Transitioning with a splash

Developing digital citizens

Class of 2013 outstanding results
From the Headmaster

Schools are dynamic places. They are energetic, changeable, multi-faceted and vibrant. They reflect all that is valuable in the human spirit captured in the hearts and minds of the young. When one walks around a place like Christ Church and senses the mood and manner of the boys, one finds such diversity. It is this diversity in all its machinations that has made this another great year in the history of our School.

Christ Church has again excelled in a huge variety of ways in this past year. A small sample of recent distinction could include:

– the sporting fields where we would be considered the top performing school in the PSA competition, by finishing performance of the First teams,

– in the classroom environment, with more mathematicians in both the Preparatory and the Senior Schools achieving at the highest level than any time in our history, and our 2013 graduates achieving a statewide triumph in being awarded seven of the highly coveted General Exhibition awards.

– on the stage, where a stellar cast performed the classic musical, Les Misérables, to an audience of more than 2,500 people, and

– in the indigenous community of Burringurrah, where boys helped others to learn to read and write.

Such opportunity for engagement and excellence comes from the combined aspirational efforts of the boys themselves, an exceptional teaching group enabling a rich and vibrant programme and the support of a wonderful, wider network of parents.

This community is one that is extremely fortunate and this good fortune is represented in the pages of Chronicle 45, capturing the essence of our School – the spirit of the boy.

Garth Wynne
Headmaster

January 2014
The billycart comeback

A history lesson, comparing the lives of boys today with their parents and grandparents, turned into so much more for Grace Curtis’s Year 1 class. In Term 1, boys were asked to think about the similarities and differences between modern day toys and games from the past, which led them to discover the humble billycart.

Ms Curtis said the boys were intrigued to learn many of their parents and grandparents grew up playing in the streets. “These days, of course, the boys are told to keep off the roads so they were particularly intrigued to learn about street games and in particular, the billycart,” she said.

Eager to find out more and full of questions, they were surprised to learn the vehicles were made in the backyard from recycled materials. “The idea of creating a toy from scratch, not buying it from a shop, piqued their interest in sustainability,” Ms Curtis said.

The class began looking at simple machines and each boy was asked to design his own billycart. Ms Curtis said the model drawing led to even greater questions about materials, tools and the mechanics of the vehicle. “Of course, the boys didn’t know about levers or axles so that’s when I asked the Design and Technology Department in the Senior School for some help,” she said.

Later in the term, Head of Design and Technology Geoff McGillivray invited the Year 1 class down to the workshop for a lesson in how to make a billycart. Using a billycart built by some Year 10 students as an example, Mr McGillivray talked the young boys through the process, showing them the tools and materials needed and how they came together to make the vehicle work.

With their new-found knowledge and vocabulary on wheels, axles, tools and construction, the little builders/engineers set to work – lining up timbers and screwing bolts under the guidance of Mr MacGregor. He reminded the boys, that while most of the materials on their billycart were bought from a hardware shop, in their grandparents’ days they would have been found on the curbside or off-cuts from the toolshed.

Ms Curtis said the vehicle’s first test drive was a great success and thankfully, without injury. The class cart is often brought out on days where the boys play with their Year 4 buddy class. “It is amazing that what began as a small idea, grew into something much bigger and the boys loved it.”

Once again, they were amazed to see the billycart was made from recycled materials – in this case, an old chair was used as the seat. “They were in awe! They loved being in the workshop, seeing the Senior School boys working on their own design and technology projects and listening to Geoff explain how to use different tools, especially the saws,” Ms Curtis said.

In Term 2, Ms Curtis enlisted a parent from her class, who had offered to help with any special projects during the year. After researching some designs as a class on the internet, Rob MacGregor, James’s father, organised the tools and pre-cut materials to make the ‘GC1 billycart’ a reality.

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Making a splash

Christ Church and Methodist Ladies’ College students combined for swimming lessons in the Christ Church pool in Term 1. The new initiative allowed Pre-Primary to Year 2 boys and girls to get to know each other while learning how to swim.

Pre-Primary to Year 3 Physical Education teacher Kim Malajczuk said in previous years Christ Church had run its nine-lesson swimming programme and then MLC used the pool to run a similar programme the following week. “The teachers, age groups and duration of the lessons were the same so it made sense to combine,” she said.

Mrs Malajczuk said the shared lessons had been a huge success. “We were able to secure all the teachers we needed through Kirby Swim and the boys and girls really enjoyed swimming together. We hope to continue the relationship in 2014 and look at some more possibilities of working together in the future,” she said.

Connecting through nature

Year 5 boys led their Pre-Primary ‘buddies’ down to the river for a lesson in cubby-building in Term 2. Pre-Primary teacher Didi Caddy said it was a wonderful shared activity for the boys, who connected with their natural surroundings and each other.

Caddy’s class met once a fortnight with Andrew Lane’s Year 5 to read and play together. She said the exercise to make a cubby using only natural materials was inspired by the Year 5 studies on the Swan River’s history and how Aborigines lived along Freshwater Bay.

Mrs Caddy said the Pre-Primary boys loved being led down the ‘secret pathway’ to the Boatshed, before working in groups to choose their sites, find materials and construct their cubbies.

“When they were finished, we all walked around and looked at each group’s cubby. The last one was so big that both classes could fit inside,” she said.

After the exercise, the Year 5 boys wrote narratives about the experience with themselves and their buddies as characters. Mr Lane said the exercise illustrated yet another example of the boys being inspired by the School’s beautiful waterfront and connecting with nature.
In August, Pre-Primary to Year 2 boys enjoyed a puppet show on personal safety performed by Constable Care and friends. The incursion supports the Preparatory School’s Protective Behaviours curriculum, which will be introduced in 2014.

Year 2 teacher Sallyann Lee said Constable Care presented a story about Ellie and her robot Anthea. When Anthea encounters a difficult situation at home she learns from Ellie’s grandmother that her body belongs to her and nobody has the right to touch her without her permission.

“Anthea learns that uncomfortable feelings, such as butterflies in her stomach, her heart beating faster, wobbly legs and sweaty hands, are some ways in which her body is telling her something is not right,” Mrs Lee said.

She said the puppet show also helped the boys learn the difference between safe and unsafe secrets, as well as the ‘helping hand network’. “In the story, Ellie and Anthea learn to identify five people close to them that they trust and feel comfortable talking to. When one person on your helping hand is not available, you always have someone else to turn to.”

Mrs Lee said the overarching message for the boys was that everyone had the right to feel safe at all times.

In Term 4, the Pre-Primary to Year 2 classes took part in a Messy Mud Day incursion run by Nature Play Solutions.

Year 1 teacher Grace Curtis, who organised the incursion, said the boys wore their old clothes ready for maximum mud coverage in a designated corner on the Preparatory Oval.

The day is designed to engage children in a unique, open-ended play experience offering new textural and sensory experiences, a chance to be out of their comfort zone and permission to be ‘silly’ and have fun.

“I enjoyed putting the sand mix in this big bowl with Jonathan and Jeremiah. We mixed it together with water. It looked a bit like porridge and we pretended to eat it,” James Chipper said.

“I liked getting really muddy and I also liked it when I made a mud land for the dinosaurs. Then we made a mud flood,” Ashtin Belyea said.

“The best part was making up the mud and getting to pour it everywhere,” Cameron Wood said.
Year 3 teacher Chantal Hockey believes getting boys excited about the purpose has been the key to their success in reading and writing this year. Motivating boys through competition and tailoring activities such as Wizard Writing and Reading Idol has proved fun and fruitful.

In Term 3, Ms Hockey introduced her class to Wizard Writing – 45 minutes of uninterrupted creative writing with lights dimmed, candles lit, relaxation music and a pencil. “We have really focused on improving writing outcomes this year and it has definitely led to more creative stories and longer texts created by the boys,” she said.

“For our focus on narratives, I will give them the beginning to a story, add a complication and then encourage them to write about what they know,” she said. “We have a wall of words at the front of the classroom, which they can also draw on for their writing.”

When they have finished, they sit in groups of three and read their story aloud. “The boys can then nominate someone to read aloud to the class or have their writing read for them. It is a big deal to the boys and the person with the best writing gets to blow out the candles. They love it!”

Ms Hockey said she introduced Reading Idol into her Year 3 classroom three years ago after seeing its success in Jerome Griffin’s Years 4 and 5 classes over the years. Reading Idol, a pun on the television singing show, aims to develop skills and confidence in reading aloud while having fun. Mr Griffin, who developed the activity seven years ago, now also runs Poetry Idol across the Year 5 classes.

Ms Hockey said the Reading Idol activity had been modified for younger boys, who at this age could decode but whose reading often lacked fluency.

In this year’s Reading Idol, boys in 3CH had to select a piece of prose by best-selling children’s author Roald Dahl. The boys had to practice their reading at home and then compete individually for their Houses, reading aloud to a panel of judges including teachers and classmates, as well as an audience.

“It is great for the boys as they are developing the idea that you have to entertain your audience and that reading aloud can be fun,” she said. “It’s also great to see them talking to each other about what they are reading and it makes them want to read the stories they are hearing.”

Ms Hockey said the boys also became very good at giving feedback according to the criteria on which the reading was judged. “It’s also been a really great activity for the reluctant readers.”

Other activities in Term 3 included Roald Dahl Day – celebrating all things Dahl, and Bedtime Stories Day, where the boys came dressed in their pyjamas, looked at narrative structure and different genre and watched the film of the same name, in which a man tells his niece and nephew lavish stories that start to magically come true.
Indigenous studies enrich learning

During Term 3, Year 4 boys had a variety of learning experiences about indigenous people and culture, culminating in NAIDOC Week.

Year 4 teacher Sarah Stone said they began the unit by working out which part of Aboriginal Australia they were born in and lived in before hearing from some of the School’s indigenous students and Indigenous Programme Co-ordinator Jamie Foster.

“The Senior School students and Mr Foster talked to the boys about where they came from and some of the differences in their home life and school life,” Miss Stone said. “The Year 4 boys asked some fantastic questions.”

In the same week the Year 4s were learning about Dreamtime stories, the Preparatory School welcomed Aboriginal storyteller, singer and painter Josie Boyle. Josie, who shares the stories and traditions of the Wongi people, gave the boys an insight into the different ways Aborigines have communicated stories over the centuries including telling stories using sand, singing and miming.

Other projects during the term included a research project on a famous indigenous Australian; researching the Noongar people, their way of life and compiling an information brochure; and dot painting a totem on a piece of jarrah with an element or animal with which they had a connection.

Mini masterchefs

A new co-curricular club proved to be as successful as its namesake when it launched at the start of the year. Masterchef CCGS, for Years 3 and 4, teaches boys how to make healthy snacks at home.

Years 3 and 4 Learning Co-ordinator T’Ann Steel said the aim of the afterschool club was for boys to master a range of quick and healthy snacks by the end of the term.

Held every Monday in the Pre-Primary classrooms, which are equipped with kitchens, up to 20 boys participated each term. Recipes include fruit smoothies, muffins and mini quiches, and boys receive a copy of the recipe and a book to keep them in to recreate at home.

There were also guest chef appearances during the year including Headmaster Garth Wynne, who made nachos with the boys, and Assistant Director of Pedagogy Barbara Bosich, who made her favourite toasted sandwich.

The Preparatory School offers a diverse co-curricular programme encompassing sport, the arts and a wide range of activities. Director of Pastoral Care, Planning and Co-curricular, Maria Hodges, said clubs such as these provided opportunities for boys to express their uniqueness, develop in confidence and diversify their experiences.
Cool science extends learning

At the end of Term 3, Scitech brought its Super Cool Show to the Preparatory School. To finish off their term-long studies into matter, Year 3 boys as well as Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) students were treated to a fun-filled show on solids, liquids and gases.

Year 3 teacher Chantal Hockey said it was a great way to end the unit, allowing boys to take part in laboratory-style experiments. “Many of our boys know a lot about science so this was a great way of extending their learning outside the classroom whilst still at school,” Ms Hockey said. “The boys loved it.”

The Scitech presenter demonstrated the effects of liquid nitrogen on different materials with boys and staff given an opportunity to assist. Ms Hockey said they loved witnessing the physical changes such as a squash ball smashing to pieces and a shriveled balloon animal blown back to normal.

“Scitech is a great motivator and the incursion also gave boys a lead into our next unit on how heat affects materials,” she said.

Over the Term 2 holidays, Year 4 boys took part in a ‘quest’ collecting soils, rocks and fossils. In Term 3, two parent geologists visited Sarah Stone’s class to discuss what the boys discovered in their field studies.

Miss Stone said with many boys visiting different places over the holidays, the teachers sent them on a geology quest, collecting samples as well as taking photographs of soil erosion at beaches or rivers.

“The boys did a great job and when we returned to school, we collated the samples and photos into a fantastic class display,” Miss Stone said. “They really liked the hands-on nature of the quest and enjoyed talking about the different discoveries they had made.”

Geologist Maria Holloway-Strong, mother of Matthew, visited the class to talk about different types of soil and brought in samples for the boys to test. Geologist Grant Gibson, father of Hugh, discussed erosion with the boys and took the class on a river walk.

“The boys also made soil solutions, did some wonderful drawings, wrote an integrated piece on erosion, and completed a limestone test with their parents at the Learning Journey evening,” she said.
Boys’ part in Last Post launch

Christ Church boys were part of headlines on the annual Year 6 Canberra Tour in April when they took part in an unofficial launch of the new Last Post ceremony at the Australian War Memorial. The boys were asked to form a guard of honour and lay a wreath, alongside the memorial’s new director Dr Brendan Nelson, and were featured in The Canberra Times.

Dr Nelson significantly enhanced the memorial’s simple closing ceremony, as well as renaming it, after being inspired by his visits to the daily Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate Memorial in Ieper, when he was the Australian Ambassador to Belgium. He said he hoped all who visited the great institution would remember the ceremony.

Head of the LW Parry Preparatory School Richard Wright said the Year 6 boys would long remember their visit to the memorial after they were asked by memorial staff to form an honour guard while Lachie Emanuel and Liam Haskett laid a wreath to honour Christ Church’s war dead.

“The boys showed exceptional respect and reverence for the occasion, and needed to stand still and quiet for more than 20 minutes at the end of a very busy day of the tour,” Mr Wright said. “I was extremely proud of the boys.”

The visit to the memorial was among one of the many highlights for the one hundred Prep School boys who visited Canberra for four days. The tour, introduced two years ago to further support the ‘Inquiry and Initiative’ Phase of Learning in Years 5 and 6, gave the boys a chance to immerse themselves in the national capital and all things Australian.

The jam-packed itinerary included a tour of the buildings and grounds at Government House, a visit to the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, as well as New Parliament House where they toured the House of Representatives and the Senate. They also visited the National Gallery of Australia, the National Museum, CSIRO, the National Film and Sound Archive and the Australian Institute of Sport. Visits to the Royal Australian Mint and Questacon concluded the tour.

The annual tour aims to enrich the students’ work on leadership and government and is part of the Prep School’s programme of excursions which supplement learning in the classroom.
AUSTRALIA’S LAST COMBAT FORCES LEFT SOUTH VIETNAM OF AUSTRALIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR.

I DON’T SEEM TO HAVE WARS

MORE THAN EVER BEFORE TV SHOWED THE TERRIBLE

FROM 1965 ARMY UNITS IN VIETNAM OVER

ABOUT 20,000 NATIONAL SERVICEMEN’S

THEN SOMEONE CALLED OUT ‘CONTACT!’ AND THE

WE HOOKED IN THERE FOR HOURS, THEN A GUY

FRANKIE KICKED A MINE THE DAY THAT MANKIND KICKED THE MOON

GOD HELP ME, HE WAS GOING HOME IN JUNE.

MORE THAN 750,000 MEN TURNED TWENTY DURING THE YEARS OF THE WAR -

THEY WERE THROWN INTO THE BARREL. A SENSIBLE DRAFT WAS USED TO HELP SELECT THOSE FOR CONSCRIPTION.

PHANTOMS AND SPOOKS WERE INVALUABLE BUT THE HELICOPTER GUN

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MODERN HISTORY THE OUTCOME OF A WAR WAS DETERMINED NOT ON THE BATTLEFIELD

AS A VARIATION WE CLOSED THE WAR.

WE MUST LEARN TO UNDERSTAND VIETNAM.

OUR FATHERS, GRANDFATHERS AND GREAT-GRANDFATHERS WERE VETERANS MARCHING. THE GREATEST EMPIRE.

ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2013.

257, 250, 187, 400 BATTLE HONOURS.

NURSES.
Pizza scientists

In Term 1, Year 5 boys discovered the science behind pizza dough. The boys learnt how yeast cells divided while making their own pizza bases as part of a four-week science unit about micro-organisms.

Year 5 science ‘guru’ Andrew Lane taught the boys about the history of the micro-organism while the boys made their own dough – observing the yeast cells growing and dividing and the optimum environment in which it happens.

While the pizzas were baking in Sandover Dining Hall, the boys investigated the process by completing a worksheet which involved searching a website on iPads and watching a simulation of yeast cells ‘budding’. Mr Lane also led the boys through an experiment where they used yeast to inflate balloons.

“The end product was a delicious variety of pizzas, custom-made using ingredients the boys brought in from home,” Year 5 teacher Sally MacKinnon said.

During the term, Director of Pedagogy Sharyn Bana organised a science lesson in a Senior School laboratory for the boys to observe a variety of dry-mounted micro-organisms. The boys learned how to prepare a wet mount, using water from the Preparatory School pond, with Ms Bana giving useful tips on how to use a microscope.

“The results fascinated the boys as they could see the intricate detail in a variety of micro-organisms, including the organs pumping blood within the body of mosquito larvae,” Mrs MacKinnon said.

Literacy through drama

Jack’s Island, the story of a 10-year-old boy living on Rottnest Island during World War II, was the focus of this year’s Year 5 Black Swan State Theatre Company experience during Term 2. Christ Church was the first WA school to take part in the company’s Literacy through Drama programme, which began in 2012.

Actress and tutor Caitlin Beresford-Ord led the three, half-day workshops for each class, exploring the issues and themes of Norman Jorgensen’s book through drama and movement.

Year 5 teacher Sally MacKinnon said Jack’s Island was an instant hit with the boys. “The boys liked the predominantly boy and male characters because they related to the language boys used and the adventures that 10-year-olds like to get up to. The war aspect was also exciting.”

Mrs MacKinnon said Caitlin, who has worked with Christ Church students for the past three years, knew what worked for boys. She said she was clever in the way she structured the programme because she gave just enough information for the boys to learn about the characters while leaving them in suspense about the plot.

The ending of the novel is not revealed in the workshops as the boys read the text in Term 3, followed by an excursion to Rottnest in Term 4 to retrace specific scenes from the novel.

“It is a very unique programme that keeps getting better each year,” she said.
New House mascots for Dale, Forrest, Giles and Stirling were unveiled in Term 2 as part of a project to reignite house culture and values in the Preparatory School. Year 6 boys were involved at all stages of the artist-in-residence project, made possible through a Parents’ Association grant.

Prep art specialist Paula Boxall, who co-ordinated the mascot project, said the concept was to create a visual identity for each house aimed at instilling team spirit and House pride. Mrs Boxall said she hoped the mascots appealed to the emotion and connection boys had with their House.

The mascots’ theme, Western Australian reptiles, was developed after extensive brainstorming and a suggestion there needed to be a cohesive idea linking the mascots in time and place. The results were Stirling’s frilled neck lizard, Giles’s blue tongue lizard, Forrest’s forest dragon and Dale’s thorny devil.

Year 6 boys were involved in the concepts, planning, design development and construction. Each class spent two lessons on the project, every fortnight cycle during Term 1, with artist-in-residence Fleur Hockey. “Despite having so many boys involved, they were very amenable to ideas and changes that took place in their absence,” Mrs Boxall said. She anticipated the mascots, in their current form, would endure for a few years making appearances at all major House events.

Musicality of language flows by the river

Aspiring Year 6 poets received some insight from Director of Music and accomplished poet Kevin Gillam in Term 3. Mr Gillam took Jane London’s class for two lessons consisting of four poetry exercises. He also read some of his own poems to the boys, discussed their subject matter and the techniques used.

“The idea behind the writing exercises was that any writer needs to work into some sort of structure of rules but the first experiences with the topic should be free and not concerned with a finished product,” Mr Gillam said.

In one exercise boys were asked to write a poem starting with the line, ‘So I sit at the front of the boat’, using only one-syllable words and no full stops. Another was to make a list of all words associated with football including sounds, smells and touch, and working the best images into a collage poem.

He said the boys took to all the topics with real relish. “I was amazed with both their diction choice and intellectual pursuits. We also made sure that they read aloud to each other, which is very important in the editing part of poetry writing,” Mr Gillam said.
Meteors, masts and mateship
The Year 8 Leeuwin Adventure, a partnership between Christ Church and the Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation introduced in 2011, allows every Year 8 boy to spend six days on board the tall ship as part of the School’s Outdoor Education programme. The students are among the youngest sailors to set sail on the training ship and Christ Church is the only WA school to offer the programme as a compulsory experience.

As the final voyagers of the Leeuwin adventure returned home in Term 2, Keaton Wright shared his experience on board the tall ship in the World Heritage Site of Shark Bay. The experiential six-day journey aims to expand boys’ capabilities and sense of themselves through a highly challenging and inspiring team experience.

Q: What were your expectations leading into the voyage?
A: I wasn’t quite sure what to expect although my brother (Aaron, Year 9) had already done it and loved it. He loves sailing. Seasickness was my biggest concern as I’d been seasick before. So I was pretty happy that I wasn’t actually sick!

Q: What was the highlight of the voyage?
A: Seeing a meteorite shower during night watch on night anchor. There was no wind and no cloud. You could see all these shooting stars. One burnt up and lit up the entire ocean. It was pretty amazing.

Q: What was your greatest challenge?
A: There were quite a few! Unravelling the sails from the yards while standing on the wire is quite scary. Then you get used to the heights and it becomes more fun. Going to the top of the mast was also scary. Also, starting night watch when a big storm came through and having to ‘clip on’ in the lightning and thunder. And of course, not puking!

Q: Why do you think it is a good programme for Year 8 boys?
A: It introduces us to the ocean and to sailing. It teaches us about the history of the Leeuwin, the history of Australia and how it all links in together. It is also a once-in-a-lifetime experience that not many people get to do.
Beach fun eases transition

Makz Alexander, Matt Minchin and Lachlan Zhou agreed snorkelling and surf lifesaving games at Leighton Beach provided a great opportunity for Year 7 boys to get to know each other early in Term 1. The students took part in transition activities aimed at easing the move from primary to secondary school.

Matt said he loved snorkelling over Cables Reef and saw dolphins and a big fish. “It was good how we all got together - we had snorkelling partners and did lots of fun activities in groups,” Matt said.

While Makz said he had already come to know many of his peers, the morning allowed him to get to know them even better. Lachlan said he enjoyed the beach games and snorkelling with Outdoor Education staff.

Director of Planning and Co-curricular Mark Morrissy said the beach morning, led by Assistant Heads of House, Kooringal staff, Year 11 Peer Support Leaders and North Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club members, encouraged interaction and engagement among the boys in their first weeks as Year 7s.

While four House groups were at the beach, the others were involved in a series of in-school information sessions to learn more about how the School operated, support services and to reflect on their first weeks.

National decathletes

Christ Church won the National da Vinci Decathlon (Years 7 and 8 division) held at Knox Grammar School in Sydney in Term 2. It followed the School’s win in the Western Australian da Vinci Decathlon in May.

A team of Year 8 students won the three-day academic competition, which is run in the spirit of an Olympic decathlon whereby each team combines its collective talents to work together in 10 varied disciplines.

The successful team, including Hiruna Diyasena, Edward Galluccio, Alex Lindsay, Daniel Robbins, Benjamin Seymour, Gary Song, Keaton Wright and Kohsuke Sato, finished first in Science, Cartography and General Knowledge, and second in English, Mathematics, Chess, Code Breaking and Creative Producers.

Assistant Director of Studies Matthew Kameron said it was an incredibly intense competition between the top three schools including James Ruse Agricultural High School (NSW) and St Peter’s College (SA).

Mr Kameron said the organising committee praised the Christ Church team on its behaviour, helpfulness and for working together as a team.

The team may represent Australia at the 2014 International da Vinci Decathlon in Sydney or the 2015 decathlon in Milan.
Boys top nation in History competition

Year 8 students Edward Galluccio and Alex Lindsay topped the nation in the Australian History Competition in Term 2.

More than 120 Year 8 students and 50 Year 10 students took part in the competition, which is run by the History Teachers’ Association of Australia. The competition aims to provide an interesting and challenging competition for students, who must answer 50 multiple choice questions broadly based on the Australian Curriculum for History in Years 7 and 8, and Years 9 and 10 respectively.

Edward, whose favourite subject is History, said he found the competition easy. “As it was multiple choice, they gave you all the information you needed,” Edward said. He said his favourite periods of history were the Age of Discovery and the Incas and Aztecs.

Alex said he liked all Humanities subjects but found History particularly interesting, especially the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Japanese history. “I like learning about how things were back then,” he said.

Year 10 student Samuel Thompson was among the top three performers in Western Australia. Samuel, who studied a trimester of History as part of the Year 10 Humanities course earlier in the year, said he was surprised at topping the State.

Creative programming animates boys

A computer programming activity allowing Mathematics students to become the creators of games and animations has become an integral part of the Year 7 Mathematics course.

The students use Scratch, which is a graphical programming language where they create programmes by snapping graphical blocks together into stacks.

Head of Mathematics Jan Honnens described the Scratch project as a bit like playing with LEGO. “Scratch helps us teach ‘boys of the future’, by enabling them to think creatively, communicate clearly, analyse systematically and collaborate effectively – all in a programming environment where building code is as simple as putting blocks together,” Mr Honnens said.

“Once the project is completed, the boys start to write their own code and games by expanding on the ideas that they have already encountered in the projects and by sharing or ‘scratching’ other people’s programmes.

Mr Honnens said within about two weeks, boys went from being consumers of games to being creators, which he described as much better for the developing brain!
Promoting digital citizenship

Early in Term 1, all Year 9 boys received their iPads along with training on what it means to be a digital citizen in the 21st century. The students were also led through a new electronic diary application, which replicates the functions of the School’s physical diary.

eLearning Facilitator Daniel Budd said all Year 9 boys had participated in training with ICT staff as part of the School’s iPad deployment programme. “The boys learned about being part of a digital community,” he said.

“We talk about the boys’ own personal digital identity, how they should behave as a digital community member and the expectations of them as Christ Church students. Cyberbullying, communicating effectively with teachers and behaving the same way both online and offline are also covered,” he said.

The training sessions, led by Mr Budd and Systems Administrator Patrick Lawrence, also touched on the Copyright Act, Equal Opportunity Act and digital copyright laws and how these apply to the boys. “The School’s own acceptable use policy, protecting themselves online, looking after each other and keeping safe were also discussed,” he said.

“Mr Lawrence then led the boys through the iPad’s technical features including the eDairy – a new application, which will replace the Senior School diary in 2014. “The eDiary has been designed to replicate the function of the paper diary and optimise the features of the iPad,” Mr Budd said.

Within the eDiary are boys’ timetables, which they can add homework events against with reminders. It also includes the school calendar, where they can add relevant events to their personal diary. They can also access the Daily Bulletin with updates, and access tutor contacts allowing parents to send email messages to their son’s tutor.

In 2014, the School’s iPad programme will extend to all Senior School boys including Years 7 and 8. There will be information sessions and booklets for parents to brief them on the programme and help manage appropriate use at home.
A new relationship forged between Christ Church and not-for-profit organisation, Food Rescue, this year helped food reach disadvantaged, vulnerable and at risk West Australians. Throughout 2013, Year 10 Environment and Community (ENCOMM) cadets saved 20 tonnes of fresh produce from supermarkets that would otherwise have ended up in landfill.

The relationship was forged in late 2012 when Humanities teacher Nicole Xouris took a Year 8 class to Food Rescue’s head office in Belmont. During the year, 20 boys became weekly Food Rescue volunteers on Monday or Wednesday afternoons after school in Sandover Dining Hall.

Director of Activities Neil Saggers said Christ Church was the first school to become involved with the organisation. “Food Rescue was delighted to tap into the western suburbs and the number of boxes and volunteers steadily increased throughout the year,” he said. “The boys not only make a small difference in helping those less fortunate, they also learn firsthand how much wastage occurs in the fresh food industry.”

The boys weigh and record the amount of produce prior to sorting. The fresh produce is sorted from the not consumable, then placed into boxes and labelled. The boxes are stored overnight in the fridges and are collected by Food Rescue the following morning. All waste must be weighed and recorded before composting.

James Blaxill (Year 9), a winner in The West Australian 2013 Young Travel Photojournalist Competition, joined The West’s travel editor Stephen Scourfield on assignment in the Kimberley in July.

James and St Hilda’s student Emmelyn Wu (Year 12) accompanied Stephen on the three-day assignment to learn more about travel writing, photography and video skills on location. James’ story on his Kimberley experience was published in The West’s travel section.

Year 9 students Thomas Broadbridge and Callum Connolly were also among the 10 finalists selected from more than 100 entries across the State. The boys’ travel pieces were written as part of the Year 9 Creative Writing elective.

English teacher Rob Vickery said the creative writing elective allowed boys more time to work on and refine their writing. “For the travel writing task, I asked the boys to work off The West’s guidelines and gave them an opportunity to submit their work. The submission had to include two of the entrant’s own photographs,” Mr Vickery said.

“We worked on expressing observations about a place in different ways and playing with perspective so they didn’t fall into travel writing clichés.”
East-West insight

One of the highlights of Languages Week in Term 2 was East-West Day, which brought musicians, painters and martial artists to the School to offer Year 9 boys insights into Eastern and Western cultures.

Classes for the day included a range of active and cultural experiences from Chinese Tai Chi, weapons, lion dancing, Qi Gong and painting, as well as Japanese martial arts through to Western experiences including the music of Austria and Germany and French art, photography and film.

Head of Humanities David Proudlove said Australia’s engagement with Asia was one of the Australian Curriculum’s cross-curriculum priorities. “The day of experiences is about going far beyond the confines of normal classroom activities. Improved language skill is obviously very important, as is an appreciation of, and respect for ancient traditions and ceremonies,” Mr Proudlove said.

The physically active components of the day were popular with the boys, such as brandishing Chinese swords and spears, and attempting to emulate the trained masters of kung fu and aikido. In contrast, the Western experiences leaned toward the arts, including a workshop exploring the history of tonality and German music, using the cello and experimenting with conducting techniques.

Engineering champions

In Term 3, Christ Church won the WA Science and Engineering Challenge held at Curtin University. A team of 31 Year 9 students represented the School at the annual event hosted by the University of Newcastle and Engineers Australia.

Fifty schools from regional and metropolitan areas competed in the event, which aims to promote science and engineering-based professions to students. In teams of four, boys completed a series of 12 scenario-based activities, including Bridge Building, Eco-Habitat, Mission to Mars and World Sailing Spectacular.

Head of Design and Technology Geoff McGillivray said selection in the team was based on recommendations from Science, Mathematics and Design and Technology teachers. Christ Church won the State Championship and a place in the Nationals.

Mock debate UN-style

Year 10 boys, studying the new elective course Global Perspectives, were given fascinating insights into the workings of the United Nations (UN) in Term 2. WA branch members of the United Nations Youth Association (UNYA) staged a UN Security Council debate in the Humanities Department.

Each boy was made an Ambassador to the United Nations for each of the five permanent and 10 non-permanent members of the Security Council.

Head of Humanities David Proudlove said the fictional, but not too far-fetched, event of global significance for debate was the assassination of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Mr Proudlove said the boys warmed to the task quickly, proposing a variety of possible solutions and amendments to the original resolution tabled in the formal language and protocols of the UN.

He said the UNYA representatives, who are undergraduates at Perth universities studying politics, engineering, nursing and modern history, brought the process to life superbly.
Maximising boys’ potential

A new Christ Church initiative, offering Year 11 boys strategies and guidelines to help cope with the intensity of their final school years and beyond, was held at St George’s College, UWA in Term 1. Ad Astra, developed by the School’s Academic Committee, was an opportunity for boys to gain inspiration from a range of speakers and ‘opt in’ to a number of interactive sessions led by subject specialists.

Director of Studies Margaret Brophy said the day-long event encouraged Year 11 boys to make the most of their final two years of school. Ad Astra means ‘towards stars’ or ‘towards excellence’ in Latin. “This is the time to maximise their potential and set themselves up for future life,” Ms Brophy said.

Keynote speaker, Vice-Chancellor of UWA Paul Johnson, talked about academic excellence and being a ‘moral man’. Professor Johnson reminded boys that in two years’ time, many of them would be attending their first lectures at university like the old boys they had bumped into at St George’s College that morning.

Director of Pedagogy Sharyn Bana spoke about getting the best out of your brain and revision strategies; Ms Brophy discussed the complexity of the assessment policy and schedule; and school psychologists Anne Angelkovska and Michael Ralph gave valuable advice on psychological health.

Ms Brophy said a number of different teachers had worked together to design the programme for the day, which included opt-in sessions in English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Languages as well as service, ICT and useful apps, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The final session of the day featured a ‘young’ old boy panel, who shared their experiences post Christ Church. The old boys, who included James Balfour (2002), Matt Caddy (2003), Yannick Spencer (2005) and Chris Webster (1999), had each taken varied paths after school ranging from gap years to playing football, work and study.

There were plenty of questions from the Year 11 boys for the old boys. Ms Brophy said the graduates all agreed that the boys already had a head start because they went to Christ Church. “The other common theme was being answerable only to yourself and choosing your own path,” she said.

In the evening, parents were invited to attend their own version of the Ad Astra initiative in the Senior School Staff Room. This gave parents a chance to gain some of the same insights as their sons. Six Year 11 boys shared their personal experience with parents, along with Ms Brophy and Ms Bana, who also presented.
This is the time to maximise their potential and set themselves up for future life.
Political arena comes to Christ Church

In a year of State and Federal elections, Years 11 and 12 students had the rare opportunity to hear from the Premier of Western Australia Colin Barnett and former Premier Geoff Gallop on separate occasions.

In February, Year 12 Politics and Law students heard firsthand about the pressures of the top job and political philosophy of Dr Gallop. The talk, presented by the Centre for Ethics, gave the boys an insight into the modern day political divide between the left and right of the spectrum. Humanities teacher Richard Parker said Dr Gallop's enthusiastic delivery engaged students on the theme of big and little ideas within the realm of Australian politics.

After the State Election in March, the Declaration of the Poll for Mr Barnett was held in the School Chapel. Before Mr Barnett arrived, boys were given an overview of the electoral system by Returning Officer for Cottesloe and Christ Church parent Michelle Quinsee. Head of Economics and Commerce Andrew Greig said Mr Barnett gave students a rare insight into the operation of State and Federal budgets as well as a unique insight into the changing relationship with Asia and its increasing importance to the Australian and WA economies.

Bronze for Australia

Year 12 students Alexander Chua and Simon Swan won bronze medals for Australia at the 2013 International Mathematics and Science Olympiads respectively in July. Simon competed at the International Physics Olympiad (IPO) in Denmark while Alexander took part in the International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) in Columbia.

The School Captain said he felt a mixture of excitement and disbelief when he learned he had won a bronze medal with the Australian team, which finished 29th out of 83 countries. “After two years of studying, it was very relieving,” Simon said.

Alexander said it was particularly satisfying to finally get to the IMO stage after attending national training camps twice a year for the past four years. “Probably the best part of the experience was finding out that we came 15th out of 97 countries – equalling Australia’s best performance since 2000,” he said.

Careers Breakfast a hit

More than 120 boys discussed career aspirations with ‘young’ old boys at the inaugural Year 12 Career Breakfasts held in the Old Boys’ Gallery in Term 2. The joint initiative between the School and Old Boys’ Association gave boys an opportunity to ask questions of alumni from a range of fields.

Three breakfasts were held over three mornings with various fields grouped together, including commerce, law and IT; engineering and architecture; and medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy and sports science.

The old boys rotated tables throughout the breakfast and at the end of the event, took the floor for a 20-minute question and answer session.

Career Counsellor Jody Clarke said the boys appreciated talking to ‘young’ old boys about their work, study paths and reasons for choosing their particular occupation. “It was reassuring for some Year 12s to hear old boys say that they didn’t know the occupation they wanted to do at school but found direction once starting university,” Mrs Clarke said.
Philosophy students impress

Years 11 and 12 Philosophy and Ethics students heard from internationally renowned philosopher Peter Vardy at a seminar hosted by St Hilda’s in Term 2.

Head of Philosophy Dominic Hodnett said Dr Vardy, from the University of London, was renowned for covering a lot of ground in his presentations. However, students were given an opportunity to argue for or against the motion: This house believes it is acceptable for governments to torture suspected terrorists.

Mr Hodnett said Edmond Stewart-Williams (Year 12) spoke with a degree of clarity, philosophical understanding and maturity that had not been matched up until that point. “Edmond boldly advanced his thoughts in opposition to the motion. When he finished speaking the lecture theatre was filled with spontaneous applause,” Mr Hodnett said.

In Term 4, Year 11 students Elliott Smith and Henry Cooney’s combined efforts won them the Year 11 category of the annual Western Australian Philosothon held at Hale School. Mr Hodnett said one of the benefits of studying philosophy was developing the ability to argue in a clear, insightful and convincing manner.

French forces combine

Year 11 French students from Christ Church and MLC joined forces in 2013 continuing a growing academic collaboration between the neighbouring schools. The collaboration is part of a wider opportunity to promote vibrant classroom experiences with suitable numbers of students and to maximise the number of subjects offered.

Director of Studies Margaret Brophy said with only four boys and four girls selecting the French WACE Course in 2013, it made sense for the two classes to combine. “It was a huge benefit for our boys to go to MLC and work with their Head of Languages and French teacher Maria Outtrim.

In a language, the experience is so much richer from interaction, especially the speaking aspect,” Ms Brophy said.

Ms Brophy said the academic relationship was reviewed each year in the best interests of students at both schools. “For the past two years, our co-operation in academic timetabling has enabled students to ‘cross the fence’ for Drama and English (as an additional dialect, stage 1) classes in Years 11 and 12,” Ms Brophy said. The schools’ collaboration will continue in 2014.
Across all year groups, boys are encouraged to challenge themselves on the way to reaching their potential in a collaborative, competitive and supportive environment. 2013 was no exception as teachers used local, state, national and international competitions to enhance learning opportunities. Each success is acknowledged at assemblies and often, in the School newsletter. Here are some examples of competitions our boys entered in 2013:

**Australian History Competition**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 124 (Year 8), 50 (Year 10).
Awards: 37 High Distinctions.
Standout performers: Edward Galluccio (Year 8) and Alex Lindsay (Year 8) – top scores in Australia. Samuel Thompson (Year 10) – top score in WA.

**Australian Informatics Competition**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 309 (Years 6 to 12).
Awards: 9 Prizes, 45 High Distinctions.
Standout performers: William Hu (Year 7) and Terry Pham (Year 10) - perfect scores.

**Language Perfect World Championships**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 500.
Awards: 2 Elite, 1 Gold, Chinese Language Teachers' Association of WA (top performing WA school), AISWA award (top performing school), Modern Language Teachers' Association of WA.
Standout performers: James Wood (Year 9) and Anthony Tsang (Year 10) – Elite Awards for scoring over 10,000 points individually.

**Australian Mathematics Competition**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 1,121 (Years 3 to 12).
Awards: 2 Medals, 16 Prizes, 40 High Distinctions.
Standout performers: William Hu (Year 7) and Alexander Chua (Year 12) – top 25 in Australia.

**ICAS Science Competition – University of New South Wales (UNSW)**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 305.
Awards: 2 Medals, 23 High Distinctions.
Standout performers: Albert Smith (Year 7) and Simon Swan (Year 12) – top scores in WA.

**ICAS Computing, Spelling, Science, Writing, English and Mathematics Competitions (UNSW)**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 85 (Computing), 102 (Spelling), 86 (Science), 67 (Writing), 95 (English) and 140 (Mathematics) from Years 3 to 6.
Awards: 2 Medals, 20 High Distinctions, 136 Distinctions.
Standout performers: Christian Wong (Year 4) – top score Writing in WA. Matthew Bailey (Year 3) – top score Spelling in WA.

**ICAS Computing, Spelling, Science, Writing, English and Mathematics Competitions (UNSW)**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 305.
Awards: 2 Medals, 23 High Distinctions.
Standout performers: Albert Smith (Year 7) and Simon Swan (Year 12) – top scores in WA.

**UNSW Business Studies and Economics Competitions**
Number of Christ Church boys entered: 65 (Business Studies), 117 (Economics).
Awards: 2 High Distinctions (top 5%), 14 distinctions (top 15%).
Standout performers: Liam Kearney (Year 12) - Senior WA winner (Economics). Nicholas O’Callaghan (Year 10) - Junior WA winner (Business Studies).
The Class of 2013 continued the School's record of academic excellence. Christ Church students received seven General Exhibitions – the highest number in the State – as well as three Course Exhibitions, three perfect scores of 99.95 and an impressive Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) median of 90.1. The year group graduated with 177 WA Certificate of Education (WACE) externally-assessed students and 11 WACE Wholly School Assessed (WSA) students.

Philosophy and Ethics
Simon Swan – Chemistry, Economics, Mathematics, Physics
Alexander Chua – Chemistry, Mathematics, Mathematics Specialist
Patrick Broadhurst – Chemistry, Mathematics
Matthew Eton - Chemistry, Mathematics
Matt Freind – Economics
Robert Pennefather – Mathematics
Migara Tennakoon – Mathematics

Certificates of Commendation, for achieving at least 20 ‘A’ grades in Years 11 and 12, were awarded to Patrick Broadhurst, Alexander Chua, Matthew Eton, Matt Freind, Brian Hao, Liam Kearney, Nicholas Leedman, Ryan Lian, James Liu, Luke Liu, Jesse Martino, Robert Pennefather, Ashwin Ramanathan, Simon Swan, Migara Tennakoon and Charn Thanissorn.

Of the 177 boys who completed WSA subjects, six completed a Vocational Education and Training (VET) course and two completed an Aboriginal School Based Traineeship with Leighton.

Headmaster Garth Wynne said the School was thrilled with its students’ results. “We are so proud of all our 2013 graduates, who reflect the School’s ongoing focus on achieving one’s best in the academic domain, no matter what course of study they choose,” Mr Wynne said. “My pride comes from the fact that so many boys met their own goals for excellence.”

“It is wonderful to see boys of a wide range of academic capabilities achieve such results through the combination of hard work, competitive collaboration, the support of their inspiring and motivating teachers and of course, members of their wider family.”

Of the 177 boys who sat for the ATAR:
• 16 (9 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 99 or more, placing them in the top one per cent of students across the country.
• 32 (18 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 98 or higher, placing them in the top two per cent.
• 63 (36 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 95 or higher, placing them in the top five per cent.
• 92 (52 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 90 or higher, placing them in the top 10 per cent.
• Alexander Chua, Liam Kearney and Simon Swan achieved top scores of 99.95.
• General Exhibitions were awarded to Liam Kearney (2013 School Dux), Alexander Chua, Matthew Eton, Simon Swan, Brian Hao, Robert Pennefather and Matt Freind.
• Course Exhibitions were awarded to Liam Kearney for Economics and Philosophy and Ethics, and to Alexander Chua for Mathematics.
• The median ATAR for the year group was 90.1.
• The School received 19 Certificates of Distinctions and 16 Certificates of Commendation.

Certificates of Distinction, for the top 0.5 per cent of candidates in each course, were awarded to:
Liam Kearney – Chemistry, Economics, Literature, Mathematics,
In 2013, Christ Church was the top performing school in the PSA Sports competition. Of the 12 PSA summer and winter codes, the School won tennis and basketball; finished second in rowing, rugby, swimming and soccer; and was third in cricket, water polo, badminton and cross country. Christ Church also finished second in PSA Surfing and won its second consecutive WA Schools Teams Racing Championship.

Despite a fixture still remaining in the competition, Christ Church’s Firsts Tennis Team won the 2013 Corr Cup in Term 1. The First VIII secured its PSA champion title after defeating Guildford at the Cottesloe Tennis Club – a week before the final round of competition.

The boys played consistently throughout the season with the first round, must-win game against Scotch setting the team up from the start. The result was also outstanding for a team with a high number of younger boys.

Christ Church’s First V won the Blackwood Cup after remaining undefeated bar one game all season. The win was Christ Church’s third PSA basketball title in the School’s history, having last won in 1998 and 1999.

A pre-season tour to Hawaii to compete in the World Youth Basketball Tournament Holiday Invitational followed by a 12-point win over Scotch in Round 1, proved a good indicator of where the First V would sit amongst its competition for the season. The final round game between Trinity and Aquinas (a bye for Christ Church) decided the team’s fate as the outright champions.

Director of Sport Anthony Lynch believes a focus on commitment, intensity and getting the basics right paid dividends for
most codes. Mr Lynch said this began with higher expectations for training. “This year, the boys have generally trained more, trained smarter and concentrated on refining skills,” he said.

This included lunchtime net sessions for cricket, extra skill sessions for senior basketball, rugby and football, additional conditioning for hockey and soccer as well as extra recovery sessions.

“We’ve seen the boys become more disciplined around training and getting the work done,” Mr Lynch said. “Then when it comes to the big games, the close games, or the touch-and-go games, they know they have done the training which gives them the mindset to get them over the line.”

Mr Lynch said to finish in the top three for 10 sports was a great effort from the boys in 2013. He said the next three to four years looked very strong for Christ Church thanks to a combination of strong coaches, dedicated boys and a continued emphasis on training and intensity.
Twenty Years 5 and 6 boys took part in the inaugural AFL Sports Tour to Melbourne during the July holidays. Preparatory School Sportsmaster Brady Leckie, who organised the tour, said the group spent five days living and breathing the great Australian game.

On their first day, the boys visited Xavier College where the group was taken on a school tour, joined in classroom activities, then competed against Xavier’s A team on the football field. Mr Leckie, who is also the Prep School AFL coach, said the boys enjoyed the experience despite the tricky weather conditions.

That evening, the boys got their first look at Etihad Stadium watching North Melbourne versus Carlton. Four lucky boys also got a chance to go, with Mr Leckie, into the North Melbourne changing rooms to meet players and coaches before the game.

On Saturday, they visited the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) and took a behind the scenes tour of the stadium. Afterwards, the boys enjoyed some hands-on activities at the National Sports Museum including kicking at goal under AFL conditions and playing cricket against the world’s best. In the evening, the group watched St Kilda versus Port Adelaide at Etihad Stadium with six lucky boys meeting some players and coaches in the changing rooms.

The trip culminated with the Dockers versus Richmond game back at the MCG on Sunday. “The boys finished on yet another big note, sitting amongst the Richmond faithful and enjoying a true football experience at the home of AFL,” Mr Leckie said.

In Term 2, the Prep School Chess Team won the IPSHA Chess Day at St Stephen’s School Carramar. The A Team, who won the event, included Joshua Fry (Year 5), Dijmon Jayasundera (Year 5), Callum Koh (Year 6) and Aran Wheatley (Year 5).

Prep School Chess Club Co-ordinator Rachael Durston said the eight boys who competed thoroughly enjoyed the day of chess, playing seven rounds against nine schools. Mrs Durston said all the competitors displayed good sportsmanship and she was very proud of how the boys played and conducted themselves on the day.

The Senior School Chess Team won the PSA Chess Tournament for the fourth consecutive year in Term 3. Teacher-in-Charge of Chess Dominic Hodnett said despite being clear favourites, the final margin came down to just half a point between Christ Church and Wesley.

Richard Tien, Chess Co-Captains Liam Kearney and Vaughan Greenberger, and Cameron Chung had to pull out all stops on the final day of competition to keep Wesley at bay. Mr Hodnett said it was unfamiliar territory for the boys and there was no room for negativity.

“The focus had to be on each boy winning his last two remaining games, which they did. Meanwhile, the Scotch players on boards two and three secured wins against Wesley, which meant the final score was Christ Church on 20 points and Wesley on 19.5,” he said.

Both the Preparatory and Senior School Chess Teams were crowned champions in 2013.

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An evolving journey

Kooringal, located 110km southeast of Perth, is the home base of Christ Church’s Outdoor Education programme. For some boys, the journey begins as Year 5 Earthkeepers while many get their first taste in Year 7. However, all boys’ journeys culminate in Christ Church’s ultimate expedition experience – the Year 10 Venture.

In Year 5, boys enjoy three days of outdoor fun and discovery at Kooringal. The experience, which aims to instill a respect for the Earth, forms a major part of the Year 5 programme. The Earthkeepers’ journey includes practical challenges and learning the science behind ecosystems.

Nature play is at the heart of the four-day Year 6 outdoor education experience. The boys immerse themselves in a range of activities including camp cooking, rafting, nature studies and camping out for two nights. This year, the boys also completed a mini-expedition paddling from Scarp Pool to Frog’s Creek on a neighbouring property.

Held in the second half of Term 1, Year 7 boys visit Kooringal in House groups. The four-day journey gives boys another opportunity to build on friendships, enhance their awareness of self and living with others, while building on bush camping skills. Boys learn to pack their back pack and waterproof their sleeping bag before an overnight expedition. The Year 7 experience is the precursor to the Year 8 Leeuwin Adventure.

In Year 9, boys take even greater ownership of their experience at Kooringal. They complete a five-day expedition and a 15-hour solo night on the final evening, which aims to equip them for the following year’s 11-day Venture journey in the bushland and coastal setting of Walpole-Nornalup National Park. Boys cook all their main meals, learn to dehydrate and rehydrate meals on expedition, pack their own food and ultimately, take greater responsibility for their own actions.
For the first time in 2013, the Beyond Queenslea Drive programme offered boys an opportunity to go on ‘immersion’ to a number of new countries.

The reciprocal exchange programme, which gives Year 10 boys a rare opportunity to ‘immerse’ themselves into school environments around the world, now includes India, France, China and the Czech Republic. The programme already includes schools in the United Kingdom, South Africa, the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Japan.

James Kordic (Year 10) put his French to the test on immersion at Lycée St Jean et la Croix in Saint-Quentin, France. James said he saw an opportunity to challenge himself in the language he had been learning since Year 7.

“Now I can speak a lot of French! I can talk to a French person and understand them, and I can even speak to my French teacher Ms Rosinel,” James said.

Top cadet unit in WA

In the Term 3 holidays, 60 Christ Church Army Cadets were deployed between the Northam Army Base, Bindoon Military Training Area and Stronghills in the Avon Valley National Park as part of the Western Region Army Cadets Annual Field Exercise.

Following the exercise, Christ Church received the AMP Efficiency Award for the Top Unit in the WA brigade in 2013. The School’s record stands unrivalled at 16 successes from the past 21 years. Christ Church was also awarded first place in the Skill at Arms, Drill and Rogaining competitions, and was second behind visiting UK cadets in the Cadet Challenge.

Christ Church had the highest number of cadets taking part in the exercise with unit members deployed as either course instructors and intermediate or senior participants. In addition to consolidating military skills honed throughout the year, the exercise incorporated a variety of adventure training including abseiling, mountain biking, archery and canoeing.
Boys interested in hip hop had a chance to take a masterclass led by dancers from Cirque du Soleil’s *Michael Jackson – The Immortal World Tour* in Term 3. Interested boys from Years 5 to 7 spent an hour with the dancers learning moves, including the moon walk.

Drama teacher Angela Perry, who co-ordinated the Preparatory School’s iMove Physical Theatre Club, said when she heard that Cirque du Soleil performers were available through her professional networks she seized the opportunity.

“The fact that they were also male dancers was especially great and that they were enthusiastic about working with young beginners. When I advertised the workshop it filled within an hour,” Ms Perry said.

Pom, Mike and Shondra, who auditioned in Paris along with 4,000 other dancers two years ago, shared their moves and they were enthusiastic about working with young beginners.

Christ Church Grammar School/MLC Combined Choir members were among the chorus in the Renaissance piece *Venus and Adonis* performed at MLC’s Hadley Hall. Music teacher Rhiannon Taylor, who co-conducts the choir with MLC’s Head of Music Robert Faulkner, said the opportunity for the schools’ involvement arose through Dr Faulkner’s UWA connections.

*Venus and Adonis*, first performed for Charles II and his courtiers circa 1683, is regarded by historians as England’s earliest surviving opera despite the composer describing it as a masque.

“The directors and soloists commented favourably on the boys’ vocal and acting calibre as well as their professionalism. I think the opportunity gave many boys something or someone to aspire to,” Ms Taylor said.
Q: What are your first memories of Christ Church?
A: My first memories are from before I actually started school in 2007. They involved going to my older brother’s PSA games, debates and school assemblies. From this I learned early on about the pride that the students have in the School. However, I was a bit intimidated by its size as I came from a school with only 10 people in my class.

Q: What has been your most memorable experience at Christ Church so far?
A: During my time at Christ Church I have been fortunate to have so many experiences that have become special memories. One that stands out among the rest for me was the 2013 Garnduwa trip to the West Kimberley. This trip was truly unique as it allowed us to immerse ourselves in a culture very different to our own and we were able to experience some of the most remote and pristine landscapes that the Kimberley has to offer. On top of this, the trip had a significant impact on us as people, as most of us came back inspired to get more involved with service activities.

Q: Who have been the most influential people during your time at Christ Church?
A: Over the years many members of the school community have greatly influenced my development as a person. However, Mr (Mick) O’Sullivan has been very influential in developing me as a leader. Mr O’Sullivan is a veteran of the Vietnam War and before his retirement was in charge of the School’s Cadet Unit. Through his example, he demonstrated to me the importance of loyalty, courage, determination and humility. Other people who have also been very influential to me include old boys Scott Chrystal (Firsts Water Polo Coach) and Bill Kirby (Head Swimming Coach).

Q: What has been one of your most challenging experiences at Christ Church?
A: Year 10 Venture probably marked my most challenging experience at Christ Church. As an 11-day expedition it challenges you far beyond just physical boundaries. However in saying that, overcoming these challenges provided a great sense of achievement.

Q: In Year 10, you were a member of Christ Church’s PSA-winning Water Polo Team and in Year 11, you co-captained the Firsts. What’s in store for season 2014?
A: 2014 looks like a promising year for the Firsts Water Polo Team. Overall, the competition is very close with Christ Church, Aquinas, Hale and Trinity all having promising teams coming into the season. Christ Church now has a good mix of experience and youth with many boys from Years 9 and 10 looking for spots in the team. The team has a lot of potential and the boys’ commitment is outstanding, with most of the team giving up almost five weeks of summer holidays to train. Combined with the experience of three-time PSA champion coach Scott Chrystal, I believe the Firsts has the potential to do great things.

Q: What qualities do you most admire in a leader?
A: The qualities I admire in leaders are courage, competence, loyalty and the ability to inspire.
Q: What qualities of leadership do you want to practice?
A: I endeavor to practice loyalty, humility and commitment to the School. More importantly, I intend to try and enrich the pre-existing Christ Church culture and to highlight the importance of school pride.

Q: What do you think makes Christ Church different to other schools?
A: I believe it is the wide-ranging opportunities and the way in which it prepares students for the world outside school. No other school in WA creates the same unique set of experiences that become available to students in the Senior School. I also believe the School is unique as students have a huge sense of pride in their school and in being ‘a Christ Church boy’, which is not something you can say about every school.

Q: What would you say to a boy who is thinking about coming to Christ Church?
A: I think I would just discuss all of the great opportunities that Christ Church provides for its students – whether it is academic, sport, culture or service.
Throughout the year, boys take part in a range of House activities in the Senior School and Preparatory School. These give boys opportunities to compete for House points and pride, but most of all participate.

In the Senior School, Craigie, Hill, Jupp, Moyes, Noake, Queenslea, Romsey and Wolsey go head to head in the Beatty Cup Competition competing across four main competition areas – Swimming, Arts, Teams Sports and Athletics.

The House Swimming and House Athletics carnivals are held in Terms 1 and 3 respectively. In May, the House Winter Sports Carnival is held on a Friday afternoon at McGillivray Oval. All boys from Years 7 to 12 take part in the round robin event, which includes football, soccer, handball, rugby and cross country.

During Terms 1 and 2, House Arts includes three rounds and two finals in Chess, Public Speaking and Debating while in House Drama, the eight Houses perform short plays based on a common theme. In Term 3, House choirs rock the School Chapel as they perform songs from a particular genre or artist in the House Shout while in House Murals, boys create an advertising billboard on a pre-selected theme.

In the Prep School’s House Points Competition, where boys from Dale, Giles, Forrest and Stirling battle it out for the Giles Shield, points are earned for many activities. As well as points for House Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics and House Shout, boys also earn points inside the classroom.

Boys can be awarded House points by their classroom teacher, through the Virtues of the Week programme and when they complete Green Cards through Champion Quest (see page 39).

Houses also complete a week of House Duty, where boys from each House take turns to ensure the playground and surrounds are kept free of rubbish for the week. However, boys beware as not collecting your lost property could result in losing points for your House.

This year’s overall winners were Moyes in the Senior School and Dale in the Prep School.

In a new initiative for 2013, Duty Prefects helped boys exit vehicles safely and quickly during peak morning traffic at the turning circle adjacent to Sandover Dining Hall.

Headmaster Garth Wynne said the aim of the initiative was to further improve on the steady traffic flow through the School’s drop-off and pick-up area to help the School and wider community have a safe and positive experience at this busy time of the day.

Mr Wynne said the Year 12 students were there to open car doors and help younger boys with their bags as they exited the vehicle. He said the initiative was another way the School was working with its community to encourage safe pedestrian behaviour.

“It is pleasing to see so many boys arriving at school both on foot and by bike. We continue to encourage parents to have their sons ‘walk a little way’, which reduces the number of cars around the school grounds at peak times.”
Learning about leading

The Year 11 Leadership Days, held in Term 3, took boys on a journey of self-exploration – exposing boys to the lives and stories of some of the State’s leaders, who work from strong moral foundations.

The programme began with an address from 2013 Young Australian of the Year, Akram Azimi, who discussed his difficult but ultimately redemptive journey through high school after arriving as an Afghan refugee just after the 9/11 attacks.

Director of Service Learning and Leadership Richard Pengelley said over two days, boys rotated through four activities. Boys attended Wollaston College for talks with the Anglican Archbishop of Perth Roger Herft, young peace activist Jarrod McKenna and Father Richard. They visited Irwin Barracks for an army-led leadership experience including personal and group physical challenges and problem solving.

Other activities included a chat with Father Peter Boyland from Christ Church parish, a yoga session with Susie Ascott and conversations with old boys, Heads of Houses and senior staff on their take on leadership. The programme concluded in the Chapel with music and reflections from professional musician and high school chaplain Andrew Winton.

“We reiterated throughout the programme that all Year 12s were required to lead at some stage and that servant leadership was the most long lasting and transformative,” Father Richard said.

The Quest continues…

The Champion Quest has gone from strength to strength since its inception in 2011. New Director of Pastoral, Co-curricular and Planning (Deputy Head) for the Preparatory School, Maria Hodges, says the programme continues to work well – helping to promote good behaviours from the boys and discouraging inappropriate ones, in and out of the classroom. It is particularly effective in recognising those boys that do the right thing day in and day out that otherwise go easily undetected.

The Champion Quest is a bit like a ‘rewards chart’. Good behaviours attract ‘ticks’ that are collected to generate a Green Card and inappropriate ones are signalled with other coloured cards, depending on the type of transgression. The good behaviours include individual and class goals as well as the School Virtues.

Stamps in a special passport record each Green Card earned and the boys work towards earning as many as possible to achieve Bronze (5 Green Cards), Silver (10) or Gold (15) levels and certificates. This year the Silver level boys also won a special Champion ‘wrist snapper’ and the 54 Gold winners enjoyed a lunch with Headmaster Garth Wynne including sliders, chips and ice cream. In 2014 Silver and Gold winners will receive special Champion pins and Mrs Hodges says the programme will have a few more surprises to keep things interesting.

Mrs Hodges attended the 2013 International Boys’ School Coalition conference in Richmond, Virginia and presented on the Champion Quest programme to international delegates.

“It was pleasing to have so many fellow educators respond positively to the Quest. What really appealed about the Quest is how it is wrapped up in a ‘game’, the layers of the different levels and the many materials we have to support the Quest – from passports, stamps, posters and rewards. Having a lunch with the Headmaster as the pinnacle reward was unheard of and much admired. Ultimately we think the Quest works well because it taps into how boys love to work towards a goal and compete against themselves and each other,” she said.
At the end of Term 2, the Senior School embraced NAIDOC Week celebrations with a host of activities led by the School’s indigenous students and Indigenous Programme Co-ordinator Jamie Foster. The annual Indigenous Student Art Exhibition drew accolades once again while all boys recognised the significance of the week at the Senior School Assembly.

This year’s art exhibition, featuring the original artworks of 16 indigenous students as well as three old boys, was opened by Chairman of the WA Chamber of Arts and Culture Warwick Hemsley. The boys, predominantly from the Kimberley region, took part in a series of after-school workshops inspired by the brief ‘My People, My Country’ and led by Senior Art teacher Gisela Züchner-Mogall, Residential Community assistant Frank Ansey (Class of 2009) and Mr Foster.
At the assembly, WA’s longest serving Aboriginal academic Simon Forrest performed a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony. Mr Forrest talked about the history of NAIDOC Week and the recent death of Yothu Yindi singer and indigenous educator Yunupingu, who spoke often of the importance of living between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal worlds.

Year 12 indigenous graduates Liam Lannigan and Lawrence Evans led the assembly and joined other indigenous and boarding students in cultural performances.

Other activities during the week included Year 8 reconciliation games run by the Nyoongar Sports Association, the annual indigenous boys versus staff basketball game, and a free dress day and kangaroo kebab barbecue to raise money for the Indigenous Communities Education and Awareness (ICEA) Foundation.

At the Senior School NAIDOC Week Assembly, Year 12 graduate Liam Lannigan, from the Jaru tribe, gave an inspirational speech on his journey over the past six years.

Liam, who started boarding in Year 7, talked about growing up in Halls Creek amid a community affected by alcohol and drugs. He shared with the audience how he seized an opportunity to pursue an education in Perth after meeting actress Nicole Kidman on the film set of Australia.

His frank account of his time at Christ Church made reference to his successes and failures. “I had never had house rules, bed times, instructions, housemasters, duty masters, housemothers, linen days. In fact, I had never slept in a proper bed and here I was, in a completely different world,” he said.

Liam, who completed a school-based apprenticeship with Leighton Contractors this year, thanked staff, old boys and his guardians, and offered advice and inspiration to fellow indigenous students.

“Make the most of the time you have left here. Learn what you can, train your hardest and prove that a better future for the indigenous is in our hands. I will never forget you, I know you will never forget me, but more than just the memory of me, remember that I could have quit but never did,” he said.

“After graduating, I will leave the School with qualifications from Leighton Contractors, skills in reading and writing, memories of the countless basketball and footy experiences I never would have had. In Walters, I have been able to live with a lot of good people and had some of the best times in the boarding community. I now have friends from all walks of life and parts of the State.

Liam said when he returns to Halls Creek, he would like to go back as a leader to help indigenous youth make good choices.
Members of the Residential Community gave their time to a range of community service events throughout the year. Perhaps the most physically exertive examples were the SIDS and Kids WA Sunshine Beach Run and the Residential Community’s Swan River Marathon Walk for the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF).

In Term 1, 27 boys and residential staff were among thousands of runners and walkers who took part in the second Sunshine Beach Run – running 5km along City Beach to help raise funds, greater awareness and support for families who lose children at birth. Dubbed ‘The Escaped Boarders’, the team raised more than $800 with outstanding performances by Ben Boultee (Year 8), who finished ninth overall, and Year 11 students Morgan Davies (13th) and Brynn O’Connor (17th).

Supporting the global community

Just six months after joining the Residential Community at Christ Church, Aidan Williams (Year 10) from Kalgoorlie was inspired to go on a six-week exchange to South Africa.

During Term 2, Aidan befriended South African students from Michaelhouse, who were living in Walters House as part of the schools’ reciprocal ‘immersion’ programmes. This included taking one of the boys home to Kalgoorlie for mid-term break to “show him the outback, kangaroos and visit the gold mine museum”.

When Aidan learned there was an exchange position vacant at Michaelhouse, he approached Director of Activities Neil Saggers and departed in Term 3. The timing of Aidan’s immersion meant he would take part in the Michaelhouse equivalent of Christ Church’s Year 10 outdoor education experience, Venture.

Known as C-Block Journey, the two-week expedition included a five-day walk, three days of canoeing and two nights of solitude. Aidan, who has since completed the 11-day Venture, said the 40 hours of solitude was a surprisingly good experience. The boys were given a limited amount of food, restricted to an area with a 10m radius and had no fuel for fire. They also received letters written by parents or family members, which were handed over at the start of their isolation.

“At the start, you want it to be over but on the second night you wish it was longer,” he said. “It really gave me time to think about how much my parents have done for me and has given me a much greater respect for people in general.”

Other highlights for Aidan included visiting a game park, Sun City and learning some Afrikaans. However, he will not miss some of the boarding house’s strict rules and punishments.

“Coming to Perth from Kalgoorlie was a huge change but meeting the Michaelhouse boys and going on exchange has just made me want to take every opportunity I get,” Aidan said.

In September, 48 boarders along with staff members and parents, walked 42km around Swan River to make a huge difference to a child’s life. Despite bad weather, the Year 7 to 12 boys walked for more than eight hours in the rain raising more than $5,200 to sponsor a child from a Cambodian orphanage through the CCF.

From the outback to beyond
Helping boys embrace boarding life

Waking boys in the morning, making sure they get to school in correct uniform, driving them to outside appointments and attending assemblies when boys are presented with awards are all part of a housemother’s role.

This year, Knutsford House welcomed new housemother Kim George who, with Jenny Watts, cares for the Years 7 and 8 boys. Kim, who owns a farm in Muchea with husband Peter, has a son, Nicholas, in Year 10. Jenny, from Pingelly, operates a sheep and grain property with husband Tim. Jenny’s sons Tom (2009) and Lachy (2011) boarded at Christ Church.

Walters housemother Jane O’Hare, who runs a wheat and sheep property south of Cunderdin with husband Frank, is the veteran of the group having been a housemother at Christ Church for seven years. Jane’s sons James (2006) and Lachlan (2011), both boarders, have graduated. Kerrie Tonkin joined Jane in Walters House in 2010. Kerrie and husband Peter’s son Alex (2011) boarded for five years while Julian (Year 8) is a day boy.

Director of the Residential Community Geoff Guggenheimer said the boys’ relationships with the housemothers was very important, especially for Years 7 and 8 boys, who sometimes find it hard leaving their homes and families. “It is important the boys feel a strong sense of belonging and our housemothers help them embrace boarding life by providing a warm, family environment,” Mr Guggenheimer said.

A taste of farm life

In March, young boarders had an opportunity to connect with each other outside the Residential Community and gain a greater appreciation for life in rural WA.

The Years 7 and 8 Farm Stay is a fun initiative, which aims to give boys a better understanding of where their fellow boarders come from while strengthening ties between boarding families and the School.

Seventeen boys spent a night at the Guinness Family farm in Corrigin, which is home to Tristan (Year 9) and Julian (Year 12). Parents Richard and Chantal welcomed the boys and staff to their wheat and sheep farm just three hours from Perth. Over the weekend, the boys helped load and drove sheep, bailed up wool and had a go at shearing. There was also time for a spot of yabbying and playing spotlight around the farm.

Later in the year, Years 9 and 10 boarders spent a weekend in the Wheatbelt at other Christ Church families’ farms.
Good sports finish well

Senior Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) boys participated in the annual ACC PARA Swimming Carnival at Claremont Pool in Term 1. Nine Christ Church boys, from Years 8 to 11, competed with students from 11 schools across Perth.

Senior PMC teacher Amanda Fernihough said the boys trained throughout Term 1 on Friday afternoons. “The boys’ hard work paid off with most finishing in second place. Charlie Paganin (Year 10) swam his heart out and blitzed the Under 19 25m (any stroke) to place first in record time,” Mrs Fernihough said.

At the end of the carnival, students and staff celebrated with a swim and a barbecue cooked by Headmaster Garth Wynne.

Senior PMC boys participate in a number of inclusive sporting events throughout the year including athletics, indoor soccer, ten pin bowling and a fun run/walk.

Wearable art

Preparatory Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) boys’ artwork helped raise money for Therapy Focus, a not-for-profit organisation providing therapy and support services to WA children and young people with disabilities or learning disadvantages.

The boys’ art, inspired by Van Gogh’s *Starry Starry Night*, featured on t-shirts which were raffled at the Parents’ Auxiliary Passion for Fashion event.

Year 12 students, who modelled the shirts at the fashion parade in August, visited the Prep PMC to present the boys with their own shirts featuring their paintings. Prep PMC teacher Lisa Venn said Ryah Prentice, mother of Austin (Year 3), suggested the idea of featuring the boys’ artwork on the t-shirts, which tied in with the event’s Rayon de Lumiere theme.

The paintings were created with the PMC’s permanent artist-in-residence Louise Pennington, who takes small groups of boys in both the Senior and Prep PMC each Friday.

Explosive reactions

Senior Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) boys had four science lessons during the year as part of a new collaboration with the Science Department.

Science teacher Katy Brooks ran lessons in Chemistry, Biology and Physics. “The idea behind the first class was getting the boys to experience science in the laboratory. We started off looking at lab equipment like test tubes, beakers and measuring cylinders,” she said.

Mrs Brooks said Chemistry was an obvious first choice given some of the exciting reactions and explosions using everyday chemicals. In Biology, the boys grew bacteria in petri dishes and in Physics they looked at circuits.

Senior PMC teacher Amanda Fernihough said the boys really enjoyed the experiments and learning in a science laboratory.
In 2013, Service in Action (SIA) exceeded its goal of raising $30,000 for the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF) to take on the inaugural service trip in December.

In December 2012, Director of Service Learning and Leadership Canon Richard Pengelley spent a week in Phnom Penh where he met CCF founder and executive director Scott Neeson and saw their remarkable work at the Phnom Penh rubbish dump - home to thousands of impoverished children.

Father Richard and his wife Jo, accompanied by a group of Years 11 and 12 Christ Church boys and St Mary's girls, worked in schools built around the dump. They were the first schools in the world invited to do so.

SIA, thanks to the combined efforts of the Christ Church and St Mary's communities, fulfilled the CCF's request for 33 iPad 2s along with additional funds towards medical and educational equipment. Both schools ran a number of fundraising events throughout the year.

At Christ Church, the Pre-Primary to Year 2 Lapathon raised more than $8,900 for CCF, while Stirling House created 100 educational packs through donated stationery items from families. A whole school free dress day and a sausage sizzle lunch also raised close to $5,000, while Moyes House raised $4,800 by walking from Christ Church to Leighton Beach. In September, more than 120 people attended a combined schools' Sri Lankan curry night fundraiser in Sandover Dining Hall which raised about $5,500.

Father Richard said the distinct purpose of the trip was challenging students, most of whom had just finished school, to make a humanitarian pilgrimage their first act as people stepping out into the world.

When Hadley Shearn, father of Harrison (Year 9), signed up to participate in Service in Action (SIA) at the Yipirinya School in Alice Springs, his aim was to offer his services to the school and share the experience with his son. However, he found he received much more in return.

Yipirinya School is an independent Aboriginal school whose connection with Christ Church dates back to 2008. This year marked the sixth trip to the community with 11 people, including Years 8 and 9 boys, fathers and staff, offering their services inside and outside the classroom.

Mr Shearn said the highlight of the 10-day experience was learning of the deep family ties Aboriginal people have with one another and their sensory awareness. "Also, the strength of character of so many of the children in the face of such hardship and the joy of seeing the loving support around them at Yipirinya School," he said.

For Harrison, it was all about the children. "The happiness they have and then give to you, when you are playing, talking, sitting or colouring in with them … brings all the gifts in the world," he said. He was amazed to see some of community’s living conditions and to learn of the lack of government funding and support.

Mr Shearn said the SIA journey to Alice Springs was a great opportunity for like-minded people, under the guidance of Director of Service Learning and Leadership Canon Richard Pengelley, to experience a rite of passage with their sons. "Between the service work, touring the sacred heart of Australia and Father Richard’s mystery tours, there were some amazing experiences to be shared and remembered," he said.
Speakers’ calibre engages community

The Centre for Ethics continued to bring a wide and varied range of inspiring, challenging and thought-provoking people to Christ Church this year through its highly regarded guest speaker programme.

Professor Fiona Stanley delivered the fifth Canon Frank Sheehan Oration to a large and enthusiastic audience in the School Chapel on Sunday 24 March. Professor Stanley’s address, titled Science with a Soul, outlined the approach taken to research at the Telethon Institute.

The 2003 Australian of the Year spoke about the influence of Aboriginal people on her attitude to research and the need for medical researchers to listen in depth to the stories people told them about their lives. She also talked about the need to ‘yarn’ as research teams come to know people and the enormous importance of gathering scientific data and developing policies based on rigorous research.

Director of the Centre for Ethics Canon Frank Sheehan said it was a privilege to hear Professor Stanley spoke on taking a deeply human approach to scientific inquiry. “Fiona is a person of deep humanity, extraordinary intelligence and boundless energy,” Father Frank said.

“I was so pleased that members of our community took the opportunity to hear her speak about her great passion: to improve the health and wellbeing of children. I was also delighted that some of our Year 12 students came along. Surely they would have been inspired.”

The Centre for Ethics was established to engage boys in the community’s conversation on ethics and spirituality, bringing the wider world into the School through lectures, workshops, newsletters and guest speakers. Through its name, the oration celebrates one of Christ Church’s most eminent personalities and all that he has brought to the School over his 27 years of service.

Other highlights of the speakers’ programme in 2013, which also had a strong student focus, included 2013 Young Australian of the Year Akram Azimi, Cambodian Children’s Fund founder Scott Neeson and polio campaigner Michael Sheldrick.

Professor Stanley spoke on taking a deeply human approach to scientific inquiry.
Centre for Ethics welcomes authors

Thanks to its close relationship with the Lane Bookshop, the Centre for Ethics hosted a number of authors and book launches during the year.

In October, renowned author Tim Winton launched his latest novel *Eyrie* at the School. More than 750 people attended a talk in the School Chapel, which took the form of a discussion between Tim and ABC Morning Show broadcaster Geoff Hutchison.

Director of the Centre for Ethics Canon Frank Sheehan said from the applause at the end of the talk and the questions from the floor it was clear the audience appreciated a wonderful evening. It was the third time Tim had launched a book with the Centre for Ethics.

“Tim is not someone who loves the limelight. I always think that he’d prefer to be writing or surfing or having some quiet time with family and friends. There is a great generosity on his part in participating in such a public event,” Father Frank said.

In March, about 400 people heard from eminent criminal barrister Tom Percy QC, author and filmmaker Belinda Hawkins, former ABC journalist Miriam Borthwick and Dr Simon Palfreeman, the father of a man currently serving 20 years for murder in a Bulgarian prison.

In 2009, a Bulgarian court found young Australian Jock Palfreeman guilty of murder. Jock always said he had gone to the assistance of a gypsy who he claimed was being beaten by about 15 young men. He said he pulled out a knife when the attack turned on him.

The audience heard from Belinda, who made two films about the Palfreemans’ plight for the ABC’s *Foreign Correspondent* and *Australian Story*, and her resulting book *Every Parent’s Nightmare*.

Local barrister Tom Percy explored the legalities of the case and the systems of justice in other countries while Jock’s father Simon spoke movingly of the nightmare which his family entered when news came through of Jock’s arrest.

Father Frank said the Centre was honoured to host this important discussion, which raised serious questions about different systems of justice.
In April, more than 470 boys rode their bikes to school as part of an initiative to promote health and fitness while helping to ease traffic congestion around the School. Boys from the Preparatory and Senior schools took part in a Ride to School Day, co-ordinated by the Physical Education Department.

Head of Health and Physical Education Luke Farmer said the School had been rewarding boys who rode to school regularly in the weeks leading up to the Ride to School Day. “Every boy who rode to school could collect a ticket each day to enter a draw to win a new bike and helmet,” Mr Farmer said. “There were spot prizes as well.”

On the morning, Prep boys were invited to meet staff members at College Park at 8.00am where they rode to school together and learnt some basic road safety guidelines along the way. Any boy riding their bike was permitted to wear their PE gear for the day, have a free lunch and go into the draw to win prizes.

Mr Farmer said the boys had been very receptive since the bike raffle began with the number of daily riders in the Prep School increasing from around eight to 40 boys. He said the department continued awarding spot prizes to boys who rode to school. “We would love to see as many boys ditch the car ride and use pedal power to get to and from school,” he said.

Headmaster Garth Wynne said Christ Church encouraged boys to either ‘walk a little way’ or ride bikes to help diminish traffic congestion in the school precinct.
With the School’s strategic focus on motivation at the fore in 2013, Director of Staffing Murray Robertson has established a professional development session for staff around personal engagement with work. The sessions are called ‘AMP Days’, modelled on the concepts of job satisfaction coming from Autonomy, Mastery and Purpose as identified by renowned author and work specialist Dan Pink. Mr Pink’s book *Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us* has been summarised in a 140-character summary in the style of Twitter as: “Carrots & Sticks are so last Century. *Drive* says for 21st century work, we need to upgrade to autonomy, mastery and purpose.”

By the end of 2013 all academic and support staff had participated in AMP Days in teams. The first session focussed on ‘purpose’ utilising the opportunity to work with a career consultant and an individual testing tool to evaluate individual engagement factors in current roles and how to bridge any gaps. The second session delved into the concept of autonomy and explored the individual’s ability to act with choice in the workplace and the need to be interdependent with others. The final session focussed on ‘mastery’ in which staff engaged with targeted professional development relevant to their particular fields of endeavour.

Mr Robertson says these sessions with staff have been very well-received and effective in creating constructive dialogue about tapping into work challenges, as well as the discretionary effort of staff who are interested in contributing something different. “We are so fortunate to have people with such a diverse range of talents and interests and a desire to contribute. We have had some really unexpected ideas and themes emerge from these sessions that potentially will add to the boys’ learning experiences and to the wider engagement of our staff to what is already an outstanding programme.”

Physical Education Department staff explored the use of the iPad’s high-resolution camera as a part of their department’s AMP Day. The teachers learnt how to use time and motion analysis applications for capturing and analysing technical skills.
In the Term 1 holidays, Christ Church staff members went above and beyond their roles in the classroom to accompany more than 120 boys on the tours of a lifetime.

Christ Church’s globetrotting sportsmen had the ultimate pre-seasons touring the United Kingdom (soccer), South Africa (rugby) and Melbourne (football). Tour staff organised amazing itineraries including brushes with some sports legends.

While highlights from the Soccer Tour of the UK were many, forming a guard of honour at the Manchester versus Stoke game at Britannia Stadium will not be easily forgotten. “Many boys are still pinching themselves that they were actually on the pitch at the same time as players like Rooney, Carrick, Ferdinand and Kagawa walked past,” Director of Sport Anthony Lynch said.

Meanwhile, two groups of students were on two very different tours in China. Thirteen Years 7 to 9 students, led by Head of Drama Drew Stocker and Drama teacher Angela Perry, took part in a drama tour to Hong Kong where they joined 180 students from other countries at the French International School.

Nine Years 9 to 11 students, accompanied by Chinese teachers Phillipa Nock and Yang Zhang, began their own cultural experience in Kunming and the Old Town of Lijiang World Heritage Site, finishing in Beijing where the Huijia School hosted them.

Also in April, 14 boys from Years 8 to 12 travelled to England, Belgium and Germany as part of the second Humanities Tour of Europe. Co-ordinated by Humanities teacher Jasmine Head, highlights of the tour included the Anzac Day ceremony under Menin Gate and the rich variety of historical sights, museums and exhibitions in London and Berlin.

Years 7 and 8 students and staff from Christ Church and St Hilda’s were also taking part in Service in Action (SIA) in Fiji at St Christopher's orphanage during this time.
Geography teacher Allan Hallett co-authored the new edition of the Jacaranda Atlas and the online myWorldAtlas. The resources will enable Years 7 to 10 students to meet the needs of the Australian Curriculum for Geography in 2014.

While on long-service leave, Mr Hallett was approached by Jacaranda’s publishing group to be a contributing author on Australia’s best known school atlas, which was first published in 1969.

His brief was to write online materials for the Years 8 and 9 topics with specific reference to individual case studies. He also wrote the teachers’ guide for the topics providing strategies and suggested lessons teachers could use to deliver the atlas content to their classes.

“This was my first foray into writing for a national publisher and provided me with an interesting excuse to avoid the gardening and car washing during February,” Mr Hallett said.

Head of Humanities David Proudlove said Mr Hallett was never one to rest on his laurels, making the most of what was supposed to be a period of relaxation to collaborate with a number of established geographical authors from around the country.

Former Australian Test cricket coach Mickey Arthur started his new role as Christ Church’s Director of Cricket in Term 3. The acclaimed former international cricketer and former South African Cricket Team coach said he was delighted to be back coaching cricket at schoolboy level.


Mickey said it was liberating to be just coaching again rather than managing people. He has been enjoying every minute of his new role. “It’s fantastic. I think the boys are so keen and they are really working hard. There’s some talent too, which is great,” he said.

Mickey, a specialist in motivating teams and individuals, also uses the School’s facilities to run the Mickey Arthur Cricket Academy, open to all ages and abilities.
From the Chairman

Christ Church Grammar School has enjoyed another successful year of performance across the many elements of a balanced education for our boys from those in Pre-Primary to those young men graduating from Year 12. The School has achieved well in the academic realm, on the sporting field and in an array of co-curricular activities such as drama, music, cadets and community engagement to name a few.

The Headmaster and the School Executive continue to provide strong leadership and direction in delivering an environment that encourages development of the boys during all the stages of their educational journey. In turn they are supported by a very well qualified and motivated team of academic staff, who are complemented by a dedicated team of support staff. The role of the School Council is to set the strategic direction of the School and monitor curricular, co-curricular, pastoral, financial, enrolment and risk performance as part of its monthly meetings.

In the past 12 months it has been pleasing to observe the completion of the significant upgrade of the Senior School, which has been undertaken over the past five to six years. The new Refectory and classrooms for the Languages Department provide a very contemporary offering, which complements the surrounding facilities. In recent years Christ Church has been able to undertake these significant improvements from its own financial resources.

During the past year the School has established an Office of Philanthropy to lead and co-ordinate strategies and campaign for fundraising in the future. As well the Council has undertaken detailed financial modelling and analysis to prepare for the future requirements of the School.

Christ Church needs to continually improve its facilities and offerings, and fundraising will be an important element in the development of required infrastructure in the decade ahead. Major initiatives currently being worked on and considered by the Council and Headmaster include the ultimate development of the Brockway Playing Fields, and expansion and refurbishment of the School’s iconic Chapel, redevelopment of the existing Preparatory School and a new performing arts complex. Such facilities along with those already in place provide the environment and stage for teachers and boys to achieve their maximum potential.

As I stand aside as Chairman of the Council, I can reflect on ‘A School With a View’ overlooking the Swan River, which continues to evolve and grow with great support from parents, old boys and friends of the School. It is appropriate to thank all Council members for their contributions to the School, especially Glenda Campbell Evans and David Rose as Deputy Chairs and Simon Cubitt as Treasurer, who have provided great support during my term. In turn I offer my very best wishes to our new Chairman of Council John Poynton, who brings an impressive set of skills and experience to the role.

Finally on behalf of the School Council I wish to record my appreciation of the efforts and dedication of the Headmaster and his staff in looking after our Christ Church boys.

David Fardon
Chair of School Council 2008–2013

Transition on the School Council

In 2014 David Fardon steps down from the role of Chairman of the School Council, after six years in that role. He will continue as a member of the School Council, a capacity he has maintained for 15 years to date.

John Poynton will take over the reins as Chairman from 2014. Mr Poynton is an old boy of the School (Class of 1968) and joined the School Council early 2013. He is a co-founder and Executive Chairman of Azure Capital, a Non-Executive Director of Crown Perth and chairs both Giving West and Celebrate WA.

He is a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia and is a past recipient of a WA Citizen of the Year award in the industry and commerce category.
Masculinity expert talks to boys, parents and educators

Boys, parents, educators and the wider community had an opportunity to hear from one of the world’s leading authorities on men, masculinity and gender on two occasions during 2013. Both visits by Dr Michael Kimmel were made possible by the Parents’ Association.

In April, about 300 members of the School and wider community heard Dr Kimmel’s talk ‘What about the boys and the men they will become?’ He explored the findings from his US bestseller, *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men*, which is based on more than 400 interviews, over a four-year span, with young men aged 16 to 26.

Dr Kimmel’s research found young men were baffled by the riddles of manhood and responsibility. It also recognised the changed nature of the journey to adulthood for young people today. He said the emergence of ‘adultolescence’ (20 to 30) as a stage of development was a challenge to the community, especially parents.

At the end of July, Dr Kimmel returned to Christ Church this time urging boys to have conversations about the difference between what makes a good man and masculinity. The sociologist and bestselling author spent a week running workshops with Years 10 and 11 boys in classes as well as a group presentation to Year 12 students.

At the Senior School Assembly, he asked all boys to set up a conversation in their minds about what it was to be a good man. “Think about the values of a good man and then think about the difference between that and masculinity, or what we do for other guys,” Dr Kimmel said.

Years 10 to 12 boys explored these ideas in the workshops, identifying the contrasts between being inside or outside the ‘male box’ and the set of rules boys and men created to ensure their individual masculinity was not questioned. Dr Kimmel said: “As we look in the mirror, we want you to continue to see that good man that you want to be.”

In the evening, mothers, fathers and significant friends attended separate talks. More than 150 mothers attended a talk on ‘How do I help my son have a healthy attitude towards women?’, while fathers were invited to hear him speak on ‘Talking to boys about becoming men’.

Other presenters during 2013, enabled by the Parents’ Association, included regular visitors drug and alcohol researcher Paul Dillon and adolescent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, as well as range of specialists in residence.
Breakfasts highlight importance of relationships

The Parents’ Auxiliary co-ordinated four significant breakfast events in 2013 with a combined total of about 1,000 people attending. While Years 6, 8 and 12 boys attended with their fathers or significant friends, Year 10 boys accompanied their mothers or important women in their lives.

The Year 12 breakfast was the first for the year as the refurbishment of the new-look Refectory meant the Years 8 and 10 breakfasts were postponed to Term 4. About 230 fathers, friends and sons attended the event held at the University Club in June. This year’s guest speaker was WA Football Hall of Fame inductee Grant Vernon, who umpired 310 AFL, WAFL and VFL games. His stories from the football field were of great interest to both boys and fathers alike.

At the end of Term 3, Year 6 fathers and friends had an opportunity to share a special morning with their boys during the Preparatory School’s annual Week of the Arts. Headmaster Garth Wynne welcomed the 200 guests to what was the first in the series of breakfasts throughout the Christ Church journey. Mr Wynne reminded the group of the importance of fostering this relationship as the years moved on.

In Term 4, more than 250 people filled the newly refurbished Refectory for the Year 10 Mother-Friend and Son Breakfast with smiles all round as the boys presented their mothers with a long-stemmed rose on arrival. Guest speaker Michelle Cowan, the inaugural Senior Coach for Melbourne Football Club’s women’s side and an assistant coach at South Fremantle Football Club, delighted the audience with her address on ‘Floral bras and footy boots’.

Two weeks later, more than 300 Year 8 fathers, friends and boys attended the Year 8 breakfast. The School’s Director of Cricket Mickey Arthur was the guest speaker for the morning with the former coach of the Australian and South African cricket teams speaking about his life journey, how he came to be at Christ Church and how happy he was to be back coaching cricket at schoolboy level.

President of the Parents’ Auxiliary Penelope Drake-Brockman and a team of mothers from respective year groups arranged the events including serving up more than 750 hot breakfasts to attendees.

Parents engaging parents

Throughout 2013, members of the Christ Church community had opportunities to attend a variety of social events co-ordinated by the School’s parent support groups.

In March, more than 360 parents, old boys, staff and members of the Queenslea Club dressed in classic black and white for the annual Christ Church Community Cocktail Party in the Chapel Forecourt. The Parents’ Association and Old Boys’ Association (OBA) were joint hosts of the party.

The Christ Church Jazz Combo, led by Paul Millard, along with Joe Grech and Luke Dux, performing acoustic originals and covers, provided the musical backdrop for the night as guests enjoyed delicious canapés including freshly shucked oysters.

Two of the event organisers were new OBA President, committee member and parent Adam Collins and President of the Parents’ Auxiliary Penelope Drake-Brockman. Mrs Drake-Brockman said guests enjoyed a perfect evening under the stars. “The greatest difficulty was trying to get people to leave,” she said. “One parent asked when the next party would be!”
A number of Preparatory School boys studying Chinese learnt the significance of the Dragon Boat Festival and were treated to ‘zongzi’ in Term 2. Christ Church mother Mingli Kuek (Joseph, Year 8) pre-prepared the traditional rice dumplings and gave boys a demonstration on how to make the celebratory snack.

Chinese teacher Karen Sim said she enlisted the help of Mrs Kuek, who is originally from Shenzhen in China, for Duanwu Jie (Dragon Boat Festival). Duanwu Jie celebrates the memory of the poet Qu Yuan, who drowned himself while in exile after being accused of treason.

“Legend has it that Qu Yuan jumped into Miluo River and when the people heard they quickly rowed out in boats to save him,” Ms Sim said. “They also threw zongzi into the river so that the fish would not eat his body. Hence, the dragon boat races and eating of rice dumplings on this day.”

Zongzi are made with sticky rice, mushroom and pork, which are folded in a bamboo leaf into a triangular shape, tied and boiled for three hours.

Ms Sim said the boys had a wonderful time watching Mrs Kuek make the dumplings as well as tasting them. They also learnt to name the main ingredients in Mandarin.

“One boy described the zongzi as ‘heaven wrapped in bamboo’,” Ms Sim said. “Many commented that it was the best sticky rice they had ever had. They also got to eat with chopsticks, which we had been practising for the past two weeks!”

Mrs Kuek, who is also an active volunteer in the Senior School Library and Music Library, volunteered her time over three periods as well as the hours spent preparing the zongzi at home for the boys.

Parent shares tradition

In August, twinkling lights and lanterns set the scene for the Parents’ Auxiliary Passion for Fashion event in Sandover Dining Hall. More than 180 parents and friends attended this year’s Rayon de Lumiere-themed fashion parade raising money for youth charities.

Mrs Drake-Brockman said the parade was the culmination of weeks of hard work by Parents’ Auxiliary members, staff and boys. The popular event, now in its third year, supported two charities in 2013 including Therapy Focus and LADS WA (Learning and Attentional Disorders Society).

The ladies’ fashion, modelled by Christ Church mothers, and the men’s fashion, worn by Year 12 boys, showcased local stores. Mrs Drake-Brockman said the event provided a twofold opportunity for the Parents’ Auxiliary.

“All year groups work together towards an event the whole school community can attend, establishing connections that would otherwise not be made, and, as a group, we are able to give something back to the wider community by supporting charities that target youth,” she said.
We thank our donors

We are most grateful to the many members of our Christ Church ‘family’, who have so generously supported our Annual Giving and Christmas Giving appeals in 2013, as well as our new Allsports Dinner Series initiative also launched in 2013.

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Donations up to and including
Giving at Christ Church

Philanthropy is about the giving of time, treasure or talent and in 2013, Christ Church boys and families rose to the challenge.

Throughout the School, students took part in House activities to raise money for their chosen charities. In the Preparatory School, activities ranged from free dress days with a gold coin donation to Easter raffles and sausage sizzles. A great example of raising awareness and funds for those living with vision impairment was boys donating their treasure (a gold coin) to attempt everyday activities wearing opaque glasses that restricted their sight. What were simple activities for the boys took on a whole new meaning once their vision was impacted.

In the Senior School, the eight Houses focused on individual charities and created unique events to help raise money. Shaving heads featured strongly in support of a number of cancer charities and tests of physical stamina played out with stair climbs up a city skyscraper and Jacob’s Ladder. For the first time this year, Christ Church boys and their parents slept rough to raise funds for youth homelessness. On a wet winter’s night, they slept under cardboard in the Chapel Forecourt to get a glimpse of life without a roof over your head. The connection between building awareness of the cause and raising money featured strongly in many of the year’s fundraising activities.

Boys have sorted and packed donated food items for those in need, connected with seniors at aged-care facilities by helping with IT and reading, and Army Cadets have officiated at significant memorial events around Perth. These are just a few of the things boys have done to donate both their talent and time.

The extended Christ Church community of families, old boys, staff and friends have given very generously to support not only the boys in their own philanthropic pursuits but also the School. The Annual Giving and ‘Gift of Christ Church’ appeals have been supported very generously by our community. These donations ensure we can continue to promote diversity through our indigenous and financial need scholarships, as well as support our plans to continue providing world-class learning environments for boys.

Whether it was time, treasure or talent – the boys and our community have set new standards of giving generously and creating a wonderful benchmark for philanthropy in 2014.
Indigenous graduates find different pathways

Eight years after graduating as one of the inaugural students of Christ Church’s Indigenous Student Programme, Liam Bedford (Class of 2005) now finds himself in a mentoring role.

Liam, who came from the Kimberley region to complete Year 12 at Christ Church, was uncertain about his future after school but knew he had a passion for football. After playing for Claremont in 2006, he was picked up in the AFL Rookie Draft by Geelong. He spent two years with the club, playing in the NAB Cup and VFL, and was there for Geelong’s 2007 premiership win.

Out of contract, he was picked up in the rookie draft by West Coast but had a frustrating year due to injury. At this point, Liam decided to find a trade rather than go back to the WAFL. In 2010, he began working towards becoming a diesel mechanic. He completed his Certificate II in Mechanical Engineering onsite at Leighton Contractors’ Area C iron ore operations in the Pilbara for BHP Billiton (BHPB) while playing country football in his breaks.

After a brief stint with BHPB in 2012, Liam is back with Leighton Contractors and is on his way to completing his Certificate III in Heavy Duty Diesel Mechanics among other things. Whilst studying he has been working as indigenous mentor trainee to first-year apprentices including Christ Church graduates. He has also completed his Certificate III in Leadership as part of his mentoring role. Unsure about his future in football, Liam said he would still like to give the WAFL another go.

Jeff Fong (2011) has had “lots on” since completing Year 12 at Christ Church. Jeff recently finished his first year of sports science at UWA after successfully completing an Aboriginal Orientation Course in 2012.

Jeff, originally from Broome and now living at University Hall, said he knew he wanted to go straight from school to university. “My marks from Year 12 were not quite good enough to get me into uni so I took another pathway,” he said. “I needed to pass the bridging course to get into sports science.”

Jeff, who was Vice Captain of the Residential Community, a House Prefect and Vice Captain of the First XVIII in his final year, said when he wasn’t studying he played basketball, football, mixed netball or used the gym.

Jeff, who is captain of the Kununurra Demons, has travelled with the academy side to Broome, Perth and Sydney.

In 2011, he accepted a role with Garnduwa, the not-for-profit organisation that develops sport and recreation in remote Kimberley communities and has a connection to the School’s Indigenous Student Programme. Ernie’s role involves visiting remote communities in the East Kimberley to run programmes, clinics and carnivals, taking longer trips out to the desert to run the Auskick programme and supporting organisations such as Save the Children and the Clontarf Foundation.

Through Garnduwa, he has continued his passion for football in a coaching role with the North West Academy. Ernie, who is captain of the Kununurra Demons, has travelled with the academy side to Broome, Perth and Sydney.
Global entertainer Tim Minchin (Class of 1992) was the guest of honour at a special Old Boys’ Association (OBA) Assembly and the guest speaker at this year’s OBA Businessmen’s Lunch in September. The day before, the University of Western Australia awarded Tim an honorary Doctor of Letters degree for his contribution to the arts.

At the Assembly, Tim became the latest old boy ‘legend’ to be honoured in a large pictorial biography. Tim follows 12 OBA legends, who stood out in their endeavour and demonstrated the values of courage, fortitude, service and creativity, that were recognised in 2012.

In Tim’s address to a captivated Senior School audience, he said he had a lot of love for Christ Church. He said while at the time it was just school and arduous in many ways, it was an incredible place to start his education. “I hope you have something in the back of your head reminding you of that, even when it sucks,” he said.

Tim said he stood there a ‘legend’, mostly for standing up and saying things you were not meant to say. “All language has its place and to the extent I use words to shock. I also use them to illuminate, even – dare I say it – to educate,” he said.

He encouraged boys to rebel, not with their spleens, but by using their brains carefully and their education wisely. “Rebellion is not actually about skipping classes or disrespecting teachers. It’s about forming ideas that are not limited by convention. It’s about seeing that the world is complex, that you are the lucky ones, that you have the power to do whatever you want.”

He followed his address with an impromptu performance on piano of a new song from a forthcoming musical he was working on.

Later that day, 250 old boys filled The University Club for the OBA Businessmen’s Lunch about all things ‘show business’. Tim was taken through a Q and A journey of his career by Sydney-based old boy Oliver Wenn (Class of 1998), a talented actor and producer in his own right. The conversation covered a vast range of topics from Tim’s time as a student at Christ Church through to Matilda and a future venture with DreamWorks in Hollywood.
In November, old boy Dr John van Bockxmeer (Class of 2002) was announced as Western Australia’s 2014 Young Australian of the Year.

While working as a doctor in the remote Pilbara region, John had an epiphany. Looking out the window of the hospital, he saw indigenous children kicking a tin can around a dusty oval and he knew it was time for change.

He started recycling sports equipment in the city, packing a boot full of gear and driving 3,500km from Albany to Kununurra to deliver it. Despite a series of successes, John realised that communities needed more than just sports equipment to stay healthy, and so he founded Fair Game, a charity that assists thousands of people in indigenous and migrant communities with recycled equipment, sport, fitness and wellness programmes and capacity-building through health education.

A natural leader, John has inspired those around him through the breadth and quality of his achievements. He co-ordinates a unique mentoring programme for Fair Game volunteers and represents excellence in the fields of medicine and community development at local, national and international levels.

Capturing Christ Church then and now

More than 40 old boys from the 50 Year Club were honoured at a special Old Boys’ Association (OBA) Assembly in Term 4. The 50 Year Club, old boys who left the School more than half a century ago, processed through a guard of honour formed by Year 6 students into the Chapel.

New OBA President Adam Collins referenced some differences and similarities between Christ Church in the 1950s and the School today and explained the role of the OBA to the boys. The audience then heard humorous anecdotes about some of the old boys in attendance.

School Captain for 1953 and former Christ Church staff member Arthur Pate gave a wonderful account of how he wrote the original School War Cry, which has metamorphosed into the Linga war cry today. 2014 School Captain Charlie Moorman then rallied all boys to give the 50 Year Club a rousing rendition of today’s war cry, followed by a photographic slideshow of images of Christ Church 50 years ago contrasted with images from the present.

Headmaster Garth Wynne talked about the quality and nature of lasting relationships with classmates and teachers before the assembly concluded with Cadet Unit members leading the processional out of the Chapel.
New OBA President

In October, the Old Boys' Association (OBA) elected Adam Collins (Class of 1987) its new President.

Adam, whose sons Sam (Year 9) and Ben (Year 7) attend Christ Church, is the General Manager of Estates Development Company. The land development company, established in Perth in 1928, has received national awards from the Urban Development Institute of Australia for its Ascot Waters and Harbour Rise (Hillarys) developments.

Adam’s next challenge is clocking up enough kilometres in the Christ Church pool ahead of the Rottnest Channel Swim. He has been swimming in a group of fellow 1987 old boys since 2000.

Adam looks forward to engaging with all old boys, ‘young’ and ‘old’, and developing further opportunities to connect as the OBA moves towards its centenary in 2017.

Ashton makes his first-class debut

In July, old boy Ashton Turner (Class of 2010) was called into the Australian Cricket Team to make his first-class debut in a tour match against Sussex. Ashton, who was on a scholarship with the AIS Centre of Excellence, was one of six development players on tour with the Australian team in England.

Ashton makes his first-class debut and in his sole appearance for Western Australia. During 2013, he was also selected in the Prime Minister’s XI against Sri Lanka and the West Indies, and the WA Chairman’s and Governor’s XI matches against England.

Ashton, who is contracted to the Western Warriors and Perth Scorchers, is currently the assistant coach of the Christ Church 9A side.

He is pictured left, with Director of Cricket Mickey Arthur (centre) and old boy Jim Allenby (Class of 1999), who he played alongside in the WA Chairman’s XI. Jim plays county cricket in England for Glamorgan.

The young off spinner made a name for himself playing under 19s cricket for Australia
One year on, the Class of 2012 is doing well – moving on to employment, university, gap year activities and combinations of these. A survey completed at the end of 2013 covering 77 per cent of the year group has provided a snapshot of the directions they have taken.

The survey showed that 79 per cent of the year group had commenced university or vocational training in 2013 while four per cent focused on work. The remaining 17 per cent were on a gap year of activities before commencing tertiary studies or other ventures including four graduates who are applying for admission to the armed forces. Amongst many interesting gap year activities, one graduate spent some time with a professional biking team in Belgium and another had plans to reach base camp at Mount Everest.

Around 50 of the group returned to Christ Church in late August last year to ‘Linga On’ at their first reunion. The group enjoyed catching up over a hamburger lunch and collected their Old Boys’ Association life membership badges and The Mitre yearbook.

### Courses *

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<td>Commerce and Economics</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>Law</td>
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<td>Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apprenticeship training courses</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including those on gap years who have deferred tertiary entrance

### Tertiary institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
<td>63.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtin University</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Melbourne</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAFE</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Notre Dame</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch University</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Cowan University</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas universities</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities elsewhere in Australia</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>