



Ashburton College

Individual Excellence in a Supportive Learning Environment

Issue 16
1 June 2023

News

Deputy Principal Message

New Build Progress

We had a milestone moment last week as some staff from the Science Faculty and Te Whare Manaaki were given their hi-vis vests and hard hats, and were allowed through the gates into the new build to walk round their new rooms.

The framing is up in the end closest to Walnut Avenue and windows are being installed. The builders are continuing to move along the building, creating the Maths Faculty teaching spaces and Art and Drama rooms.



Walnut Avenue Driveway

The driveway is now finished, with new curbing and seal making way for five more spaces for car parking. The 'drop-off' area across the front of the school is nearly finished, with the drive and paths sealed, and pedestrian crossings marked in.

Construction Zone

The rest of the school is also now starting to look like a construction zone. There is a five-metre-wide trench extending from the new building along S Block, in front of S and A Blocks, in front of the Library to the Heating and Cooling hub, which is on the east side of the Library. This trench also travels behind the Canteen and into the Auditorium. The Main Gym area has not escaped being a construction zone, with trenches dug in order to connect the new changing sheds to the heating and cooling hub. These trenches will contain all the services and won't be covered up again until the pipes have been connected at the ends and tested.

There are several areas where flow is condensed down for student pedestrian traffic. Students have had to modify their walking routes to accommodate the gates up everywhere, and they have done this with respect and without fuss.

The contractors also have worked with us to ensure they create the minimum disruption, which has been greatly appreciated.

In the main foyer of the College, there is a display drawing of what the Rangitata Block, inside and outside, will look like. You are most welcome to come in and view these.

AshColl 'Share the Road'

Hawkins ('Downer' the firm) arrived at College on Thursday 18 May, before the lunch break, with a large heavy vehicle truck.

The purpose of this visit was to give students the opportunity to sit in a truck driver's seat and understand what the driver could, and especially could not, see. The aim of the session was to let road users (be that on foot, scooter or bicycle) understand the blind spots of a heavy vehicle. There was also an expert from the Cycle Action Network on hand to answer questions and highlight key factors to consider when sharing the road with a heavy vehicle.



Helen Shore-Taylor
Deputy Principal • Tumuaki Tuarua

Ako Class Photo Orders – Place Before Monday 05 June

Ako class photos were taken recently and are now ready to view and order

Photoshots Ltd is using the same ordering process introduced last year, where all ordering is done online, including payment.

The Photo Gallery is live now, and details regarding how to view photos and make an order have been emailed to students and their parents/caregivers.

If orders are placed before Monday 05 June, photos will be delivered back to school to come home via students, and therefore have no delivery charge.

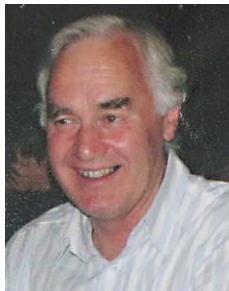
If you have any questions, please phone the College Office on 308 4193.

Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement with Appreciation – Former Staff Member Greg Jones

Former highly respected staff member Greg Jones died on 24 March of this year, following a short illness, to the shock of family, friends and former colleagues alike.

At the end of 2014 Greg completed 39 years' quality service, having started at Ashburton College in January 1976 as Assistant Teacher of Science and a Teacher of Maths. In Greg's first year of teaching, College had what was then known as 'The School Inspectors' visit. The Maths inspector is recorded as saying 'young Jones will do fine'. This certainly proved to be true, to the benefit of Ashburton College students and staff alike.



From this date Greg continued as a highly regarded, skilled teacher, well-respected by students and his colleagues. His quick mind and unflappable approach to responsibility resulted in effective organisation and outcomes.

Greg was described by a colleague as a fine teacher, one of the very best. This same colleague noted, when asked what Greg taught, that his reply was always that he taught 'young people' rather than Science or Chemistry. Greg was a 'people person', with a friendly, down-to-earth manner, able to develop a real rapport with his learners and pitch his teaching at their level in an interesting, relevant and understandable way. He was always willing to go the extra mile to offer students extra help they needed.

Greg's many positions of responsibility included Head of Chemistry Department, Staff House Leader of Green House, timetable support, Year 12 and 13 Tutor and Dean of Senior School providing pastoral care to senior students throughout their final year, and a leadership role in the Transition Department.

A significant feature of Greg's work was his astute knowledge of senior students, interest in their progress and aptly written references. Another tribute given at Greg's funeral noted his absolute and insightful knowledge of each Year 13 student which, combined with an outstanding wordsmithing ability, meant school leavers' testimonials represented each individual with uncanny accuracy. Over 200 were written annually, supporting students to secure positions in employment, Tertiary Courses, or Halls of Residence. Reflecting his remarkable capabilities, each document was unique, absolutely honest and precise.

Greg had an amazing memory, overall and for former students and would carry this knowledge, and of their future pathways with him, and would continue to ask after their progress and pursuits, relishing opportunities to catch up with them.

Resigning from College and taking up a position at College House, Christchurch, was a natural fit for Greg and provided him with an opportunity to continue to work with 'students' as they transitioned into University life, and to support their welfare; a position he undertook with the same capabilities we had appreciated at College.

Over many years Greg's sporting capabilities and passion saw him coach and select College Cricket, Rugby and Squash teams. Post-retirement he was part of the College's Friday golf team, right up until five weeks before he died. Greg again showed his sporting prowess on the course, being a natural sportsman with great co-ordination.

A familiar face, and secure hands, at College's end of year Prize-Givings belied the level of behind-the-scenes work required to co-ordinate five year levels of these effectively and efficiently, for fourteen-plus years. Involved in the smooth final result was gaining information from teachers, convening special prizes meetings and liaising with sponsors and prize donors.

Tributes and stories were many, with many humorous aspects referenced as well, plus his passion for and contributions to horse racing.

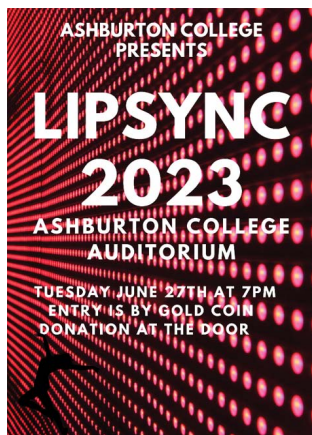
What better legacy can a person be referenced for than to say he had every excellent human quality in spades, with his sudden and untimely passing shocking, stunning and deeply saddening all who knew and worked with him. 'Jonesy' was an outstanding teacher who excelled in the numerous roles he had during his career.

Given the impact Greg's passing had on College staff and former students, how much more so is this felt by his wife Maxine; children Ben, Francis and Elliot and their partners Antonia, Daniel and Edell and grandchildren Rupert, and Ollie; George; and Cora. Our sympathy and thoughts remain with them.

Information

Ashburton College – Annual Lip Sync

Put this date in your calendar, if you can join us in the audience to enjoy the talents of College students.



Congratulations

Student Successes

We have a number of events and successes sitting in the wings to acknowledge, which we will do over forthcoming weeks.

Canterbury Secondary Schools' Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships and Canterbury Secondary Schools' Championships

One of these events, with performances to acknowledge, is the 2023 Canterbury Secondary Schools' Tier 1 Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships, which were hosted by the Olympia Gymnastic Sports Club at the Lincoln Events Centre, on 01-02 April

These Championships are a Tier 1 Secondary School event, new Zealand-School Sport Canterbury. This event is also a Gymnastics New Zealand-endorsed event.

A Tier 1 event is where competitive gymnastics pathway athletes compete for New Zealand Secondary School Championships alongside selected Gymnastics New Zealand endorsed Qualifying events. These are run alongside the Canterbury Club championship events.

Ashburton College Students

Two Ashburton College students, Year 11 student Anna McFall and Year 9 student Hayley Duffell competed at these events. Coach/Manager is Kathryn Holdsworth of Olympia Gymnastic Sports.

Anna McFall – 2nd placed overall, Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships Representing Ashburton College, Anna placed 2nd Overall, competing at Level 8, gained from:

- 2nd placings in the Ball, Clubs, Ribbon
- 3rd placing in the Hoop.

Gymnastics levels are used to arrange different skills into difficulty levels, with gymnasts competing according to the development of their skills. The main programme used in competitive gymnastics is the JO (Junior Olympic) programme, divided in ten levels.

Levels 8-10 are optional levels, where gymnasts must master the skills at each level, but their routines at competitions can be completely unique. In Level 8, each gymnast can create a unique routine on each skill set and choose which skills they want, to meet the requirements of four 'A' skills and four 'B' skills.

In the Canterbury Championships Competition – 6th Overall

Anna placed 6th overall, out of eleven competitors, gained from:

- 4th in Ribbon
- 5th Clubs and Ball
- 8th in Hoop

Hayley Duffell

Hayley competed at the same events as Anna but within a different level, with her competition comprised of nineteen individuals.

Hayley placed 4th overall in the Canterbury Championships Competition

And placed 7th overall in the Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships, as a result of –

- 2nd in the Hoop
- 3rd in Ball



(Pictured right, left and right):
Hayley Duffell
and Anna McFall.

Further Event

At the time of this newsletter going to print, Hayley and Anna were scheduled to compete at the Margaret Woolf Memorial International and New Zealand Secondary Schools' competition, hosted by the North Harbour Gymnastics Club, over the weekend of 27 and 28 May.

Ashburton College Smallbore Rifle Team Wins Outstanding Junior Sports Team Award at Mid Canterbury Sports Awards

This annual highlight event was held at the Hotel Ashburton on Friday 12 May, with College students, former students and a former staff member featuring.

We acknowledge, on page 2, all of these students, and the impressive levels of achievement gained by them; their coaches, family members and support people.

We also acknowledge the place of these Awards within the sporting community of Mid Canterbury, the opportunity it provides to showcase successes, and the on-going quality of the evening, speaker and presentations.



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College Student Nominees/Finalists were –

Outstanding Junior Sports Team: Charlotte McKenzie, Jack Jones, Madi Tourle, Phoebe McKenzie, Tane Moore; with Coach Bryan Hunter. The Ashburton College Smallbore Rifle Team has demonstrated outstanding achievements over the past twelve months, as can be seen further below, with their winning citation.

Outstanding Junior Sportsperson Category
This was the category with the greatest number of nominees. The biographies for twenty one athletes highlighted some superb performances, in a very competitive field.

We acknowledge the significant number of College students involved in this number:

Riley Breen Tennis

A Year 9 student, Riley has achieved much at a young age, representing his district, region and country and having a national ranking of 2 in the 14 years Boys' Singles. Among his numerous credits, in March he was selected to represent New Zealand at the Junior World Championships in Malaysia. In the 12-month period of these awards Riley has earned a number of Canterbury titles; and was a member of the Ashburton College Tennis Team which qualified for nationals. Riley also assists with coaching younger squad members, and in 2022 was awarded the Ashburton Intermediate School C J Tait Memorial Cup for Sportsmanship.

Ollie Bubb Powerlifting

In November 2022 Ollie represented New Zealand at The Commonwealth Powerlifting Federations Competition, winning two Silver and two Bronze medals, plus gaining a national record of 220kg in the deadlift, and placing 3rd overall in the Under 74kg sub-junior division.

His total from the three lifts was 477.5kg, surpassing the World Powerlifting Federation's qualifying total enabling him to go to Romania in August 2023 to compete in the Powerlifting World Championships. Through 2022 Ollie won the Canterbury Provincial and National titles.

Kalym Chalmers Athletics

Kalym is a talented longer distance runner, having achieved excellent results in the Under 14 grade, including titles at the Canterbury Secondary Schools' Cross-Country; Aoraki Secondary Schools' 1500m and 3000m, breaking a record in the 3000m; South Island Secondary Schools' 1500m; Canterbury Children's Championships 1500m. Kalym also gained a number of 2nd placings, and represented Mid Canterbury at the South Island Colgate Games in Timaru.

Malaika Dunlea Athletics

Malaika represented Mid Canterbury at the 2023 South Island Colgate Games in Timaru, winning a Bronze Medal in the Shot Put. She also represented Mid Canterbury at the Canterbury Children's Championships. At the South Island Secondary Schools' Athletic Championships she placed 3rd in the Under 14 Girls' Discus. Malaika is also a Mid Canterbury age grade hockey representative player.

Ashlee Estreich Athletics

Ashlee is Ashburton College's Under 14 Athletics Champion, while at the South Island Secondary Schools' and Canterbury Children's Championships she placed 3rd in the 200m. Ashlee also competed at the Mid-South Canterbury Championships and, outside of athletics, is a top-level age grade Netball player.

Holly-Jayne Feutz Tennis

Holly-Jayne is a talented member of the tennis community, not only as a player, but as a junior coach and mentor. In the past twelve months Holly-Jayne has a number of credits to her name, including winner of the Under 16 Girls' Singles and Doubles at the Ashburton Trust Junior Open while, at the Gala Cup she was runner-up, significantly, in the Open Singles and Doubles. At the Regional Nationals Qualifying Tournament she won the Under Girls' Grade; and at the Canterbury Championships, Tier 2, she was runner-up in the Women's Single and Doubles, and won the Under 16 Girls' Singles and Doubles. At the Tennis Central Championships, Tier 2, she won the Women's Doubles and was runner-up in the Singles. Holly played into 3rd place at the Otago Open.

Sophie Gibson Rowing

Sophie has had an outstanding season, culminating in rowing to a Gold Medal at the prestigious Aon Maadi Cup in the Under 16 Single Sculls; and placing 2nd in the Under 17 event.

1st placings resulted at the Canterbury Championships, Women's Club Single Sculls; and the South Island Secondary Schools' Championships in the Under 17 Single Sculls; and 2nd in the Under 16 Single Sculls.

From Maadi, Sophie was selected for the South Island Under 18 squad to compete again the North Island, where she had three wins – one in the Single Sculls, and two in the Quad.

Sophie is respected as a humble and great role model for all members of the Junior Rowing Squad.

Josh Albert Tennis

A dedicated and highly competitive player who demonstrates good sportsmanship on and off the court, Josh has a current National Under 14 ranking of six.

Josh had wins at the Elevate Tennis Spring Open and the Canterbury Under 14 Tier 2 Junior Open; and qualified for Under 14 New Zealand Junior Masters (top 8 selection). Josh gained a number of semi-finalist finishes at events, and placed 3rd at the Under 14 Otago Open.

Being a team member player keeps Josh busy across the Under 14 Canterbury Team competing in the National Teams Event; the Mid Canterbury Browning Shield Winning Team and the Ashburton College team to the National Secondary School Championships. Josh also competed in Open Grade competitions.

Ashlin Hala'uia

Having had a great twelve months, Ashlin has been named in the final trial list for the National Under 17 Men's team, one of just 24 invited athletes nationally.

Ashlin is also a key member of the Ashburton College Senior Boys' Basketball team.

He is now training with the Mainland Eagles squad in Christchurch while, in 2022, he was a member of the Canterbury Under 17 team which won the National Under 17 Championships.

Lachie Jemmett Cricket

Lachie represented Ashburton College, the Ashburton District and the Canterbury Region in various teams during this past season.

Lachie was Captain of the Ashburton College 1st XI and the Mid Canterbury Year 11 and 12 team at the Canterbury tournament.

Selection came for Lachie to the Canterbury Under 17 team which competed at the National tournament, and he was also selected in the Mid Canterbury Hawke Cup side, playing two matches, picking up wickets and contributing with the bat despite being the youngest team member, but showing maturity which aligned with his responsibilities as Captain and a leader with younger teams.

Charlotte McKenzie

Success has continued throughout 2022 and 2023. At national level Charlotte was selected for the New Zealand Women's Randle International and the New Zealand Under 21 Teams to shoot against the United Kingdom, United States and Australian Teams; and the Top Shot Target Shooting New Zealand Schools' Team Postal Challenge.

At Regional level Charlotte was selected for the South Island Under 21 Team and as Captain (as top shot), the South Island Open Team, South Island Women's and Secondary Schools' Teams, Champion Under 21 Otago Championship Circuit, Champion Open and Under 21 Mid Canterbury Championship Circuit.

At the Aoraki Secondary Sports Awards Charlotte received a Future Champion Award.

She is a member of the Ashburton College Team that was awarded the Aoraki Secondary Schools' Team of the Year Award.

Charlotte is also a member of the Target Shooting Mid Canterbury Under 21 South Island Championship winning team.

Eliza McKenzie

Over the past twelve months Eliza achieved some outstanding results, winning a Silver Medal in the Under 15 Girls' Team Sprint and a Bronze Medal in the Points Race at the New Zealand Track Cycling National Championships. At the Cycling New Zealand National Schools' Track Championships she won a Bronze Medal in the Omnium.

Regional level successes were Gold Medallist at the South Island Track Championships and at the Canterbury Track Carnival she won both the Scratch and Elimination races.

Phoebe McKenzie

At national level Phoebe was selected for the New Zealand Open Team to compete against Australia; the New Zealand Women's Randle International and the New Zealand Under 21 Teams, shooting against the United Kingdom, United States and South Africa; and the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Team to shoot against the Great Britain Team.

Phoebe is the New Zealand Outdoor D Grade Champion, and a member of the Ashburton College New Zealand Secondary Schools' Shooting Championship winning team.

At Regional level Phoebe was selected for the South Island Open Team and the South Island Secondary Schools' Team.

She is a member of the Ashburton College Aoraki Secondary Schools' Sport Team of the Year and the Mid Canterbury Under 21 South Island Championship winning team.

Jake Parsons

Jake Parsons has proven to be one of the best juniors in New Zealand, in his age group, with many wins to his name, including 2022 Canterbury Secondary Schools' Year 10 Singles; Junior Masters Points Top 8 qualifier; Winter Indoors' 14 age group Singles Winner; and Spring Open 16 year Boys' Singles Winner.

On the 2022 Rod Laver and Rafa Nadal tour to Queensland Jake was a 14 year Boys' Quarter-Finalist. He was also a 2022 Southern Tier 2 16 years Boys' Singles Runner-Up; and a Kiwi Indoors Tier 1 16 years Boys' Singles Quarter-Finalist.

Ripena Umaga Vaeila

Ripena is a talented Rugby and Rugby League player who represented Canterbury and Fetu Samoa in Rugby League. Ripena was selected for the Under 16 Canterbury 9's team and the Under South Island Scorpian's Girls' Fetu, both of which were placed 3rd overall at the National Championships. The Fetu Samoa girls' team was placed first at the Pacific Youth Cup.

Ripena is a well-rounded athlete, also representing Ashburton College in Touch and Volleyball.

Former Student Devon Flannery Cricket

Devon had an outstanding cricket season, being a member of the Under 19 Canterbury Team and top scorer at the Under 19 tournament.

Additionally, Devon is a member of the Mid Canterbury Men's Team.

Committed to practices and training in Christchurch, Devon is planning to make the move to living there.

Former Student Riley Sa

Riley has had an outstanding season, being named in the Canterbury Rams National Basketball League team, named as a reserve for the Junior Tall Blacks. See right for the balance of his credits.

Basketball

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Former College Students and Staff Nominees/Finalists were:

Former Student Jacob Gray

Hockey Umpiring at local, regional and national levels. See further detail below.

Former Staff Member Bryan Hunter

Nominated across Outdoor Bowls, Cricket, Basketball and Rugby with a raft of local and regional wins and trophies gained; plus winner of All Round Cricketer of the Year locally; member of winning Men's Competition Basketball team; and Rugby Winner of the Collegiate Senior B Back of the Year.

Former Student Liam O'Connor

Nominated across Outdoor Bowls, Cricket, Basketball and Rugby with a raft of local and regional wins and trophies gained; plus winner of All Round Cricketer of the Year locally; member of winning Men's Competition Basketball team; and Rugby Winner of the Collegiate Senior B Back of the Year.

Former Student James Cochrane

James was Co-captain of the New Zealand Men's National Beach Handball team which, in April 2022, won the Oceania title for the first time in New Zealand Handball history. James shot the match-winning penalty in Game 1 against Australia and the team went on to win the best-of-three series. See below for further information.

College-Connected Category Winners -