed the technology to automate the systems won't help elderly people. I have been looking into the reasons that mistakes occur at a systems level."

The Federal Government has begun implementing Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records (PCEHR). But Amina's research suggests that the implementation of this initiative has been weak, particularly in aged-care facilities where there is limited understanding of how to use or access it. "Aged care facilities comprise a significant proportion of health care facilities in Australia but they don't know about the technology. It is good that the Government and health sector have started thinking about the problems. But understanding information dynamics is a prerequisite before investing in health information

technology.” The problems don’t end there. “Public and private health practise is not standardised – each system doesn’t know what the other is doing”, says Amina. Furthermore, there seems to be a culture in the aged care sector that ‘it is the way it is because it is’. “Rigid operational structures in health care restrict smooth delivery of the quality care that might otherwise be possible.”

Despite the problems that Amina has observed, she likes the unpredictable side of research. “We have been amazed by the results, which are persuading people to talk about aged care and enact change. My philosophy is to embrace the chaos in health care and try and work around it rather than not accepting the reality that it is chaotic.”

“Policy should say ‘how’ something should be done not just ‘what should be done’. Responsibility and accountability should be clarified especially when transitioning between different health care systems.” These are some of the changes Amina’s research suggests must be undertaken to bring real improvements to the aged-care system.

Amina’s investigation into Australian aged-care exposes a very different world to the family and home-based-care experienced by all but the very richest elderly residents of her home country, Pakistan. “In Pakistan there are virtually no aged care facilities”, she says. “Pakistan survives on a family infrastructure. And while the education system is fragmented and polarised, education is very important to Pakistanis. The expectations on undergraduate students are intense compared to in Australia, which is why Pakistanis

do very well when they come to Australian universities.”

Amina studied Software Engineering for four years at the National University of Sciences and Technology in Pakistan. Despite having a very solid undergraduate system, Pakistan has very little research infrastructure, which is why she moved to the UK to do a Masters in Business Communication Systems at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. She then returned home to lecture at the Pakistan National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences before making the move to Australia to do her PhD at the University of New South Wales.

Amina has loved living at New College Village while researching at UNSW. “It has been a fascinating experience. NCV has become my home! Going through a PhD in a community with other researchers is inspiring because it tells you what is right and normal. We develop shared experiences of how to get through research. Instead of going into hibernation for a while, researchers at NCV are encouraged to take hold of opportunities. For example, the NCV research seminars help us to broaden our skill sets and learn about other people’s research.”

“The opportunity to be an academic tutor within the community for three years has been rewarding. My personal belief in life is to give back to the community you are a part of. I have made so many good friends through being able to meet like minded, thinking people who I can help.” ■

My philosophy is to embrace the chaos in health care and try and work around it rather than not accepting the reality that it is chaotic.



IGNACIO THE MATHEMATICIAN FROM CHILE

Ignacio lives at NCV and is in the first year of his PhD in Mathematics. "I like NCV. It's very cool...easy to make friends. My experiencing of living in Australia has been that everything works like a watch...like a clock. People are very friendly and I have been so surprised by the level of cultural diversity. It is not something we are used to in Chile. We don't have cultural integration on a big scale."



Ignacio Ortega Piwonka grew up in La Reina, Santiago the capital city of Chile. La Reina was once a small city in its own right. But Santiago, like Sydney, is an unplanned sprawl that over time has taken into its clutch once separate towns and villages. Sydney is about twenty times the size of Santiago in terms of area. Even so, while we have just 4.6 million Sydneysiders, Santiago is home to over 6 million Chileans; giving the South American city a population density about twenty times that of Sydney.

"I have never seen a traffic jam in Sydney, nor been in a bus overcrowded with people" says Ignacio. His observations are perhaps a lesson in relativity but Sydneysiders who like to complain about bad traffic have probably never been to Santiago.

"La Reina is one of Santiago's beautiful suburbs. It's much like Kensington with lots of green parks. But Sydney is safer than Santiago, which has a lot of crime on the west side of the city and the CBD. Eastern

residents a slightly rose-tinted view of Australian living standards. Nevertheless, Australia is the 'lucky country' and Sydney is by world standards a wonderful place to live.

Ignacio has been in Australia since April. Living at NCV, he has really enjoyed attending BBQs and other social events such as Trivia and Karaoke nights.

However, it is on the academic stage that Ignacio is most at home. He already holds Bachelor and Masters Degrees in Physics. His Masters research focused on granular materials.

"What I would like to do is work as an academic, I like research and teaching. I have always enjoyed the challenges of working as a tutor. Working with students allows you to shape your character and develop leadership skills."

Now as he undertakes a Mathematics PhD Ignacio is fortunate to have been awarded the University International Postgraduate Award. Ignacio's PhD draws heavily on his

Santiago is safer... and richer."

Sydney does have its own problems but they are not so obvious in the Eastern suburbs where NCV is located just minutes from the beach and close to many of the best things Sydney has to offer. Life at NCV may give new international

background in physics. At the centre of his research Ignacio is working to design a theoretical approach for an experiment involving optical tweezers.

Optical tweezers are laser beams focused in a very special fashion, enabling the manipulation of objects on a microscopic scale. For instance, Optical tweezers can be used to manipulate living cells without killing them. Cells can be stretched, moved and rotated at will. This allows biologists to gain a complete observation of cells.

Ignacio is working to find the equations which describe the motion of indium phosphide nanowires submerged into water and exposed to a tweezers' force field. Microscopic particles in water usually draw random trajectories since they are constantly being hit by water molecules. Ignacio says, "This phenomenon is known as Brownian motion. For the nanowires inside the optical tweezers, this random motion becomes somewhat oscillatory, which is known as stochastic resonance. Our main goal is to understand why this dynamics occurs on the physical and mathematical basis."

NCV is home to many students researching as part of the Medicine Independent Learning Project (ILP) and through Honours, Masters, PhD and Post Doctoral programs. The strong academic aptitude of residents like Ignacio helps to make NCV unique among UNSW accommodation providers at the University of New South Wales. Ignacio is part of an ongoing culture of 'many cultures living and researching together' at NCV, UNSW. ■

2013 NCV HARBOUR CRUISE

On Friday 2nd August, NCV's Residents put on their best clothes and headed out onto Sydney's Harbour for NCV's biggest social event of the year, the NCV Harbour Cruise. This year the boat was again the "Sydney Harbour Ballroom" a stylish paddlesteamer. The NCV community set off from Sydney's King Street Wharf at about 7:30, and enjoyed everything that Sydney's iconic harbour had to offer. After enjoying some canapés on the top

deck, everyone headed downstairs for more food, drinks and dancing. The DJ played everything from Beyonce to Tina Turner, and even a little bit of Stevie Wonder. After the boat docked at 11 pm the cruisers rocked on to some of the local establishments. A great night was had by all. This is the fourth annual NCV Harbour Cruise, with the event having become an important fixture on the NCV Social Calendar. ■



THE NCV FACTOR



Over the last five years NCV has developed quite a bit of tradition in the area of music. Starting in 2010 as an evening of primarily classical music, NCV's Music Night has morphed into a more contemporary talent quest, in the tradition of the X Factor (but without the scathing feedback from the judges!). This semester fellow residents in the crowd were treated to performances (among others) of the Maroon 5 hit "Harder to Breathe", Nena's cold war classic "99 Luftballons", Bruno Mars' "When I Was Your Man" and Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable". There was also a shout out to the retiring Federal Member for Kingsford Smith Peter Garrett, with the NCV Band performing Midnight Oil's classic "Beds Are Burning". The NCV Choir went retro with renditions of the ABBA hits "Thank You for the Music" and "Mamma Mia". The night was great fun, with the NCV Band now turning its attention to the Inter Residence Band Night at the Roundhouse in mid September. ■

BATTLE OF THE BANDS



New College has a long and strong tradition of running band nights; social events which see a dozen different bands formed from within the College community to compete in good-fun against each other. From the musically challenged to the musically gifted, collegians practice and perform a song in the hope that their band will dazzle the judges, if not by musical genius at least by offering a degree of enthusiastic stage presence and general merriment.

Residents in the NCV community have quickly built up musical traditions too. The NCV Talent night, NCV music nights and the NCV Factor are a great opportunity for residents to demonstrate their musical talent or at least have a go. But the bar is raised when the sister colleges go out to compete against the other UNSW colleges.

It was Wednesday, the 12th of September, and many excited New Collegians and NCV residents went along to cheer on their muso's. The event had a really good atmosphere with so much support and college spirit from New College and NCV that the other colleges weren't really noticed (until we must admit, the Warrane College band amazed everyone).

The New College Band gave a strong performance winning 2nd place overall for their renditions of Take Me Out, a Motown Tribute to Nickleback and Counting Stars. The New College Village Band had a great night too performing Harder to Breathe by Maroon 5, Gimme Some Lovin' by The Spencer Davis Group and 99 Red Balloons by Nena. Both bands were very impressive and the NCV Band was even asked perform a set at an Oktoberfest event at the Coogee Palace. ■

The New College Band

- Rowan Thambar (Keys)
- Lewis Wand (Keys)
- David Chen (Drums)
- John Raineri and Hilary Geddes (Guitars)
- Andrew Hay, Tracey Lloyd, Cassie Murphy and Heather Rodgers (Horns)
- Alexander Davidson (Flute)
- Muthoni Muchiri, Callum Agnew, Gemma Goodwin and Amy Pratten (Vocals)
- Matthew Rowe (Bass Guitar)

The NCV Band (Noise Complaint)

- Ash Menon, Michael Sturm, Tamara Certain & Sagarika Bharatiya (Vocals)
- Vijay Prakash, Emily Suriboonya & Carlos Vinluan (Guitar)
- Robin Au (Bass Guitar)
- Ria Dev (Vocals, Bass Guitar)
- Nicola Yeo (Vocals, Flute)
- Justin Brunner (Drums)
- Zoe Chow (Vocals, Keyboard)
- Shamila Vijayamanohar (Drums, Keyboard)
- Pesila Ratnayake (Drums, Bass Guitar)
- Anneke Duin & Jason Yan (Violin)
- Georgia McLinden & Rhonda Siu (Clarinet)
- Marcus Conway (Trombone)

MASTER'S CHALLENGE



Over the last three years The Master's Challenge has been hotly contested by New College and NCV sporting men and women. In 2013 the sister colleges met twice to contest three sports; badminton, pool and table tennis.

In August, New Collegians ventured across the road to the NCV central courtyard, which was converted into a (not quite standard) badminton court for the occasion. Each college fielded competitors for Men's Singles, Women's Singles and Mixed Doubles badminton matches.

NCV player, Robin Au, was successful in overcoming his New Collegian opponent, beating Alex Mayer 2 sets to 1. In the Women's Singles Rachel Beale put in an impressive effort for New College but NCV's Sahar Ziapour played very strongly on the day winning

in 2 straight sets. Only in the Mixed Doubles did New Collegians triumph when Alicia McCormick and Dulana Jayawardina outplayed their NCV counterparts, Pesila Ratnayake and Katherine Tay, winning 2-1. New College put on a good show but NCV went in as favourites and came out on top.

A single-set exhibition match was also played between the Dean of NCV, Dr John Quinn, and the Dean of New College, Rev. Ben Gooley. After a strong start, Quinn fended off a late 9-point comeback from Gooley to maintain NCV's winning trend and win 21-18. NCV mascot Frank the Fat Penguin and New College mascot Bobdog were both present but kept their sparring off-court.

On the 9th October New College hosted the Master's challenge with hopes of winning back the Cup

from NCV. Katherine Grellman, Lucy Wilcher, Rachel Beale, Ed Rose, Denbigh Burrows and Yusuf Abdulhussein represented New College in the Table Tennis. They were up against NCV residents Emily Suriboonya, Maria Guidi, Jason Yan and Aqib Muhammed Chishty

In the Pool competition New College fielded Tracey Lloyd, Daniel Atkins, Kurt Walkom, Chris Johnson and Stuart Taylor. NCV's team comprised Adheesh Ramani, Gaganpreet Singh, Geetha Guduguntla, Ahsan Kabir Murad and Vinam Jain.

The competition between the two communities was great but on the day NCV again prevailed over New College winning overall in both sports. The day was great fun and a wonderful opportunity to build connections between residents of the two communities. ■

New College Sportswomen Triumph Again



New College women have again excelled on University of New South Wales sporting fields in 2013, winning the Women's Inter-College Shield for the third year in a row. In the men's competition New College was within striking distance of claiming the top overall spot but in the end settled into a very respectable 3rd place overall in the Rupert Myer's Inter-College Men's Shield. These wonderful results are indicative of both the sporting ability of Collegians and a level of participation in sport in a College where everyone is encouraged to have a go. The dedicated work of the 2013 Sports Directors Hilton Guinness and Rosie Sackett enabled many in the community to have a great time playing sport in 2013.

Most Inspirational Sportswoman:
Lucy McCrum

Sportswoman of the Year:
Elise Baker

Most Inspirational Sportsman:
Daniel Atkins

Sportsman of the Year:
Luke Fox



A Sporting Snapshot - 2013 Cross Country Carnival

On Sunday the 5th of May after a much appreciated early wakeup, 60 keen collegians set off for Centennial Park for the annual Inter-College Cross-Country Carnival. The girls were off first after discussing their very secret and highly strategic game plan. Run. Fast. Don't stop. The other colleges would never suspect this.

The plan was very effective with five girls placing in the top ten and many more coming in close behind. Among those who placed were Lucinda Mansour, Francesca Perrottet, Tessa Calder, Laura Jeffress and Eleanor McMahon. Impressively 2nd place was won by New Collegian Genevieve Flynn with fellow collegian Kathryn Dunkley close behind, coming 3rd.

The boys' race was slightly longer and unfortunately for some of the boys, slightly longer again. Though there was no shortage of running ability, some were lacking in sense of direction and took unnecessary detours. ■

Bourke Community Service Trip

In July, 2013 a team of 9 students from New College (Tim Curtin, Makenzie Russell, Georgia Freeman, Emily Kozera, Georgia Diebold, Damian Montgomery, Damian Gill, and Alistair Smith) spent a week volunteering in the summer holiday program at the Police and Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) in Bourke, in rural NSW.

This was the second volunteer trip to Bourke organised, fundraised and run by collegians, and was a resounding success. Program coordinators Tim Curtin and Makenzie Russell oversaw the logistics of the trip and found that the hard work put into planning and organising the volunteer program was definitely worth it. The staff at the PCYC greatly valued the contribution and the children had a fantastic time. Their involvement meant that the team could relieve stress from the dedicated PCYC staff, whilst also investing their time, creativity and energy into giving the children positive attention.

During the week the team entertained the children by hosting a variety of fun games and activities. These included: arts and crafts, obstacle courses, face painting, cooking, ball games, various sports, movie time, musical chairs, circus skills, jewellery making, board games, scrapbooking, fishing, and more.

One particular highlight of the trip was the opportunity to visit Alice Edwards village – an Aboriginal reserve just outside of Bourke. It was an extremely eye-opening experience, as the team witnessed first-hand what was essentially poverty in our own backyard here in Australia. After the trip New Collegian Tim Curtin commented, “The socio-economic disadvantage in parts of this community hit home just how lucky residents are to live at New College and to attend UNSW here in Sydney.”



New College is planning on implementing a long-term commitment to the Bourke community, with the prospect of additional scholarships and donations in the future. New Collegians are also aiming to return to volunteer in the July, 2014 holiday program. ■

Little Shop of Horrors



On the ninth day of the month of May, in an early year of a decade not too long before our own, the human race suddenly encountered a deadly threat to its very existence. And this terrifying enemy surfaced – as such enemies often do – in the seemingly most innocent and unlikely of places...New College!

The Producers, Andrew Hay & Laura Butterworth



Collegians Callum Agnew (right) and Bronte Richardson (centre) star as the florist shop attendants Seymour and Audrey before they are both devoured by the killer plant Audrey II (left).

In 2013, the New College Students' Association staged the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* by composer Alan Menken and writer Howard Ashman. Like all our theatrical productions it was entirely produced, directed and performed by New Collegians. Three performances of the show ran from 9th-11th May in the little theatre that is periodically constructed in the Main Common Room of the college for plays, musicals and revues. All three performances were well attended by UNSW students, the families of those in the production, alumni and staff of New College.

The star of the show was a disturbing, blood-thirsty, carnivorous plant, which grew as the story unfolded. By the end of the show most of the characters had been devoured. The New Collegians who formed the props and set design teams for this production had their work cut out to bring the florist shop of Skid Row to life. In fact, an additional subcommittee, headed by collegian Tim Elton, was required to accomplish the task of creating various

incarnations of the giant man-eating plant.

The cast projected a great energy throughout the duration of the show. The delivery of their lines was tight and the singing, tunefully strong. The band accompanied the show with panache evoking the style of early 1960s rock and roll, doo-wop and early Motown. The eleven piece outfit was led by Kenan Milham and conductor John Raineri.

Directors Chloe Oastler and Libby Hatcher together with Producers Andrew Hay and Laura Butterworth were able to produce a fun and enthusiastic musical that was just as enjoyable for Collegians to perform as it is was for the audience to watch. The musical captured the balanced and colourful lifestyle that is encouraged at New College.

With over fifty collegians involved from the cast, band, choreography, costumes, make up, backstage, publicity, artistic design, props, catering, fundraising, set construction and technical support, the process of it all coming together was a big one, but a good one. The New College community will fondly look back at this theatrical achievement. ■



NEW COLLEGE REVUE



The 2013 New College Revue was titled *Clued Inn: The Curious Incident of the Dead Guy in the Bathroom*. It was Cluedo but not as you know it: featuring killer dancing, heart stopping acting, and dead pan humour.

The all-student-run production featured many talented dancers, a band and the New College Choir. It was all brought together by directors Kenan Milham and James Heydon with the support of producers Lucy McMullen and Rachel Higginson and their many dedicated sub-committees. The 2013 New College Revue Film was also screened during each performance. Titled *Full House* the film was directed by current collegians Michael Babbage and Ivy Erlinger.

NEW COLLEGE LECTURES 2013

Should Christians be political? Is a question a sentence? Who is Stanley Hauerwas?

Let's take a shot at answering the third question.

Stanley Hauerwas is whoever visited Australia to deliver the 2013 New College Lectures, having before (and thereafter) provoked a good many people to reflect on their identity and question the significance of their existence.

I was recently surprised to discover that an acquaintance from my past was not entirely the person he claimed to be. It is a strange feeling to discover the world is not as you have imagined it to be. Stranger still, it is, to meet someone who thinks almost everyone else is imagining the world to be as it is not. On several counts Stanley Hauerwas falls into the latter category. He challenges the status quo on ethical issues and reveals how deeply embedded societal 'norms' may not be all they are cracked up to be.

You might expect the question 'Who is Stanley Hauerwas?' to be easily answered. Yet, an account of practical reasoning given by the man who identifies himself as Stanley Hauerwas has made me realise that my comprehension of his identity relies almost entirely on other people understanding who he is. Hauerwas himself does not claim to know 'who he is' without reference to other people and what they have said about him. Additionally, he spends much time going over what he has written,



said and thought in the past in an attempt to understand who he is now.

In the first of the 2013 New College Lectures, 'How I Think I Learned to Think Theologically', Professor Hauerwas drew heavily on the work of Alasdair MacIntyre claiming that if we are to consider questions of justice and rationality, then we must recognise that such questions are not the same for all people. Hauerwas (acknowledging MacIntyre) argued that "...a person of practical reason is able to think for themselves only by thinking with others." The ideas explored owe much to Aristotle and the way he distinguishes between

scientific knowledge and practical wisdom. Having provided an account of practical reasoning Hauerwas then turned to a reflection on how he might have learned to think theologically; drawing, in particular, on his memoir 'Hannah's Child'.

Hauerwas argues that in order to know who God is Christians must engage with what other Christians have written in the past about their God. Nevertheless, theology needs to be "writing about God rather than writing about what theologians in the past have said about theology", according to Hauerwas.

As a theologian, Hauerwas spends



a lot of time engaging with the work of other theologians but also secular philosophers like Stanley Fish. In the second lecture Hauerwas drew heavily on Fish's book *How to Write a Sentence: And 'How to Read One'*. By engaging with a secular academic like Stanley Fish, Hauerwas argues Christians may obtain linguistic tools to assist their thinking, writing and talking about who God is.

'God is whoever raised Jesus from the dead, having before raised Israel from Egypt'.

Hauerwas held up this sentence by Robert Jenson to exemplify what he considers to be elegant and effective theological thinking and writing. Such a statement, according to Hauerwas, challenges the notion that people automatically know who God is. The power and placement of the word, 'whoever', makes the familiar strange. Thus, 'God' ceases

to be a familiar but vague notion and takes on descriptors of biblical proportions. This, Hauerwas argued, should be the quest of any theologian.

In the final instalment of the 2013 New College Lecture, 'How To (Not) Be a Political Theologian', Hauerwas challenged the merit of Christians involving themselves in the machinations of liberal democracies.

After this lecture an alumnus of New College said "He seems to think society could exist in a way that completely disregards current economic and political realities."

In the first section of this talk, Hauerwas considered how 'Christian America' developed a sense of "moral obligation to be political actors in what [is seen] to be democratic politics". For Hauerwas, however, liberal democracy provides a mechanism for the loudest (and generally wealthiest) in society to leverage policy and programs to suit their own interests. Hauerwas doesn't reject democratic rule entirely but rather seeks to strip it of oft ascribed utopian undertones.

Hauerwas went on to consider John (Howard) Yoder's work, a critique of the work of Richard Niebuhr on 'Christ and Culture', and Walter Rauschenbusch's argument that the social gospel is the '... religious response to the historic advent of democracy.' With this as a

backdrop he explored the relationship between Christianity and politics and suggested that, in a sense, the development of Christian thinking about politics and government resulted in '...the loss of the politics of the church.' Hauerwas suggested that Yoder's thinking is a strong counter argument to Niebuhr and Rauschenbusch and that the church can serve democracy by being a community that respects adversaries within and outside the church, rather than simply becoming a '...tributary to whatever secular consensus seems strong at the time'.

The lectures were challenging and yet very practical. Over three nights there were close to 1,000 people in attendance. As always, Professor Hauerwas provoked his listeners to examine varied assumptions and offered insightful and enjoyable critique, analysis and synthesis of the work of some key thinkers. ■

NEWS IN BRIEF



The University Awards the Master an Honorary Fellowship

The Master of New College, Professor Trevor Cairney, was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the University of New South Wales at a ceremony on 7th November. He is just the 7th person to receive this fellowship. The Honorary Fellowship was awarded to Professor Cairney for his "conspicuous continued involvement in support of the interests and welfare of the University and for his important contributions to enhancing the student

experience at UNSW". It was presented at the Graduation Ceremony for the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences by the Chancellor David Gonski. Professor Cairney also gave the occasional address at the ceremony. At a small gathering of staff, board members and alumni following the ceremony, the Master suggested that he saw his award as acknowledgement of the work of New College on campus rather than just his individual contribution. He is very thankful to past and present staff and board members for their efforts to facilitate the best possible residential communities at UNSW in the form of New College and New College Village.

NCV Resident represents UNSW at the Australasian Debating Competition

During the mid-year break the UNSW Debating Society participated in the Australasian Debating Competition, this year hosted by the University of Technology MARA in Kula Lumpur, Malaysia. The competition lasted for a week and involved 8 preliminary rounds of debates followed by the 'break' or the finals for both the ESL and open divisions.

NCV resident Stella Graham represented UNSW as an adjudicator and as such got to watch some of the world's best debaters in one of the debating community's most prestigious and exciting tournaments. Despite being a first year student, Stella was the only adjudicator from UNSW and as such was invited to be on the panel for the ESL semi-final, which was both a daunting and stimulating challenge.

NCV Awards



Ria Dev and Tamara Certain share the 2013 NCV Award

The NCV Award is made on an annual basis to the student resident who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee (Master, Dean, Assistant Dean and Senior Academic Tutor) has made the greatest contribution to fostering the community life of NCV during that calendar year. Normally the NCV Award would be given to just a single person, but this year the College was faced with the conundrum of having two, equally deserving recipient and so offered the NCV Award as a joint award. The NCV Award for 2013 is shared between Ria Dev and Tamara Certain.

2013 NCV Service Awards

Omair Ali
Theresa Crossing
Vinam Jain
Jason Yan

NCV Service Awards are awarded to residents who have made important contributions to community life at NCV during the year. ■



Back row (left to right): Sam Johnson (2013 Social Director), Michael Babbage (2013 Secretary), Ned Hirst (2014 Meida Officer), Luke Fox (2014 Men's Sports Director), Hilton Guinness (2013 Men's Sports Director), Damian Gill (2014 Social Director), Francesca Perrottet (2014 Women's Sports Director), Emma Cohen (2014 Social Director), David Jewkes (2014 Treasurer)

Front row (left to right): Bronte Richardson (2014 Secretary), Nathalie King (2013 Treasurer), Kathryn Dunkley (2013 Social Director), Rosie Sackett (2013 Women's Sports Director), Edward Rose (2013 President), Tim Curtin (2013 Logistics Officer)

The 2013 New College Students' Association Executive Committee (NCSA Exec) hand over the reins to the newly elected 2014 NCSA Exec team pictured together.

NEW COLLEGE AWARDS



New Collegian of the Year:

Stuart Taylor (Bam Bam)

In recognition of Stuart's outstanding contribution to the College overall and his all-round College spirit

Mick Braund Award:

James Roberts-Thomson (Squire)

For James' significant contribution to the external and wider community and the service he has displayed to others

Service Awards:

Hayden Smith (ET), Jono Crouch (Blade), Andrew Hay (Bjorg), Sam Johnson (Cletus), Laura Butterworth (Cheeks)

In recognition of their outstanding contribution to the New College community

Subcommittee of the Year:

BobSoc

New College Award (Academic Award):

Daniel Atkins

New College Award (Service Award):

Lucy McMullen



Farewell Amy Pratten

Amy came to New College as a fresher in 2010 having grown up in Kazakhstan. She has contributed to the community in many ways during the last four years, being involved in the New College Dance Society, Revues and the New College Christian Fellowship. After two years as a Resident Advisor (RA), including one as the Senior RA, Amy is ready to take on new challenges outside the walls of New. We bid Amy a fond farewell.



Farewell Tibor Szabo

Tibor Szabo has been the a Maintenance Officer at NCV since soon after it opened in 2009. As with all new buildings, NCV had its fair share of teething issues in the first years and Tibor worked hard to help deal with these. Tibor has served the resident community by maintaining the great new facilities NCV offers. Tibor finished up at NCV on the 29th November 2013. We wish him well for the future. 🍷

FROM THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE



I hope you've enjoyed reading this edition of New 'n' Old. I am always glad to hear news from alumni and friends of the College. So, if you have a piece of news or memories of your time at College that you would like to share with the wider community, please be in touch.

Email j.billingham@newcollege.unsw.edu.au or Ph: 02 9381 1740.

Jonathan Billingham | Public Relations Officer



Summer Conferences Venue Hire

Looking for a place to run your next conference, meeting or seminar?

During the UNSW Summer Vacation, New College Venues are available to hire.

- **From small meetings to conferences of up to 500 people.**
- **A wide range of catering packages available**
- **AV facilities and WIFI packages**
- **Online Event Booking System**

Enquire about 2014/15 Summer Venue Availability.

Short Stay & Conference Accommodation

- **Studying or working at UNSW or its teaching hospitals?**
- **Attending a conference or seminar at UNSW?**
- **Working in Sydney over Summer?**

New College and NCV offer a range of guest and student room accommodation options, including air-conditioned, ensuite accommodation.

Student rooms at New College and New College Village are available for short stays during UNSW vacation breaks. This period is an ideal time for conferences and group bookings.

During the UNSW study session, a small number of guest room studios are open for casual accommodation bookings.

