can see it in their eyes

You

CHRIST CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CHRONICLE 36  DECEMBER 2004

ENGAGEMENT

COCKHILL
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### ERRATA

Profuse apologies to Shrivuthsun Srigandan whose name was inadvertently omitted from the list of students published in Chronicle 35 who were awarded Certificates of Excellence in the 2003 TEE.

In the article titled A Legend In His Life Time by Alun Jones (Chronicle 35) it was incorrectly reported that Don Fraser saw “years of war service in New Guinea”. Don served in the AIF MGD Branch (Design Division) at Land Headquarters in Melbourne.
CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

As I write this column the final touches to the School's most recent major building project are being put in place. The re-development of L Block has blended the best of the old with that which is contemporary to create an aesthetically beautiful and functional building. The Library has become a high-tech FutureSphere showcasing the latest in Information and Communication Technology and the ground floor Administrative area a School Archives, Repository and Gallery, four 'Boy-Tech' classrooms and two Head of House Offices.

The physical layout of the building says much about Christ Church. The space devoted to the preservation and display of our archival collection is located at the very heart of the School. It is where we will celebrate our history. It is where we will recognise the day to day school lives of our former students and staff as much as where we will record the development of our physical facilities. In the lead up to the centenary in 2010 the Archives will become a hub of activity. It will be the centre from which our students will learn about the history of their school and the values and ideals that underpin it.

Adjacent are four 'Boy-Tech' classrooms. Each has an interactive whiteboard (SmartBoard), wireless network access, a data projector, DVD player, high end stereo system, flush mounted ceiling speakers, operable walls and ergonomically sound furniture. Ready access to technology motivates teachers to choose the latest tools to encourage our boys to learn.

Offices for two Heads of House complete the layout of the ground floor. Pastoral Care through the House and Tutorial system is the cornerstone of our programs for making the School a safe and happy place for students. Without such support, we know our boys will not achieve their best.

It was very much by design that we chose to locate the FutureSphere on top of this secure foundation. Information and Communication Technology is the most significant influence on contemporary school students and educators have a responsibility to ensure that children are taught to understand it and use it.

The result is we have a facility that on the one hand highlights cutting edge technology and where we are going and on the other, acknowledges our history and the importance of 'where we have come from'. While we want our students to be confident and creative users of technology we also want them to learn about the traditions of the School and who and what has gone before them. We want our classrooms to be places where teachers engage students in the present and encourage them to look to the future. At the same time we want our students to have an understanding of themselves and empathy for others. This is the hallmark of a great school.

ENGAGEMENT

The most enduring of experiences are those that engage us. They are the experiences that bring a smile to the face or a vivid image of a particular time and place to the mind. These are the experiences that sustain, excite and challenge us and these are the experiences for which we continually search. At such times we learn most about ourselves and become cognisant of the how and why of a particular matter. We learn completely because we are totally absorbed. For many these experiences occur all too infrequently. More often than not they are unplanned and spontaneous yet they can be meticulously engineered. For me orchestrating such experiences is the essence of teaching and the aim of education. Engaging students 'to learn completely' and to be continuously challenged by that process is what we as educators are compelled to do.

I trust you enjoy this edition of Chronicle which celebrates Engagement at Christ Church.

Garth Wynne
Headmaster
our BOYS want 2 be.
THESE WINDOWS TO THE SOUL ARE THE INDICATORS OF ENGAGEMENT. WE HAVE ALL SEEN IT. A BOY TRANSFIXED IN THE MOMENT; FULLY ABSORBED, FULLY CONSCIOUS, FULLY ENGAGED. THESE ARE THE MOMENTS WE STRIVE FOR IN THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL BECAUSE THESE ARE THE MOMENTS WHEN TRUE LEARNING, UNDERSTANDING, KNOWLEDGE, ACQUISITION OF SKILLS AND GROWTH OCCUR.

Great teachers have that amazing ability to engage individuals, small groups and whole classes in a myriad of learning areas. What is the key to their success? PASSION – a passion for teaching, a passion for their subject and a passion for engaging students.

Some teachers engage individuals through their attention to the boy and their intuitive understanding of what makes this young fella ‘click’. Others engage groups of students in collaborative activities where a small team approach allows the boys to collectively engage with a topic and each other. Yet again other teachers prefer to engage a whole class or team as they build a classroom community based on shared values, goals and guidelines. In such environments boys feel an amazing sense of belonging. Another way in which teachers engage our boys is by encouraging them to work with members of the wider community. They learn to share their gifts with others. This encourages altruism and community spirit.

Besides our teachers and our academic program the other stimulus to engage is the diverse range of activities to which our boys have access in the course of their school day. They can play chess or sport, join the choir, orchestra or an ensemble, attend an extension Chemistry class or a special IT session, raise money for charity or simply indulge in the pleasure of reading a book in the Library. There is something for everyone.

In my day-to-day interactions with the boys in the Preparatory School I am consistently awed by the depth and breadth of their talents. They want to be challenged. They want to work hard. They want to have fun. They want to be boys. These boys want to be engaged. They are engaged when all of these aspects come together. You can see it in their eyes. This is our goal.

Clark Wight
Headmaster, Preparatory School
In his keynote address titled *Leadership and Institutional Development in a Sea Change* at the ADAPE Australasia National Conference in Fremantle in October 2004 Lynton Hayes, Executive Director for Executive Education at Harvard Business School identified teachers and faculty as an educational institution's key resources. He said that the success of the Harvard Business School depends upon its "fabulous teaching" and its "superb customer service". The Business School is competing for the world's best students so the teaching has to be exemplary. There is a commitment to delivering a 'transformational educational experience'. Professors are coached to become 'whizz bang teachers'. They meet in teaching groups at 7.30am on three mornings a week. It is about "pushing the magic buttons".

Customers rigorously assess teacher performance. Tenure is earned and it is denied in five out of every six cases.

Hayes suggested that the best way to attract the best teachers is to position your institution as the employer of choice. Having attracted them it is incumbent on the institution to nurture them. They need to be compensated and recognised, protected and regenerated.

Lynton Hayes' comments resonated with Garth Wynne. Ever since he took up the position of Headmaster at Christ Church Grammar School in 2001 he has been aware of the necessity to recognise and nurture staff. In his first Headmaster's Column in *Chronicle 29* he wrote: "It is through the programs and the energy of staff that schools create the connections that allow young men to grow and change." This was followed by "Much of what has been 'done' at the School is a consequence of the energy and involvement of an exceptional staff who walk alongside the boys whilst providing direction and support" (*Chronicle 30, 2001*) and "As I walk around the School I see staff exciting and motivating boys to learn". (*Chronicle 31, 2002*)

In terms of nurturing staff Garth Wynne was so keen for the teachers to have the opportunity of experiencing other schools in other places as part of their professional development that he instigated a program of short-term exchange. He believes it is important that people are given the opportunity of testing themselves in different environments. "It develops new ideas and initiatives... It engages and re-engages... " What began in a very small way in 2003 is developing into a range of national and international options for our teachers. The program complements the very strong program of whole-school and department based staff professional development.

**FIRST OFF THE RANK**

Mathematics teacher and First XV rugby coach Robin Dunn was awarded the first inter-state exchange. In October 2003 he spent a week at The Southport School (TSS) on the Gold Coast. His brief was simple – find out as much as possible. Robin reports that, "It was wonderful to have the opportunity to get to grips with the workings of another school." He was impressed by the emphasis the School places on its history and traditions and the pride with which the boys wear their uniform. Robin attended a number of Religious Education classes and sensed that "great store was placed on the development of ethics." He was also impressed by the ways in which TSS recognises student achievement.

Of particular interest were Dr Bruce Cooke's (Headmaster) comments at the first assembly for the term: "A boys' school cannot be considered a great school on the strength of its winning rugby team or swimming team... when a boys' school excels at the arts, debating and mock trials then this is a measure of its greatness."

A couple of weeks earlier Dean Shadgett, Head of Romsey House and teacher of Mathematics and IT, took off for Johannesburg for two weeks at St John's College and its outreach school, Masibambane at Orange Farm. Dean describes his trip "as an amazing experience". He valued the opportunity to talk to teachers and observe them in action, especially those teaching Mathematics, Information Technology and Computer Science.
It was also terrific to have the time to talk to Heads of Houses and coaches. He said, "It was refreshing to see the commonalities and challenging to contemplate the differences."

At Masibambane Dean faced a number of challenges. He was asked to invigilate a test, teach Year 4s and Year 7s about Australia and "unpack and assemble 24 boxes of new science equipment". Fortunately he was equal to each task!

The Headmaster, Roger Cameron, invited Dean to join the Deputy Headmaster, Senior Master in Charge of Staff Development and Head of Nash Boarding House in representing St John's at the Raising Healthy Men Conference at Bishop's Diocesan College in Cape Town. The Conference topics were Pastoral Care, Emotional and Mental Health, Psychospirituality and Physical Health. Dean found it affirming that teachers in South Africa were dealing with many of the same pastoral issues as staff at Christ Church. In his discussions with teachers from a number of schools he was always looking for ways in which he could 'add value' to our systems and structures at Christ Church.

No trip to Johannesburg would be complete without a visit to the Apartheid Museum and the Pilansberg Game Reserve. Dean said it was "a very powerful experience watching films about the major players in the Apartheid period, especially when the violence and civil disobedience came to a head in the eighties and nineties". As to the Game Reserve he said it was riveting to see "three of the BIG FIVE within 20 minutes. It really was staggering to see these magnificent beasts in the wild."

EXPANDING HORIZONS

Bob Peterson, Head of Jupp House, was selected to participate in the St Mark's Exchange in Boston during the 2004 Easter break. He was keen to compare the School's system of pastoral care with that which operates at Christ Church. In particular, he was looking forward to examining how St Mark's integrates its boarding and day students. Bob's other objective was to study the connection between service and co-curricular activities at the School. In his own words the chance to participate in such a program would enable him to fulfil "an impossible dream". "It will allow me to bring back to Christ Church ideas, solutions and suggestions...from a different though not too dissimilar educational environment in the USA."

The exchange was all that Bob had hoped for and more. He found himself living and working in one of the United States' leading co-educational boarding schools. St Mark's was founded in 1865 and is set in a campus of 100 acres, approximately 30 minutes west of Boston. The School caters for 325 students in Grades 9-12. Class sizes are generally eight to ten students and the most students a faculty member would teach is 40. The Principal's role is shared by Co-Heads, Tony and Elsa Hill.

Fees are $US31,900 for boarders and $US24,700 for day students. Twenty nine percent of students receive financial aid from the School.

Bob was very impressed by the commitment required from staff, all of whom either live in a dormitory environment or on campus in a school house. They are expected to be 'on duty' for a minimum of 70 to 80 hours per week spread over six days. This includes academic, pastoral, dorm and athletic commitments. Once or twice a month staff have a Sunday commitment in the dormitories.

All students participate in athletics on six afternoons per week. Fixtures against other schools are played on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Academic classes are held on Saturday mornings.

Bob reports that "the academic program is rigorous" and from the classes he attended "the students appear to be challenged more than our students. The smaller classes certainly help here." He noted that there were many leadership opportunities for students. Seven students, known as Monitors, are selected to form the key leadership group. Others are selected as Dorm Prefects, Admission Prefects, Peer Counsellors or as members of the Student Congress or Student Discipline Committee. All faculty members, including the Heads, are student advisors.

A few months later Kerry Robertson, Head of Wolsey House, crossed the Tasman for a two week stint at King's College in Auckland, New Zealand. She found the experience invaluable and thinks she has absorbed far more ideas than she is able to express in a concrete way. Kerry found "the experience was professionally invigorating." She is eager to try some of the ideas she picked up with her English classes and within Wolsey House.

Kerry enjoyed being "able to discuss ideas and practice with a number of staff members and spend time attending a range of classes and activities". She returned laden with information on King's pastoral system, leadership program, careers centre and counselling services and processes for staff appraisal. On the curriculum front she looked at their English programs, the integration of ICT into the curriculum and the teaching of 'core values'.

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RECIPROCAL RIGHTS

The exchanges are reciprocal so this year Christ Church has hosted Reverend Ned Sherill from St Mark's School, Paul de Wit from Michaelhouse in Natal, Allan Robertson from King's College, and Rob Long and Lee Mattiuzzo from St John's. Ned's visit was brief but Paul, Allan, Rob and Lee each stayed for at least two weeks as Teachers-in-Residence. Paul was assigned to the Mathematics Department, Allan to the Science Department, Rob to the Social Science Department and Lee to the English Department.

Paul is a leader in incorporating computer technology into the Mathematics classroom. He delighted in the opportunity of spending two weeks at Christ Church. He enjoyed having the time to watch others teach and to learn from colleagues. In particular, he enjoyed having the time to reflect on his own teaching methods. Paul said that one of the key benefits of his trip was networking – making contact with others in the field. He is looking forward to maintaining contact with Bill Mailes and members of the Mathematics staff via email.

Likewise Allan found his time sitting in on Chemistry classes most helpful. He was struck by the similarities between the curriculum and teaching methods in Australia and New Zealand. Rob Long and Lee Mattiuzzo are Heads of Houses at St John's so they enjoyed the opportunity of comparing pastoral systems. Given that Rob is the Head of a boarding house he found it especially helpful touching base with Shane McGurk and Neil Saggers and spending time in the boarding house. They also spent a couple of days enjoying the environment at Kooringal. According to Dean Shadett "they wondered at the bird life surrounding Dwellingup".

Other highlights of their stay included attendance at PSA matches and a game of AFL football, visits to AQWA and the Cohunu Wildlife Sanctuary, a day at Hale School and a wine cruise on the Swan River.

2004 saw the first exchange for a member of a support staff. Ian Browne, Sports Administrator at The Southport School, spent the first week of this term shadowing Drew McDonald. He was amazed by the similarities between the two schools' sporting programs. Expressions of interest have been sought from a broad spectrum of Christ Church Support staff for a reciprocal visit.

SHADOWING PRINCIPALS

Four senior members of staff travelled inter-state to shadow a principal for a few days. Garth Wynne's aim was to 'open their eyes' to the world of running a school beyond the classroom, House and sportsfield and to encourage them to clarify their goals as to where they want to be in five, ten years' time.

In March, Nicola Dunn, Head of Hill House, and Megan Pentony, Head of Queenslea House, spent a few days at Methodist Ladies' College in Melbourne walking in the footsteps of Principal, Rosa Storelli. They returned with a much clearer idea and understanding of the role of a principal in an independent school.

Nicola said she learned that truly effective leaders have to have a cohesive set of beliefs and values underpinning their decisions. These must not be compromised. The experience caused her "to reflect on and clarify my own beliefs and values" which has made "fulfilling my role as Head of House much easier as I now operate from a clear, solid foundation. I found Rosa to be an amazing person, what I would call a fully-integrated human being who was able to be empathetic, strong and decisive in all situations. I also appreciated her ability to genuinely value diversity and her encouragement of teamwork as the mode for changing schools."

Megan said she jumped at the opportunity to shadow Rosa Storelli. "It was rewarding to have the opportunity to see such an outstanding educator in action. Rosa's sense of direction, energy and firm decision making has empowered me to look beyond my current role and imagine possibilities. Given that MLC won School of the Year in 2002, Rosa's leadership is certainly working. My time with her allowed me to look at what strategies she has put in place and the type of staff she has employed to run such an outstanding school of 2,000 girls. Her sense of leadership is carefully balanced with warmth and compassion and provided me with an excellent role model for women in educational management." Megan's goals are to complete some further study in education, gain more experience as a Head of House and 'continue to push the leadership boundaries'.
In August Mark Morrissy, Director of Planning & Co-Curricular, and Lloyd Haskett, Head of Economics & Commerce, headed east to learn what they could from Rick Tudor, Principal of Trinity College (Melbourne). Mark says Rick Tudor was most inclusive. He invited them to sit in on all of his meetings with students, parents and staff for a period of three days. They even had the opportunity to attend a fundraising luncheon for Year 8 parents. The parallels with Christ Church were obvious. The differences that stood out were Trinity's laptop program, the appointment of prefects and the Year 8 Heroes Program, a program focusing on relationships. Mark and Lloyd enjoyed the opportunity to engage with Rick Tudor at this level. They learnt a lot about the importance of inter-personal communication from observing his leadership style.

SERVICE TO OTHERS

Three other members of staff were offered a journey that revolved around boys and service. In October 2004 Deputy Headmaster of the Preparatory School, Murray Robertson, took three Year 11 boys to the Chirano district of Ghana to deliver text-books, writing materials and sporting gear to six remote village schools. They attended classes and enjoyed having the opportunity to meet, talk to and learn from the teachers and village children. Murray has returned to Perth motivated to raise funds to purchase much needed text books and equipment for the schools and to instigate an annual visit whereby Christ Church students work on the upkeep of the village schools.

Mathematics teachers Graham and Jane Ferguson have accepted a somewhat different challenge. In January they will lead the Christ Church contingent of the Pilgrimage of Hope. The Pilgrimage, which is the brainchild of Brother James of The Armidale School in New South Wales, will see 70 Year 10 – Year 12 students from six schools throughout Australia go on a pilgrimage to Calcutta, London and Rome. The focus of the Pilgrimage is service to others.

Brother James, who was the School’s Monk-in-Residence in 2002, initiated the Pilgrimage because he believes there “is a great yearning on the part of young people for a spiritual experience that is sustaining...They want to make a connection between those three ancient aspects of a meaningful life: faith, hope and love.”

In Calcutta the Fergusons and seven of our boys will join in the work of the Missionaries of Charity helping to serve the ‘poorest of the poor’. This will take them to orphanages, to the streets, to the Loreto School Sealadah that enrols half of its students from the slums and to the renowned Home for the Dying, which was established by Mother Teresa for the express purpose of doing “Something Beautiful for God”.

Graham and Jane recently visited The Armidale School to attend a fundraising luncheon for the tour. Guest of Honour was former Captain of the Australian Test Cricket Team Steve Waugh, who is a charity worker for the Udayan Home of Barrakpore in India. The Home provides children from leprosy communities with education, healthcare and opportunities in life. In his luncheon address Steve Waugh said the trip would be a life changing experience for the students. “These kids are going to challenge themselves emotionally and be spirited by the hope of making a difference. They are going to meet leaders from all around the world, have their horizons widened and do something to make a difference in the world. My advice to these kids about India is to go and see, live and breathe as much of the place as they can. It is going to be a challenge. You need to take risks and be prepared to fail because you will learn from it. Take as many photos as you can and take the whole experience in.”

OUTREACH PROGRAM

Director of Sport, Paul Jepson and Physical Education teacher, Luke Dwyer, were given yet another challenge. In October they, together with three Year 11 boys, spent a week at One Arm Point in the Kimberleys running a series of goal setting and leadership activities for Garnduwa’s Young Men’s Leadership Camp. The aim was to help Garnduwa staff select students for the scholarship program sponsored by Christ Church Grammar School and Claremont Football Club.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Garth Wynne is delighted with the achievements of the exchange program which, by any measure, is still in its infancy. The conversations and cross fertilisation of ideas are bringing fresh insights to the way staff assess their courses and programs and to how they see themselves and their career paths. They are being taken out of their comfort zones and called upon to perform. Those who have been lucky enough to participate have acquitted themselves admirably. The benefits, both personal and for the School, are immeasurable. And what of the future? The aim, at least in the short term, is to maintain the number of inter-state and international exchanges and extend the opportunity to support staff.

Short-term exchanges to schools in Singapore and England are on the drawing board.

1 Tony Hill was Headmaster of Christ Church Grammar School from 1982-1987.
2 Christ Church Grammar School (Perth); Newcastle Grammar School (Newcastle); O’Connor Catholic College (Armidale); St Ignatius College Riverview (Sydney); The Armidale School (Armidale); Westminster School (Adelaide).
The Headmaster and School Council have commenced planning for the development phase of the School’s next Strategic Plan, 2006-2010. Given that the agreed Plan will be a reflection of the collective aspirations and thoughts of the School’s stakeholders, our aim is to engage as many members of the school community as possible in the consultative process. We will be seeking guidance as to how our parents, old boys, staff and Council wish Christ Church to grow and develop.

Involvement in such planning is always exciting. Consideration of futures heightens debate and stimulates discussion. Possibilities become realities. For our community there is an added incentive to engage in the process – the Plan culminates in 2010, the year the School celebrates its Centenary.

David Loader said that education is about learning. It is about opening the minds of young people and encouraging students to take more responsibility for their own learning. It is enabling students to be in control of themselves and their environment. It is about ‘creating a school where kids want to go’. He suggested that when staff, parents and Council ‘rewrite where they are going’ they consider the macro setting, pedagogy, structures, technology and community.

The next step is for Council to appoint an independent consultant to lead the School through the strategic planning process. That consultant will advise the Headmaster and Council on many aspects, including the type and level of community consultation that will be organised during the first few months of 2005. Whatever unfolds there will be an open invitation to all of our stakeholders to contribute to the debate that will inform the development of our 2006-2010 Strategic Plan.
PHYSICAL FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

Council hopes you have taken the opportunity to visit the School website to view the new Master Plan prepared by Architects, Donaldson + Warn. This Plan sets out the School’s thinking on the development of its physical facilities up until the Centenary. It reflects the Headmaster’s vision for the future delivery of our educational and pastoral offerings and Council’s priorities in Information & Communications Technology, Design & Technology, the Performing Arts and enhancement of the Preparatory School.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Completion of the New Physical Facilities Master Plan and preparatory work for the Strategic Plan, 2006-2010 means that there will be no major building works during 2005. Current developments, including the refurbishment of L Block and improvements to the Stirling Highway frontage, will be completed by the end of 2004 allowing 2005 to be used for the planning of physical facilities based upon the directions set by the strategic planning process.

DEAN BOWKER

Council would like to recognise Dean Bowker’s outstanding contribution to Christ Church. He retires at the end of this year as Director of Corporate & Alumni Affairs. During 43 years at the School as a teacher, boarding housemaster, sports coach, cadet leader, member of the School Executive and Secretary of the Old Boys’ Association, he has shown an unrivalled passion for the welfare of our boys and the development of Christ Church. His organisational abilities are legendary and are evidenced by his ability to write birthday cards to every life member of the Old Boys’ Association. His legacy is that in terms of membership and financial strength the Old Boys’ Association is one of the strongest organisations of its type in Australia. Best wishes are extended to Dean for his retirement.

COUNCIL RETIREMENT

Ray West is retiring from Council after 10 years of outstanding service to the Christ Church community. His many achievements during his time on Council include his work with the School’s superannuation fund and the best start in life fundraising campaign and his keen interest in Kooringal and the School swimming community. However, Ray will always be remembered as the energetic and superbly organised Coordinator of the 1994 and 1999 School Fairs. The Family Fair and Abdul’s Bazaar were enormously successful and provided wonderful opportunities for participation for all members of the School community. Their success was largely a result of Ray’s enthusiasm and love for the School.

THANKS

Each year I take the opportunity, on behalf of School Council, of thanking the Headmaster and members of staff for their magnificent contribution to Christ Church. It is vital for all members of the school community to remember that so much of the success of a school such as Christ Church depends upon the ‘people factor’ that our staff bring to their roles at the School. It is their unique and special contribution that provides such a happy, vibrant and stimulating environment for our boys and for all of us involved with the School.

SEASON’S GREETINGS

Best wishes to all members of the school community for a happy, safe and enjoyable Christmas and holiday season.

David Craig
Chairman of Council

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1 David Loader was a school principal for 31 years. His last two appointments were in Melbourne at Methodist Ladies’ College (18 years) and Wesley College (5 years). Currently he is Principal Fellow in the Education Faculty at Melbourne University. David is one of Australia’s most renowned educational innovators. Last year he was an International Research Fellow at the National College of School Leadership in Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

2 Intuitive futurist Anni Macbeth spoke to the staff at the Professional Development Day in October.
In August 2000 when School Council commissioned Ben Joel to paint a portrait of Headmaster Jeremy Madin (1988-00) it also decided to commission portraits of Peter Moyes (1951-81) and Tony Hill (1982-87) that reflected these men during the time that they were the Headmaster of Christ Church Grammar School. Mary Moore was selected to paint the portraits. Not only is she a noted Western Australian painter and portrait painter but she was willing to work from photographs of the two men. Both works are now complete and hang in the School. When asked about the process of bringing these two men ‘to life on canvas’ Mary Moore commented on the importance of engaging with the subject.

“For a portrait painter one of the key elements in making sure you get to the heart of your subject is engagement with the sitter. I have been fortunate to know Peter Moyes since I was 17. I knew about his contribution to Christ Church and had seen his interaction with the community. When I was invited to paint his portrait I felt I knew him well enough to bring out his character and represent him to an audience that might never have had the opportunity to meet him.

Although I didn’t know Tony Hill before I was commissioned to paint his portrait I did know of him through many friends who described his extraordinary contribution to Christ Church and the Western Australian community. Having the opportunity to sit with him I was able to exchange ideas and stories that gave shape to my portrait and offered me an insight into his character. When painting the portrait I felt an engagement with him that I hope is translated in the final painting.

I believe this level of engagement is vital because in a portrait for a public space you work on the sitter’s behalf to record, represent and reveal them to a wider audience.”
One of the proposals put forward by the Archives Committee when it was established in 1992 was the hanging of one of the School's retired wooden rowing shells in an appropriate school facility. It is very exciting that at last this goal has been achieved with the hanging of the Joe Lord Eight in Sandover Dining Hall. The shell complete with oars looks spectacular.

The Joe Lord was built by Sergeant & Burton (S & B) and christened in 1984. It recognises Mr Joe Lord's achievements as a Member of Council (1962-1990), 17 years of which were as Chairman of Council, and his interest in rowing. For him the emergence of Christ Church as a force in rowing in the early sixties was a source of great pride. It is most appropriate that the boat hangs in the Dining Hall as the biggest single step that Joe Lord (Chairman of Council) and Peter Moyes (Headmaster) took during the time that they were at the helm was the implementation of the 1967 Master Plan to modernise the School. The plan provided the footprint for the Christ Church we know today and a key element of that plan was the building of the Dining Hall.

The elevation of the boat into a flying position provided considerable technical challenges. Getting the hull into the Dining Hall was an achievement in itself and was only accomplished by stripping the boat of its rigging and interior fittings. For structural stability boats of this type require support distributed over the entire hull area. Normally this is achieved in water where pressure is equalised over the boat surface. Suspending the boat required replicating this condition in an aesthetic way.

It was achieved by the placement of a steel inner frame, fabricated from 100 x 25mm galvanised box tubing fixed over the entire length of the hull. The inner frame enabled the oars to be placed in a flying position. A mirror image frame on which four winches were mounted was fabricated for placement in the ceiling space. The winches were used to lift the boat plus the oars into position.

The key consideration when suspending objects is the safety factor for those beneath. A four-to-one ‘safe working load’ margin of error was built into the design and fabrication of both frames. The estimated weight of the hull and its inner support frame is 250kg. This weight is suspended using four 1500kg loading stainless steel cables on 1200kg load winches. Marine grade stainless steel materials have been used to suspend the boat.

The design, fabrication and installation of the Joe Lord Eight was carried out by Paul Malone of Preservation Services. We are most appreciative of Jon Sandford for storing the Eight for a number of years.
ENGAGING STUDENTS

It's all go on the top floor of L-Block. While the builders are applying the finishing touches to the FutureSphere, the School's state of the art Information & Communication Technology (ICT) facility, staff are double checking that all of the high-tech equipment is in place. The design incorporates flexible open learning spaces with traditional computer laboratories. A minimalist environment has been especially created to promote cutting edge e-learning. The chromakey wall excites you as soon as you walk into the FuturesRoom. It will inspire the boys to engage in high end video production just as the isolated LAN will encourage students to design, build and deploy their own networks. Boys will be taught how to use grid technologies to link multiple computers to solve complex algorithms as well as experiment with musical composition and 2D and 3D animation production.

Peter Murray, Director of Information & Communication Services, says that the aim of the FutureSphere is to give students and staff access to a range of technologies that will help prepare them for a rapidly changing future. "We want our students to be confident, adaptive users of information communication technologies. The FutureSphere will give boys the opportunity to have 'hands on' experience with emerging technologies."
One of the priorities for FutureSphere staff is the development of a series of IT workshops and seminars for members of the wider community. Professional development opportunities for teachers from other schools will also be on offer. Christy Dangerfield has been appointed Technology Coordinator with responsibility for the development of the ‘after hours’ program. She and Peter Murray are currently devising a comprehensive program for 2005. Courses will cater for a range of skill levels. Those that will be offered include Using The Internet Effectively, Microsoft Office Applications, Converting Your Photo Album Into A DVD Movie, Video Editing, 2D Animation, Music Composition, Claymation, Setting Up A Home Wireless Network and Using PDAs & Smartphones As An Effective Business Tool.

Each computer lab and classroom in the FutureSphere is fitted with a ceiling mounted data projector, a built in audio system and a Smartboard, all controlled by a localised LCD touch panel. As part of the School’s commitment to the broader community organisations requiring access to these technologies will have the opportunity of hiring FutureSphere facilities.

Our outreach program begins in May 2005 with the hosting of an Interactive WhiteBoard conference to showcase how this technology benefits schools and businesses.
It was the first time they had been exposed to a cultural exchange of this type." In 1967 Dean was 'promoted' to the Senior School to teach English, Geography, Divinity and Physical Education. He is remembered as being 'firm but fair'. His classes were always "very well ordered and disciplined". Old boys recall that Dean had a habit of 'checking out' the behaviour of nearby classes when their form masters were out of the room. In his most recent years in the classroom he taught Business Studies and an elective in Small Business.

Another highlight of his early years at the School was his appointment as Head of Romsey House in 1967. He held this position until the end of 1970.

Dean's commitment to the co-curricular program was outstanding. He was heavily involved in cadets, athletics, football, lifesaving and swimming. He was so interested in sport that in the seventies Headmaster Peter Moyes appointed him Sportsmaster with responsibility for the School's sporting program including the organisation of all fixtures, the setting of the budget and representing Christ Church on the PSSA.

Dean's career took a further change in 1985 when, the then Headmaster Tony Hill, promoted him to the position of Director of the Foundation. In this role he was responsible for fundraising, public relations and marketing. He rates coordinating three capital campaigns, the Preparatory School, the Science Block and the best start in life, and suggesting to Headmaster Jeremy Madin that he instigate a Bequest Program and Annual Giving as his major achievements in this position. In 2002 his role changed, if only marginally, when Headmaster Garth Wynne appointed him Director of Corporate & Alumni Affairs.

Anyone who has been associated with the School since 1948 will find it hard to imagine a Christ Church without Dean Bowker. There is no way his mother could have had any idea that the school in which she enrolled her son to be educated some 56 years ago would be the school in which he would educate generations of others. She would have had no idea that Christ Church would be the place in which her son would live and work for most of his life. Time and time again her decision to hold down two jobs so that she could send Dean to Christ Church and "give him the roots to grow and wings to fly" has been vindicated.

Four years after leaving school Dean returned to teach in the Prep School. His first class was Grade 4. The Staff Notes in *The Mitre* for 1960 record that in his first year he had already made his "presence felt in the classroom and on the playing fields." One of his most lasting memories of his early years in the Prep School was his involvement in an exchange program with Mr Flynn and his class in Mishawaka, Indiana. They established a program whereby the children in the United States would send some slides and a tape about their school and their home-town to the boys in Mr Bowker's class and then Dean and the boys would reciprocate. He said the boys "just loved receiving the tapes and slides.

*Through the Looking-Glass* by Lewis Carroll, Chapter 4
Dean has always been a firm believer in working for the professional organisations associated with his profession. In the late eighties and early nineties he worked tirelessly to promote the field of Development in schools and when the Western Australian Chapter of the Association of Development and Alumni Professionals in Education (ADAPE) was established in 1991 his colleagues looked to him to take on the role of State President. He held this position until 1994. In 1992 he was elected National President of ADAPE, a position he held until 1994. As National President Dean was responsible for organising the inaugural National ADAPE Conference in Perth in 1994. It was such a success that a decade later, when the Western Australian Chapter was again called upon to run a conference, the organisers chose Dean to lead the team. In true style he organised an exceptional group of speakers. Interestingly enough one of the keynote speakers was Tony Hill, Co-Principal of St Mark's in Boston, and another Lynton Hayes, who is Executive Director of Executive Education at the Harvard Business School. His wife, Shannon taught at Christ Church from 1985 until 1995. Four years ago Dean was elected a Fellow of ADAPE.

Mention must also be made of Dean's 'other life' at Christ Church. Between 1979 and 1996 he was Housemaster of Parry Boarding House. For many old boys Dean is synonymous with boarding, particularly those who 'did time' in Parry House. Dean taught the boarders about teamwork and commitment and about 'doing your bit for the House and your mates'. At all times he emphasised the importance of discipline, especially self discipline. When he was in charge you could always tell 'a Parry boy'. He is very proud of the fact that four of his 'charges' went on to become Captain of School. There was a great sense of pride in the Parry ranks.

No matter what his commitment has been to the School, it is Dean's unflagging dedication to and interest in the Old Boys' Association (OBA) for which he will be most revered. The sell out OBA Gala Dinner held in his honour in November is testament to that. The prime goal of the 320 guests who attended was to farewell Dean in style – and this they did.
2004 marks the end of an era in the Education Support Unit (ESU). Three of its long-term members of staff have decided it's time for a sea change. Lorna Matthews, who has run the Unit since 1984 and who has indeed been its driving force, is opting for retirement. She will be missed enormously by the staff and boys in the Unit as well as by the staff and boys in Queenslea House. Her skills as a tutor are legendary. She was also a fantastic Teacher-in-Charge of Football (1994-99) and Study Lab tutor as the boys would attest. Lorna's legacy to Christ Church is that she has taught us all so much about understanding, acceptance and cherishing difference.

Heather Norris, who has worked as a teacher's aide in ESU since 1988 and who, for a number of years has been responsible for running the School's Work Experience program, has decided to pursue other options. First on the agenda is a caravanning holiday across Australia. Her irrepressible enthusiasm, sense of humour, ability 'to just see the best in everything and everyone' and belief in each and every boy will be very hard to replicate.

Liz Langdon was appointed as the Education Support teacher in the Senior School in 1990. She established the School's Work Studies program in 1991 and was appointed Coordinator of INSTEP in 1995. On the pastoral front Liz was appointed Head of Craigie House in July 1994, a position which she held until the end of 1999. Other responsibilities she has held have been Editor of The Mitre (1992-95), Manager of the First XVIII Football Team and President of the Staff Association. Liz has decided to move on from Christ Church in search of other challenges. We will miss her effervescent personality, the warmth of her smile and her ability to draw the best out of everyone.

Each is a star in her own right but, as a team, they have proved invincible. They have combined to form just 'the right mix' in ESU. It is thus appropriate to farewell them as a group and to do this we need look no further than Sally Reagan's Farewell to Lorna, Liz and Heather, presented at the ESU Dinner in November.

"Lorna, Liz and Heather play a significant role in our lives. They, along with the other members of the ESU, share our boys' lives with us. For seven hours a day, five days a week, this wonderful group of women care for and educate our sons.

We the parents, however, know there is so much more involved than simply caring for and teaching our boys. You help our boys to learn, gain independence, social skills and confidence. You identify individual strengths and promote these and work on areas of need. And you love our sons. This is clear to anyone who walks into the Unit.

I have it on very good authority Lorna, that "you may be getting old, but you still love the boys TOO much."

The Unit is like a home away from home and the members like a family. You have provided a learning environment where our boys can feel safe to learn and be nurtured. Yet, just as important, you discipline them, encourage them to strive and constantly extend their boundaries. For each and everyone of them you have a long-term plan. We as parents are truly blessed to have you in our lives.

The person who makes all this happen is you, Lorna. You are the driver. All of you here tonight would know that Lorna has been at the School for 21 years. Over that time she has developed what I believe to be one of the best education centres in the state.

I believe there are two reasons for this excellence, over and above the outstanding education programs offered to our sons.
The first reason is the culture and attitude the staff has towards equality and integration, and Lorna is most definitely the champion of this cause. Whether it be fighting for an Acrod parking bay, equal rights on a sporting team or educating others, Lorna, you are at the fore advocating for your students. But I think your philosophy and that of the other staff runs deeper than this. The culture you have developed is more than just one of understanding and acceptance. It is about cherishing differences and understanding how vital these are in the rich tapestry of life.

I believe we have your leadership to thank for this. It is your philosophy, sometimes spoken quietly but often boisterously, that has infiltrated through the staff and students in this school.

This is what makes the Christ Church ESU stand out above others.

The second factor that contributes to the Unit’s success is the delightful demeanour of the staff and again I think this is a reflection of its leadership. Every time I enter the unit I am greeted with a warm smile and a funny anecdote. There is usually laughter in the background. This is a credit to the three of you. Liz, I am told by someone who knows that you are a ‘very, very kind person’. However, I believe one of your greatest strengths is your ability to see the funny side of everything you do. It comes through in your teaching in bucket loads. Heather I am told you are ‘very, very funny with hair like Marg Simpson’. You have a wonderful ability of making us think everything is running smoothly when we suspect it probably isn’t. To you, no problem is too big.

I don’t think any of you should ever underestimate the importance of these qualities and how reassured it makes us feel when we leave the Unit each day. You help restore some balance in our lives and take some of the weight off our shoulders.

You are leaving us this year and we will miss you enormously. You will definitely leave a large hole. But I know that with all the structures you have put in place, and with the culture you have developed within the School, the Unit will continue to run at a high standard and Christ Church will continue to nurture our boys.

Take care and we love you.”

Heather Norris, Lorna Matthews and Liz Langdon
During the October holidays Murray Robertson, Deputy Headmaster of the Preparatory School, and three Year 11 boys, Alexander Gregg, Chris King and Andrew Reynolds headed for Africa, firstly to visit St John’s College in Johannesburg and then to visit some rural schools in the Chirano district of central Ghana. For the most part the trip was a mirror image of the whirlwind tour the Headmaster had taken in 2003.

Garth Wynne returned from Africa motivated to establish a system of staff and student exchanges with schools in South Africa and to identify ways in which Christ Church could work alongside Red Back Mining to provide educational outreach programs to children who live in remote villages in Chirano. His immediate goal was to organise for a group of Christ Church students to visit Chirano in 2004. Garth believes that sharing ideas broadens students’ understanding of one another. “If we can reach across the divide and share the humanity among us, our boys will learn that these children are similar to them in many ways... Immersion in a very different culture develops insights and confidence.”

Murray Robertson and the boys took in many of the local attractions. They visited Nelson Mandela Square, the Apartheid Museum, Pilanesberg National Park, the local flea markets and Gold Reef City, the largest theme park in the country. Alexander said the visit to the museum was “a tremendous learning experience... we came away far richer for the experience.” The visit to the Park was another highlight. Here they saw lions, elephants, hippos, rhinos and giraffe. Alexander said they got a particularly close up view of one rhinoceros that decided “it would be a good idea to rub himself up against our car.”

Though they were struck by the lack of facilities, “concrete buildings with no carpet or windows were pretty much the norm”, they were overwhelmed by the children’s enthusiasm and love of learning and the teachers’ commitment to teaching in such remote areas with so few resources. One of the insights they brought home was “you don’t need a raft of material goods to be happy.”

Murray said that many of the children do not attend school on a regular basis because they are required to work on banana plantations and cocoa farms. “They have a strong educational ethos, but lack basic resources. Parents are keen to educate their children so that they will have an alternative to working on the plantations. Alexander, Chris and Andrew had the opportunity to meet and talk to some of the village children which gave them an appreciation of the different standards of living and cultural and social values.”

They also took on the locals at soccer and taught them a few of the finer points of AFL football. Andrew recalled that one of the most amusing incidents during a soccer match was when Murray and Alex were called for offside while they were shooing a small herd of goats off the field.

Murray Robertson believes that Christ Church visits to the Chirano district are a vital component of the developing relationship. Indeed it is “virtually impossible to get a feel for the place and for the people if one has not visited.” In terms of support he thinks the best option in the initial stages is for Christ Church to raise funds to purchase text books and equipment for the schools. Staff mentoring and student conferencing will be viable once stable Internet access is in place. He also suggests that our boys could support the upkeep of the village schools.
The Centre for Ethics lost no time at all in getting its 2004 student and outreach program up and running. Dozens of people attended the first session given by The Most Rev'd Dr Peter Carnley AO, Archbishop of Perth and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia who spoke about his latest book, Reflections in Glass, that considers contemporary religious and ethical issues. This was followed by presentations by Canon Frank Sheehan and Dr Margaret Smith and psychotherapist Patricia Michalka. Frank Sheehan ran sessions on a series of videos the School had recently acquired that touch on sex, gossip, drugs, body image, death and depression while Margaret Smith and Patricia Michalka spoke about their book Is it ME or my hormones?

One of the highlights of the year was having Tim Fischer, former Deputy Prime Minister, and probably Australia’s best known train enthusiast, talk about his most recent book Transcontinental Train Odyssey: The Ghan, the Khyber, the Globe. 130 people crammed into the Senior Common Room for the event. Tim spoke on the themes in his book; the people and the places linked by rail; and the politics that are so often part of this connection. Frank Sheehan said, “It was a fantastic occasion with Tim Fischer in his usual sparkling form... He spoke on the themes in his book; the people and the places linked by rail; and the politics that are so often part of this connection. Frank Sheehan said, “It was a fantastic occasion with Tim Fischer in his usual sparkling form... His passion, intelligence and enthusiasm were evident... Proceeds from the evening were donated to Anglicare.”

DESSAIX & WINTON
The Centre was particularly privileged in having two of Australia’s finest writers, Robert Dessaix and Tim Winton, speak about their latest works. Robert Dessaix, the renowned literary broadcaster, critic and speaker read from and spoke about The Twilight of Love: Travels with Turgenev and Frank Sheehan interviewed Tim Winton about the characters and themes in The Turning.

When introducing Tim Winton Frank Sheehan said: “I suppose here in Western Australia we feel a particular connection with Tim Winton. He writes about this place in which we live in a way that resonates deeply and powerfully helping us to see it, to feel it, to know something of its mystery and beauty. He writes about people who are working to put lives together, people battling against the odds trying to hold onto a sense of self and of self worth in a culture that sometimes subverts that process.”

Tim said he is still finding out what his book is about. He had not deliberately written a series of stories that linked with one another but as he went along they just seemed to ‘bump’ or ‘stagger into one another’. He spoke about adolescence and middle age as being “weirdly similar.” At both stages people can feel “vulnerable, isolated and confused, ...weighted down by expectations, under pressure.”

Tim Winton said he couldn’t conceive writing about people in whom he was not interested. “For me the pleasure in writing is being able to enter the skin of a stranger, of getting inside someone else’s life, someone else’s skin. It is about being someone else. It is about closeness... It is about “being messed up by them and adjusting and readjusting...It is about having felt something different.”

He said it is a wonderful thing to be liberated from oneself. It gives “you perspective and lets you off from yourself for a time. It is an intense social experience.” When asked if he was like his characters he said: “I think I am all my characters. It is inescapable not to drag something of yourself into them. As a writer you are always drawing on yourself, so some part of you flows into them. He said he couldn’t write as he does without taking himself into it. That being said he was emphatic that, “No one in the book is me.”
INSPIRING SPEAKERS

Speakers who inspired the boys were Matthew Hutchinson, who is the Young South Australian of the Year for 2004, distinguished aboriginal artist and educator, Miriam Rose Ungenmerr-Baumann and Dr David Webb, who is the founder of the Tibetan Support Program, a non-political, non-religious entity whose goal is to improve the quality of life for the people from the Tibetan ethnic regions of Qinghai, China. The boys also heard from Rev’d Ned Sherill who was visiting from St Mark’s School in Boston, Professor John Braithwaite, who spoke about restorative justice, Bishop Philip Freier, Anglican Bishop of the Northern Territory, who spoke about spirituality and Christianity, and Duncan MacLaurin who discussed evil in Othello. The final presenter was Li-anne Caroll, Community Development Officer for Youth at the City of Nedlands. She spoke about the Youth and Advisory Council and its role in local government. Students were invited to nominate themselves or a friend to be on a Youth Advisory Council.

BUDDHIST MONKS

The sound of the deep harmonic throat chanting of the Gyuto monks of Tibet heralded the end of a day of chanting for world peace at Christ Church in August. With bells tinkling and horns blowing the monks led students from the Chapel down to the river’s edge for the scattering of the sands from the mandala, that had been created in the Chapel, on to the water.

The monks started the students’ day with a blessing chant. They then drew the blueprint for the lotus mandala of peace. The day was spent pouring the sands of the mandala, demonstrating art activities and answering questions through an interpreter on human rights, religion and Tibetan culture. The art workshops included Tibetan bamboo pen calligraphy and mandalas, mani stone painting, peace talismans, butter sculpture and magic flowers.

Frank Sheehan said that whenever he visited the Chapel throughout the day there were boys queuing to ask questions. Questions ranged from how and why the mandala was made to details of the monks’ lives to issues affecting world peace.
Boys in Kerry Robertson’s Year 8 English class had the privilege of being taught a lesson by Michael Reid, Art Consultant and Art Writer for The Australian. Michael’s enthusiasm and passion for his work were obvious from the outset.

He captured the boys’ attention by telling them about his struggle with dyslexia and maintained their interest by explaining what it is really like working in the competitive world of print media.

Michael concluded by encouraging each boy to identify his passion and pursue it as a career because then “his working life would become one big holiday.”
WRITING

As well as opening the School's Annual Art Exhibition Sydney-based art consultant Michael Reid took time out from a busy schedule to speak to Kerry Robertson’s Year 8 English class about his career as an art writer for The Australian. Michael told the boys it was somewhat ironic that he had become a writer because he has an innate dislike of writing stemming from the fact that he is dyslexic. The saving grace is that he gets to write about art, which is his passion. “Being paid very good money” motivates Michael to write and keep writing. He noted that he earns $1.00 per word which is about four times the usual rate for journalists. When asked why he was paid so much he responded, “The paper is paying for my knowledge, not my English. They employ editors and sub-editors to fix up the writing.”

Michael suggested the reason the School would buy a painting depicting an angry, red-faced man was to highlight what it did not want its graduates to become.

With respect to the bold, dramatic indigenous work that hangs in the foyer of the Collaborative Learning Centre by Pantjiya Nungurrayi (Untitled 2003), Michael asked the boys if they had read the story about the painting. For the benefit of those who hadn’t, he told them the mythical story about the women who had died from the cold in the desert because they could not get their fire-sticks to light. Michael emphasised that the moral of the story is similar to the motto of boy scouts, be prepared. He also explained how aborigines passed on their myths in paintings, as they did not have a written language.

Michael identified the key technique of the journalist as being able to detail who, why, where, when and how in the first three sentences of an article. He explained that advertising is more important than the stories as newspapers are businesses and advertising is their source of income. Editors often delete 40% of a story in favour of an advertisement so it is important that the story is told at the beginning of the article with the remaining sections containing the detail or padding. Michael demonstrated the importance of photographs by showing the boys some pages from The Australian. He said that like advertisements photographs take precedence over words. Never forget that “the page has to look good.”

Michael stressed the importance of adhering to deadlines. He described deadline as an interesting word. It is like a LINE in the sand. If the story isn’t ready on time it is DEAD. He emphasised that “The paper doesn’t wait. There’s no ‘I’ll have it ready tomorrow’. People scream at you, people get sacked!”

One of the good things about writing, according to Michael, is that it helps you organise your thoughts. Our ideas tend to be random until they are written down.

ART WORKS

Michael also talked about his work as an Art dealer. As part of this process he sought the boys’ views on some of the paintings the School owns. He began by asking the boys what Adam Cullen’s ‘Sunburnt Stockman’ was all about. Through a process of questions and answers the boys learnt that a ‘redneck’ refers to someone who is ignorant and prejudiced, especially with respect to their political views.
Transformation, the theme of the mid-year Anniversary Art Awards, was also the theme for this year's Creative Writing competition, jointly sponsored by the English Department and the Centre for Ethics. Assistant Head of English Lorraine O'Brien, who edits the School's creative writing magazine Impressions as well as organises the competition, said she had retained the theme because she was hoping to elicit some written work on ideas associated with alteration and change for publication alongside photographs of selected works from the art awards.

Lorraine was absolutely delighted with the quality of the entries. She said that "the work covered a range of approaches to the theme including the transformation of animals and humans under stress; the impact of movement from country to country on a child and the transformations wrought by surgery and the positive outcome it can have on a disfigured person. The responses were thought provoking and sensitive to the changes all creatures experience in their lives – how they adapt to change."

The winners of the various awards deserve special mention. Adam Froese's (Year 8) poem Winter's Work captures the changes in light on a winter's day whereas George Reagan's (Year 9) piece tells of his experiences following a car accident that transformed his life. In Zed, Alistair Graham (Year 10) wrote a short story about a boy's love for his dog and the impact that the death of the dog had on the whole family. Fletcher Young (Year 11) wrote about the transformation of a young boy in war while Nathan Bickley (Year 12) considered the changes that one experiences "in simply living and striving for happiness."

Of all the entries the one by George Reagan is perhaps the most poignant because it is real. He writes about his life and the changes he has had to endure since he was injured in a car accident three years ago. George's story touched everyone when the Headmaster read it at Assembly. It was met with thunderous applause.
Before I got hit by that car I was allowed to play lots of sports and do lots of other things, but now I can't play lots of sports and I have to wear a helmet.

I play cricket and if the ball hits me on the head I could have a seizure and they are a bad pain problem. They take away brain cells and that is very dangerous for when I am older. It is possible to die of them if you are an old person or if you have many, many seizures and you are sick.

I feel bad about not being able to do some of the things that I used to do but I also feel good because I have lived three years since the accident.

I am not normal anymore, I am different. Now that I have been hit by the car I have seizures sometimes. I'm not as smart anymore. I do different things now like if there were two things to choose from, like the best and something else, I would choose the worst thing because my brain and my eyesight were damaged and I have a dent on each side of my head.

I get angry now and before my accident I wasn’t angry. I don’t like being told off for inappropriate behaviour, it makes me angry, but it also depends on what I have done and why I get told off.

I touch people to get their attention. That's why I put my hand on their shoulders and I forget to take it off.

My biggest wish in life is to meet my favourite band, The Red Hot Chilli Peppers. They rock.

I don’t think I am the same person on the inside since my accident. I just wasn't angry before and now I am angry so much of the time. I am happy though and I think the doctors who looked after me worked very well.

I now get tired because of the accident and that's not so bad because sleep makes you healthy and fit and helps you grow.

I don’t really like the fact that I have had an accident but I am quite proud of the way I act and get on with life.

George Reagan
(Year 9)
AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
The highly competitive Australian Mathematics Competition for the Westpac Awards was held in July. Six hundred and twenty five boys from Years 5-12 were set the challenge of solving 30 problems in 75 minutes. What makes the test even more difficult is the fact that calculators are not permitted. The School is very pleased with this year's results. Awards are allocated to students in each Year group on a state-wide basis. Four boys were awarded prizes for achieving results in the top 0.3% of the State and 27 were awarded High Distinctions for achieving results in the top 2% of the State. Congratulations to all who sat the test, especially the prize winners – Amitesh Datti (Year 5), Daniel Ibbitson (Year 6), Thomas Liu (Year 9) and James Rhodes (Year 9).

This year a new award, the Prudence Award, was introduced. It is a special award that recognises the student in the school with the greatest number of correct answers in succession. Six boys had 20 correct answers in succession so all six earned the Prudence Award. Congratulations to Daniel Ibbitson, Thomas Liu, James Rhodes, David Ching (Year 10), Adrian Chong (Year 10) and Nicholas van Bockxmeer (Year 10).

JACK BANA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
Our talented team of Year 9 mathematicians has won yet another award. This time Charles Qiu, Thomas Liu, James Rhodes and Arthur Yau took out The Jack Bana Award for Excellence for the best performing team in the Western Australian Junior Mathematics Olympiad. The competition, which attracted 40 teams, was held at the University of Western Australia.

AUSTRALIAN INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD
Head of Mathematics, Bill Mailes, entered six of our talented Year 9 maths students in the 2004 Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad. This extremely selective competition attracted 631 aspiring mathematicians from schools throughout Australia. Ken Teoh was one of just 18 of the 236 Year 9 entrants to gain a High Distinction. Brandon Wong was awarded a Distinction, placing him in the top 20% of the group while Thomas Liu, Jee-Ming Leung and James Rhodes received Credits.

MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS
Each year the Australian Mathematics Olympiad Committee conducts a twenty week Mathematics Challenge for talented students in Years 8-10. This year the School entered fifteen Year 8 students in the Gauss Series, ten Year 9s in the Noether Series and five Year 10s in the Polya Series.

Bill Mailes ran the Gauss Series classes. He said that 882 students from throughout Australia, most of whom were in Years 9 and 10, attempted this level of the Challenge. The fact that four of our Year 8s gained High Distinctions (over 20% of the total for Australia) and four were awarded Distinctions highlights the level of their performance. Collectively they achieved an outstanding set of results.

The results of the Year 9s were equally impressive. Three students in Australia were awarded High Distinctions in the Noether Series and they were all from Christ Church and all taught by Graham Ferguson. Four others earned Distinctions and one a Credit.

The Year 10s who tackled the sophisticated Polya Series of the Challenge were tutored by Bruce Ruthven. Of the 138 students in Australia who attempted this program 28 performed well enough to be awarded a Distinction or High Distinction. Three of our students were in this select group, which is notable. One other was awarded a Credit.

Bill Mailes paid tribute to the boys for "being prepared to work at this level for so long" as well as "for achieving such fine results." It was with a great deal of pride that he added, "Christ Church runs the largest school-based program for the Challenge in Western Australia."
TOP RESULTS

MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

GAUSS SERIES
HIGH DISTINCTIONS
William He
Sandip Mukhopadhyay
Kangdi Peng
Ian Loke

DISTINCTIONS
Blake Stove
Roland Kerr
Leon Zhang
Ahilan Jeyaseelan

CREDITS
Daren Tan
David Cullingford

NOETHER SERIES
HIGH DISTINCTIONS
Charles Qiu
Ken Teoh
Brandon Wong

DISTINCTIONS
Kramer Brand
Jee Ming Leung
Arthur Yau
James Rhodes
Jamie Waters

CREDIT
Thomas Liu

POLYA SERIES
DISTINCTIONS
Kavindu Caldera
Ian Chu
Adrian Chong

CREDIT
David Ching

Arthur Yau, Charles Qiu, Thomas Liu and James Rhodes

ENGAGEMENT
Allan Hallett, Head of Social Science, placed significant emphasis on creating a sense of empathy for people elsewhere in the world when exploring ‘Sustainability’ with his Year 10 classes. The boys were challenged to put themselves in the place of a member of a family in China, a taxi driver in Mexico City and a young man in an Australian country town. Their final task was to plan their own Ecotour in Africa. The task encouraged the boys to explore the organisation required in booking a tour and to move away from descriptive writing to expressive writing through a travel diary.

Have you always wanted to know what ‘ugali na sukuma wiko’ is, or what the sunrise looks like over the Masai Mara? Then move over Michael Palin the Year 10s are coming. In the spirit of Pole to Pole, Sahara and The Himalayas Allan Hallett’s Year 10 Geography students set out on their own travels to see the sights and experience the cultures of eastern and southern Africa.

The sunrise was truly spectacular. It was without doubt one of the greatest sights I have ever seen.

Sadly the funds could not run to an actual overseas adventure but this Virtual Tour proved very interesting and entertaining. The group was charged with the task of selecting and preparing an ecologically aware visit to any part of southern or eastern Africa offering ‘Ecotours’. Having experienced the tour, the boys were then required to assess the accuracy of the tour operator’s publicity and reach their own conclusions about the company’s ‘Ecotour’ credentials.

I am very happy about how the community we visited was treated by our tour group and the operator and I believe that they also enjoyed the experience of seeing people from another culture.

The boys discovered how organised one must be when planning overseas holidays. It involves much more than tossing a few essentials into a suitcase and turning up on time at the airport. An itinerary has to be planned, flights booked, travel warnings checked, suitable clothing for the local conditions selected and packed, special equipment purchased and travel and health insurance organised. More often than not a key constraint is a limited budget.

...the risk of terrorist attacks particularly against Westerners remains particularly in Nairobi and in coastal areas...but we decided to go because we would be mainly inland.
A key component of the activity was the travel diary each boy produced. These were handwritten insights into the experiences, feelings and impressions encountered on the tour and showed that the boys developed a real empathy with the location and the nature of their chosen ecotour.

“Our guide Chapari told us many things about the Masai. He said that the Masai have a reputation for being a fierce warring tribe. When a boy Masai leaves childhood he enters the morani or warrior class. He is expected to be brave enough to spear a lion. If a warrior holds the tail of the lion as it dies he is awarded that lion’s mane and gains great honour in the tribe. When a morani proves himself he can become an elder. Women can also become elders once they have given birth to four healthy children.

All women and children keep their heads shaved while the morani wear their hair in long braids dyed with red clay. The Masai also pierce and stretch their ear lobes and wear large metal hoops at the top of their ears. This goes for both male and female members. It is a sign of beauty for women to have long stretched ear lobes.

We were later shown around the local primary school and I was told that a significant amount of the money spent by tourists in coming to the village would be spent on buying books and equipment and paying for fees and uniforms for the local children. I was glad this was so as the school was such a contrast to the schools back in Perth. The school consisted of one large room with a few bookshelves, a blackboard and many desks and chairs... I felt sorry for the children but realised that they were lucky as many Kenyan kids did not go to school at all. To further contribute to the community our ecotour group built a bookshelf and finished building the partially completed wooden playground.

...The afternoon game drive in Masai Mara National Park saw our luck continue as we saw the super herd of over one million wildebeest as well as many other animals including elephants, lions, zebra and even a cheetah.” (Timothy Drok)

“Oh, and ‘ugali na sukuma wiki’? That’s a stiff Kenyan porridge.
INSTEP is a joint school and industry program that enables Year 11 and Year 12 students to achieve secondary graduation and TAFE credit by participating in workplace learning. It is part of the school program and is accredited as a school subject. Students enrol in INSTEP just as they would in any other school subject. They attend a workplace of their choice for one day per week and are trained and assessed on a list of employment skills by industry trainers. Each student is required to record and manage his workplace learning using a log book.
In Year 11 students complete two work placements, one in each semester. In Year 12 they have the opportunity of enrolling in an INSTEP Plus course with a training provider for half the year and a work placement for the other half.

Through INSTEP students are able to map an individual pathway.

Their options are:

- Focus on an industry area (INSTEP Plus) and access accredited vocational training as well as their work placement OR
- Over two years undertake four different work placements to help make a more informed career decision OR
- Try two different work placements in Year 11 and then undertake INSTEP Plus.

INSTEP is a means for students to find out about jobs and career pathways they may want to pursue when they leave school. They gain experience in a job that can sometimes lead to employment or further education. It is also an opportunity for those who are uncertain about their future to explore possibilities. Students who complete the INSTEP program are well prepared for the transition from school to work or further study.

**INSTEP PLUS**

Students attend a Registered Training Organisation such as TAFE, Alexander College, Sterling Business College or XLT Training for approximately 20 days of off-the-job training during one school year. The off-the-job units of competency are nationally accredited and are the same as any apprentice or trainee would undertake. The off-the-job learning is complemented by one INSTEP work placement during the year.

**Jody Clarke**

INSTEP Coordinator
Something quite extraordinary emerged when a group of Year 11 Drama Studies undertook to apply the skills they had learned in class in the making of a drama documentary for the Distance Education Unit of the Education Department. Department Officer, Valdene Buckley came and spoke to the boys about how distance education works and gave an idea of the different problems (and joys!) young people learning in the far regions of our vast state, experience. The boys then read the book *Binna Binna Man* by Meme McDonald and Boori Monty Pryor, about an aboriginal boy and his extended family. They were asked to prepare a television documentary, which would show how they went about selecting a scene from the book, and turn it into a stage presentation.

The engagement was in depicting skills (which they had learned in their class work) and demonstrating how others might use those skills — others who may well never have been inside a theatre in their lives — others whose experiences of life were so different from theirs! Thus, to make their task ‘work’, they would have to demonstrate a combination of engagements — in the literary work, in their skills in negotiation (with each other, as well as the literary ideas) their techniques of voice and movement, their ability to understand the emotions of people of a different place and background, and their skills in producing a staged performance. The only way for this to succeed would be if the actors, the script-adapters and the production crew, were united in engaging the creative process and techniques of the class-room in making the project come alive for those who would use it in their own far away places of learning.

The project is now complete, and the final stage is almost upon us. ‘The final stage’ is beyond our control. This is when the young people in the far reaches of our vast state will, we hope, find their own engagement in what we have created.

I know I have gained immeasurably from this experience; and I think our boys have, too.

*Anthony Howes*
Director of Drama

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Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Play* was the final Midnite production for 2004. The Year 8 and Year 9 cast brought the compelling story of Mowgli, a boy caught between two worlds, to life. Director Gillian Kerr-Sheppard said the young actors did a wonderful job with a very complex script. The audience was enthralled. Everyone was in awe of the magnificent revolving set featuring the jungle and a village built by volunteer parents in accordance with Owen Carpenter’s design. She went on to say, “Mowgli’s struggle holds lessons for us all. Let us hope, like Mowgli, we can find happy endings too.”

*The Jungle Play* was significant for two other reasons. It was Gillian Kerr-Sheppard’s final Midnite production before she leaves Christ Church to work overseas and the first production on which our new Costume Coordinator and Midnite Secretary, Jay Brien, has worked.
The Midnite Youth Theatre Company joined forces with the West Australian Youth Orchestra (Collegium) to present *River Dreaming*, a cantata for actors and orchestra. The work was commissioned to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Swan River Colony and to mark the opening of the refurbished and upgraded Government House Ballroom. The libretto is by Jenny Davis and the music by John Bates.

In the program notes Director Anthony Howes says that *River Dreaming* is "a kaleidoscope of events in the history of the Swan River Colony" that focus on the river. "We meet many characters from the days of the earliest European explorers until the present time who have a connection with the river for work and play. ...Their story – our story – moves to and fro in time giving a timelessness dreamlike quality to *River Dreaming.*"

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**The Madness of George III**

In August Alan Bennett’s outstanding play *The Madness of George III* was given its West Australian premiere by the Midnite Youth Theatre Company. For some time Anthony Howes had wanted to direct this incredible story of political intrigue, medical butchery and insight into human relationships however he had had to wait until the right boys with the right talents were available. This year there was so much talent among the senior boys that he could no longer delay. Nik Barron played George III, Alex Nock. Prime Minister Pitt, and Sam Devenport, Dr Willis. Nik gave a remarkable performance. It was powerful and heart-rending.

The lavish costumes and the Handel soundscape added another dimension to the audience’s enjoyment of the play.
On the evening of 8 September the Collaborative Learning Centre became an art gallery and performance theatre. Boys’ artwork was displayed throughout the Centre and musical performances were staged at various locations in the building. Parents, grandparents, staff and friends were captivated by the boys’ playing and singing and astonished by the dynamic collection of bold, creative, eclectic art. They were amazed by the number of musical groups that took to the stage. There were the string, clarinet, recorder and guitar groups as well as ensembles such as the Year 7 jazz and Year 6 chair and stick group. Others to perform were the Yahoos and soloists Jason Fong (violin), Wilson Lau (violin), Bo An Lu (piano), Ben Moody (trumpet), Jesse Bartle (vocal) and Henry Topley (vocal).

Accolades poured into the School.

“The boys looked like they thoroughly enjoyed presenting their art work and their music.”

“Best Prep School event I have ever been to.”

“The colour and vitality lit up the CLC library.”

“A wonderful opportunity for parents, boys and staff to see the range of development through visual art from Pre-Primary to Year 7.”

The event was such a success that next year Clark Wight intends holding a week of the arts.
The annual Senior School Art Exhibition is the climax of the art calendar. Michael Reid, the School’s Sydney-based art consultant, opened this year’s exhibition. Michael said how refreshing it was to have the opportunity to comment on boys’ art. “Boys are very direct in their approach to art…” He noted that, “the Y Generation are the most visually literate people to walk the planet. They see the world as a series of images and are so aware of the world they look at. They are particularly conscious of the built environment.” Michael said that art touches on all aspects of life and students should use the medium to highlight issues and make social comment.

**JOHN DOWSON MEMORIAL AWARDS 2004**

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<td>Ceramics</td>
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<td>Drawing</td>
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<td>Graphic Design</td>
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<td>Painting</td>
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<td>Sculpture</td>
<td>Michael Houston (Year 12)</td>
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Kieran Kusel (Year 10) won Division One (Open) of CPA Australia’s, Plan Your Own Enterprise competition. His business plan for manufacturing SolarTech panels, corrugated iron roofing panels containing photovoltaic cells, was deemed the ‘best in the west’. Kieran’s plan was originally entered in the Under 16 Division but the organisers were so impressed with the standard of his entry that it was elevated to the senior ranks. Kieran’s prize included a trip to Brisbane to present his plans for SolaTech to a national panel of judges.

When asked how he had come up with this business concept Kieran said that the idea had developed from a group assignment on alternative sources of energy that he and some students were working on in Year 10 Physics.

Kieran said it was “a great learning experience” presenting in Brisbane. “I was the youngest presenter and I had never done anything like this before.” He met lots of terrific people with whom he intends keeping in contact via email.

Congratulations also to Christopher King (Year 11) who came first in the Division 2 of the competition. He was delighted with his prize of $200.

One hundred and sixty four students from Years 8-12 sat the world wide Royal Australian Chemical Institute Quiz in July. They performed extremely well with 69 being awarded High Distinctions (awarded to the top 10% in the state). Of these, nine were awarded commemorative plaques for finishing in the top 700 of their age group. Congratulations to Daren Tan (Year 8), John Larbalestier (Year 8), Joshua Mao (Year 8), Andrew Tulloch (Year 9), Charles Qui (Year 9), Arthur Yau (Year 9), Hugh Mackenzie (Year 10), Andrew Rhodes (Year 11) and Campbell Mackenzie (Year 12) on this outstanding achievement.

Professor Graham Chandler from the University of Western Australia’s Chemistry Department made special mention of the feats of Andrew Rhodes and Campbell Mackenzie when he presented the awards at Assembly. He presented Andrew with a Certificate of Excellence for scoring 100% in the quiz and noted it was the fifth year in a row that Campbell had been awarded a commemorative plaque in this competition.
On the scientific front Campbell Mackenzie was awarded a medal for scoring the highest mark in the State in Year 12 in the Australian Schools Science Competition. Earlier in the year he received a Rio Tinto Australian Science Olympiad Award from the Hon Mr Alan Carpenter, State Minister for Education and Training.

For what is a first at Christ Church 114 boys participated in an on-line Australian Biology Quiz, the Energex Biology Olympiad On-line. Students receive gold, silver and bronze awards in accordance with whether their results are in the top 10%, 20% or 30% of their respective cohorts. Nine students were awarded Gold certificates, 31 Silver and 46 Bronze. The Gold certificate winners were Christopher Harvey (Year 9, Intermediate), Callum Addison (Year 11, Senior), James Addison (Year 11, Senior), James Allen (Year 12, Senior), Michael Houston (Year 12, Senior), Jeremy Irwin (Year 12, Senior), Benjamin Macintosh (Year 12, Senior), Thomas O’Rourke (Year 12, Senior) and Andrew Yeo (Year 12, Senior).

In what is a first for Christ Church two cadets were chosen to escort the Duke of Edinburgh Banner at the Annual Cadet Camp Presentation Parade at Bindoon. The banner, which was consecrated in 1970, is brought across from Sydney once a year for a cadet ceremonial occasion. Coordinator of Army Cadets, WO Class I Mick O’Sullivan, said: “It was a real honour for the Unit to have S SGT Justin McBurney and SGT Michael Gianotti selected to escort the banner. Normally only one cadet is chosen for this duty.”

More good news followed. At the post camp conference Christ Church was recognised as the Top Cadet Unit in the State. This is the third successive year and the eleventh time in the last 16 years that the School’s Unit has been ranked number one. Christ Church achieved two firsts, two seconds and three thirds in competitions ranging from first aid and drill to navigation and the confidence course. Mick O’Sullivan said the Unit maintained its position at the top through “hard work, commitment and great leadership.”
First up Liz Constable outlined her job as a politician. She told the boys that she was the first female to win a seat as an independent. She also told them that she likes the freedom of being an independent because she can vote on legislation in accordance with her own views. Kyle Hookey noted that Liz Constable advised that Parliament only sits for 23 weeks per year and only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This enables country politicians to visit their families and work in their electorates.

Chris Browne recalls that one of the questions she was asked was: What is your point of view on Labor's (federal) policy to freeze all funding to private schools? She responded by saying that given the parents of independent school students pay taxes then some of this money should go to support their children's schooling.

The boys found the session so interesting that they did not want it to end. According to Kyle Hookey 50 minutes was not long enough.
For the fifth time in the last seven years, one of the School's senior teams has won the coveted Senior Division of the WA Debating League Inter-School Competition. Nik Barron, Gaurav Ghosh (Captain) and Justin Tadros drew on all the tactics and skills they have developed over the last few years to prove somewhat prophetically to their opponents from Perth College and the audience that it is not time for Mark Latham. Interestingly, the debate was held on the day the Labor Party announced its Tax Policy. Gaurav was named speaker of the night and Nik, best reply speaker. Team members who did not speak in the final were Sam Devenport, Tim Greer, Arjun Kumar, Alex Nock and Jeremy Ong.

Earlier in the year Nik, Alex and Justin defeated Wesley College in the final of the Red Cross Inter-School Debating Competition. Nik and Gaurav (Captain) were members of the Western Australia State Debating team which came fourth in the national competition.

Chess continues to be a real force in the School. In fact players at all levels have had a stellar year. The senior teams enjoyed unprecedented success. CCGS 'A' won the Premier Division thereby earning the right to represent Western Australia in the National Competition in Victoria in December. CCGS 'B' won the 'A' Division competition and CCGS 'D' are the Champions of the C League (North). Congratulations to all involved and best wishes to our State representatives Blair Slack-Smith, Christopher Scott, Chester Tulloch, Mark Teoh and Ernest Tan (Reserve). Not to be outdone our talented Prep School players took out the JSHAA Championship.
Sports

First XI Soccer

Winter Sports Stars

Winners of the MacGill Cup

First Volleyball Team

Will Leonard, Co-Captain of Tennis
Netball Naturals

First XI Hockey Team
Joint winners of the Play House Hockey Cup

Badminton Team

Christ Church (3rd from left)
Three volleyball players from Anglo-Chinese School

CHRONICLE 36 45
Auxiliary

supporting the community


Morning Tea for new parents
Members delighted in being asked to organise morning tea for Harmony Day, the day we recognise different cultures, foods and ceremonies. Guest speaker Ken Arkwright spoke to the boys about growing up as a Jew in war-torn Europe. He also spoke about his optimism and hope for the future. Boys, staff and parents were transfixed.

One of the highlights of the year was working alongside Frank Sheehan and Teresa Scott from the Centre for Ethics and Diana Hammond to organise the launch of Tim Fischer’s latest book, *Transcontinental Train Odyssey: The Ghan, the Khyber, the Globe*. We look forward to working with the Centre for Ethics on numerous projects next year.

In September we helped Michelle Timms and Helen Wilson transform the Collaborative Learning Centre into an art gallery and performance space to showcase the amazing artistic and musical talents of our Prep School boys. We also provided supper which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, especially the boys! It was an incredible evening.

The Auxiliary’s other key events have been the Year 8 and Year 12 Father & Son Breakfasts, the Anniversary Art Awards, the New Parents’ Morning Tea and working with the Auxiliary from MLC to bring together our end of year extravaganza, *The Party In The Tent*. The party was a fitting climax to what can only be described as an absolutely fantastic year. Guests marvelled at the sophistication and elegance of the setting and flocked to the dance floor to move to the sounds of Darren Reid and the Soul City Groove.

We have helped the School at sports days and worked with the Parents’ Association in support of their functions such as the Opening of the Collaborative Learning Centre and Senior School Sundowners. We also supported Tracey Pember in bringing together the Bali Benefit For Kids in aid of the Rotary Cleft Palate program and Community Relations staff in organising the parents’ *Evening with David Loader and Michael Reid’s public presentation on the Australian Art Market Now*.

As always the Year representatives have been active in organising fantastic gatherings for their respective classes and groups. The beneficiaries have been the boys and their families. Thank you to each and every one of you for your energy and willingness to add to the family spirit of our school.

Sincere thanks to Kerry Somerville-Brown, Ash Donner, Tracy Hogan, Karen Brand, Rosie Seaman, Tracey Pember, Cathy Potter, Linda Fry and Robyn Gillon, the core group of people who support the Auxiliary with their dedication and unflagging work. Thank you also to Garth Wynne, Clark Wight, Mark Morrissy, Wendy Hillman and Andrew Baird for encouraging and supporting us in all that we do. It is a privilege to be involved with the School.

Liza Blakiston
Vice-President
This year the Association's committee supported an idea from the Headmaster to hold a social event for each year group in the Senior School. Each event was tied to an existing activity, providing an effective way to extend parent-school interaction without adding another date to everyone's busy schedules.

The Auxiliary had established its role in hosting the Year 12 parents while the Year 12 students were attending the Headmaster's Dinner. The success of this format meant it was retained as part of our program in 2004.

The Year 11 function was held at Mount Claremont in May to coincide with the House Winter Sports Carnival. It was followed by the Year 10 gathering which was held in conjunction with the Venture briefing. All who attended felt much more relaxed after they had heard the 'official version' of what to expect on Venture. The Year 9 Sundowner was held in late April to coincide with the camp briefing given by Mark Tait, Director of Kooringal. This was preceded by the Year 8 function held early in March, which was very much a welcoming event. Parents were introduced to the people who lead the School’s key support groups.

Attendance at all functions was excellent and the Association received significant positive comment.

Monthly committee meetings were held throughout the year. The attendance of non-committee members was always welcomed. We must never under estimate the importance of our committee members as an effective network in the wider school community. They provide a link between the School and the students' families. Meetings provide a parent's perspective on many aspects and the attendance of the Headmaster lends credence to discussion and debate.

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STAFF

Alison Hewson  
Graham Ferguson  
and Jane Ferguson  

DEPARTMENTS

Art  
- Banner artist, Chris Williamson, was commissioned to create eight portable and versatile House banners. Chris worked with Year 10 students to create the designs.
- Artists-in-Residence
  - Artist, Tom Higgins, worked with students during Art Camp, February 2004.
  - Artist, Lisa Major, ran life drawing classes with Year 11 and 12 students.
  - Artist, Hilary Brooke, completed the water feature in the Preparatory School.
- Centre for Ethics  
  - Aboriginal artist and educator, Miriam Rose Ungern-Bauman, from the Daly River in the Northern Territory showed her work, visited classrooms and gave a public talk about her art, August 2004.
  - Bishop Philip Freier, Anglican Bishop of the Northern Territory, spoke to students and members of the wider community about Spirituality and Christianity, August 2004.
- Drama  
  - Production of a CD of The Rose & The Ring, March 2004.
- Early Learning Centre  
  - Movement to Music expert, Joan Pope, incorporated dance and movement into the P-3 and ESU programs, Term 2 2004.
- Education Support Unit  
  - Fitness program run by Lucy Bowman.
- Information & Technology  
  - IT expert, Tom March, worked with staff to develop WebQuest based curriculum activities as well as presented a keynote address to parents.
- CLC Library and English Department  
  - Writer-in-Residence, Krista Bell, worked with boys in Years 8 and 9, March 2004.
- Prep School Library  
  - Writer-in-Residence, Pat Flynn, worked with boys in Years 4-7 and staff and ran a session for parents titled Enriching Your Child's Writing - from a Parent's Perspective, July 2004.
- Mathematics  
  - Mathematician-in-Residence Paul de Wit from Michaelhouse in Natal taught classes and collaborated with staff on incorporating IT into the mathematics classroom, June 2004.
- Music  
  - The Preparatory School and MLC jointly hosted a three-day workshop with Bassistry Arts.
- CAPITAL
  - Boarding Community  
    - Six webcams.
    - Riverfront Restoration Project.
  - Preparatory School  
    - Conversion of Analogue resources to DVD.
    - Upgrading the Staff Common Room.
  - Senior School  
    - Refurbishing four rooms as 'Boy-Tech' classrooms.
The Year 12 Assembly, which for the first time included the prize-giving ceremony for the graduating class, was a very dignified occasion. The Guest Speaker was 2004 Olympian, Jonathan van Hazel (1988-95), who swam for Australia in the heats of the 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay in Athens.

His team mates were none other than Ian Thorpe, Michael Klim, Todd Pearson, Ashley Callus and Eamon Sullivan. In his usual inimitably friendly and relaxed style he spoke to the boys about making choices, setting priorities and learning when and how to relax.

Jono said to the boys that the exciting thing about the next few years would be that they would largely be in control of their own destiny “...your choices over the next decade will determine where you are going to be in 10 years’ time.” He told them not to “…get freaked out about that statement because I’m not talking about a choice of which course to do at university. The choices that matter will likely be subtler and take place over a number of years.”

Jono emphasised the need to maintain a balance between study and relaxation, work and play. He counselled the boys that from now on they would have to rely on themselves and the support of family and friends to “fix things up.” No longer would there be teachers ‘to pick up the pieces’ and make things easy for them. “Unlike life here at Christ Church you will not be spoon-fed when you get out into the real world. If you make a mistake, get used to being the person who has to fix it.”

He noted the importance of the friendships he had developed at Christ Church and of the need to maintain those friendships. Almost every year since leaving school he and 20 of his friends have run the Christ Church Classic - a two-day team competition comprising “a range of fairly obscure events varying from backyard cricket and go-karting to tandem bike racing”.

Jono said that swimming has provided him with a challenging goal outside of his university and working life. “During the hard times my swimming might have seemed like a job, but in reality 95% of the time it has been more like a hobby to me. I’ve found it to be a useful way to escape that occasionally grinding nature of uni life and later work life. Don’t get me wrong, I love my work at the moment but even the best job can seem tedious at times if there is not some avenue of escape to break the monotony. For me swimming has been a good way to switch off and ignore what has happened during a hard day of work or after a tough exam. Of course swimming isn’t the most mentally challenging task so without my uni and work side of life I would have struggled to keep myself entertained if I had concentrated solely on swimming.”

He concluded by telling the boys to make sure they always take care of the people and things that really matter. “Make time for your family” because they are the people to whom you will most likely turn when you need help. “Keep fit and healthy, stay in touch with your school friends, have regular medical check-ups and enjoy your passions.” Set priorities… and remember…”no matter how full your life may seem, there’s always room for a couple of beers.”
David Knezevic, who was Dux of Christ Church in 1999, has been awarded WA's Rhodes Scholarship for 2005. He will graduate with a Bachelor of Computer and Mathematical Science and a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Western Australia this year and plans to study computer modelling at Oxford University next September. David said that the broad applications in science and engineering would keep his career paths open. He just wants to see where life takes him.

“When you do a PhD it empowers you to do anything. As a Rhodes Scholar it is great to join the ranks of those who have won before: Geoff Gallop, Bill Clinton, Bob Hawke, Kim Beazley.”

David believes that science is a vital field for Australians to pursue and would be glad if he could raise the profile of the discipline. He also wants to be involved in the community and solve problems through leadership. In the short term the keen UWA rower, who learnt his skills at Christ Church, hopes he will have “the chance to row for Oxford University.”

From humble beginnings on a wheat and sheep farm beyond Merredin the late Harry Perkins was living proof that anyone with life skills could be successful in business. His integrity and compassion were developed through friendship which in turn strengthened his honesty, sincerity and respect.

Harry was the older brother of John (1959-1964) who suffered severe head injuries in a farming accident in the late 70s, the father of Charles (1981-1987) now married and looking forward to sending his sons Benjamin and Rory to Christ Church, and Uncle of Matthew (1989-1992) for whom he had a lot of time and to whom he gave a lot of encouragement. Harry was also a leading business identity who ultimately became Chairman of Wesfarmers. On the occasions that he visited the School he determined that Christ Church was educating boys in an atmosphere that fostered respect for achievement. He was impressed by the fact that the School paid special attention to maximising the personal development of each student.

In May 1997 Harry and Margaret Perkins decided to give Christ Church an enduring gift by way of acknowledging what the School had done for their son Charles and, more particularly, for their nephew Matthew. Harry made provision for an Old Boys' Association Scholarship in his will. In doing so, he became the third member of the Mitre Society.

With Harry's passing in 2002 he provided a legacy of a considerable sum of money for the establishment of The Perkins Family Scholarship.

The scholarship is to be awarded to the son/grandson of a Christ Church Grammar School Old Boy with a preference for the award going to a lad from a rural background. It is intended to award the scholarship for the first time in 2005.

Dean Bowker
Director Corporate & Alumni Affairs
Dale Boys and Dean Bowker

Chris Price (1984-95) is teaching at St Mary's. He returned to Christ Church in September to supervise Year 10 student Fiona Custance, who was completing work experience in the Community Relations Department.

Tim Minchin and Renee Newman-Storen, picture by Jon Green, courtesy of Perth Theatre Company, from Hoopla's production of Hamlet.

Now married with a young family

TONY HUME (1981-85) is the Manager of the Development and Alumni Office at Edith Cowan University (ECU). Tony works from the Joondalup campus of ECU and in his spare time serves on the Executive Committee of the WA Chapter of the Association of Development and Alumni Professionals in Education (ADAPE).

Having started out at a one teacher school in the late 1950s BARRY JONES (1949-54) spent his entire teaching career as a primary school Headmaster in the WA Education Department. Now retired from the teaching profession, Barry has joined the Fire and Emergency Services Authority to keep his hand in. As Regional Director of the Great Southern he is responsible for managing a large budget and working in with the Police and Local Government from as far north as Beverley, east to Esperance and south to Albany.

After commencing tertiary studies in 2001 at the London School of Economics, JEREMY HUGHES (1989-90) has returned to Perth to continue his studies at UWA. As well as being enrolled in law he finds time during the working week to spend a day or two at John Hughes Mitsubishi-Hyundai. Ultimately he may consider completing further studies at the Harvard Business School in Boston.

The traditional seat of boutique brewing in WA is Fremantle and while Little Creatures has moved from being the new kid on the block to becoming establishment, HOWARD CEARNS (1969-77) still finds it hard to believe the huge dents his product is making in the market Australia wide. Little Creatures Pale Ale has won 12 gold awards since 2001 and, with the company's growth hovering between twenty and thirty percent annually, Howard is about to launch the beer in the United Kingdom. The demand is expected to be so great that it will be necessary to increase production capacity.

When JOHN DAVIES (1949-53) and JOHN MARTIN (1951-57) established Acton Real Estate 35 years ago they wanted to develop a real estate company that was an integral part of the local community. Their vision continues today through the sponsorship of The Stuart MacGill Cup, a one day cricket carnival for primary schools in the western suburbs. Played each year at the School's Mt Claremont playing fields on the last Thursday in November, the carnival attracts more than 200 budding young cricketers who play a series of games throughout the day culminating in the final at 3.30pm. Acton Director, HENRY WILLIS (1971-82) from the Central (Cottesloe) office, is always on hand to present the trophy.
If you’re looking for a venue to celebrate an unforgettable New Year’s Eve you couldn’t do any better than the Nedlands Park Hotel, or ‘Stees’ as we know it. After having rocked the Nedlands foreshore for nearly 100 years the hotel is being bulldozed to make way for quieter apartment living. Mine host, MURRAY McHENRY (1959-67) is putting on a $185/head party to farewell this iconic watering hole in style. Five bands will provide live, continuous entertainment and there will be hot and cold running food, beer and bubbles throughout the night. It will be the end of an era for many and the end of a lifetime’s work for the McHenry family.

Since completing his studies in law at UWA in 1994 SIMON FRASER (1982-86) has been admitted to practice in Australia (1995), England and Wales (1998) and the New York Bar (2002). His legal interests focused on acquisition, finance, asset finance and structured finance transactions. Consequently the direction he took led him on an experience that can best be described as ‘a roller coaster ride’ through various international businesses involving complex acquisitions and divestitures, project financings and restructurings of major oil, telecom and cement companies on a world scale. It was commonplace to work around the clock to meet deadlines while overseeing business restructuring strategies. As recently as last year Simon was the Senior Lawyer in a New York law firm advising major US and international corporations in significant and complex acquisitions and divestitures, project financings and restructurings of major oil, telecom and cement companies on a world scale. Amazingly, Simon is only 35 but for this year at least he has decided to stop, take a break and smell the roses!

SAM VANDONGEN (1982-86) went through law school at UWA with Simon Fraser. He left Uni and joined the WA Crown Law Department. Sam married JOHN GARNETT’s (1986-90) sister Merrilee. The family has since moved to Rozelle, NSW and Sam has taken up a position as a Crown Prosecutor in the NSW Crown Law Department.

When BEN SMITH (1991-95) left school he went to Sydney University to study Marine Architecture. Now fully qualified he is enjoying his job in the design office at Austal Ships Pty Ltd at Henderson, South of Fremantle.

The recent Federal election provided an opportunity for a few old boys to put their names forward. BOB MERRELLS (1957-67) contested the seat of Pearce for the CDP Christian Party. While he had some support, it wasn’t enough to see him enter the House of Representatives. Then too both IAN CAMPBELL (1975-76) and MALCOLM HARRINGTON (1960-64) were candidates for the Senate. Ian held his Liberal seat while Malcolm missed out for the New Country Party.

SANJIVAN KANDASAMY (1989-93) and ANDRE RATOS (1989-93) came to Christ Church from Malaysia. Sanjivan’s late father and Andre’s mother practiced in the same medical clinic in Kuala Lumpur. While Andre went on to study medicine in India, Sanjivan entered the Dental School at UWA. We heard recently that Sanjivan had worked for a year in Albany after graduating. He returned to Perth to undertake a BScDent research year at the Dental School. Currently he is completing a specialist residency (Doc.Clin.Dent) at the University of Melbourne and earns some pocket money as a Tutor at one of the residential colleges. He is aiming to move into private practice in Perth next year.

JOHN HAMILTON (1956-58) is the author of the recently published book Goodbye Cobbler, God Bless You which is already on a best seller list. The story deals with the events leading up to the Charge of the Australian Light Horse at the Nek at Gallipoli on 7 August 1915. There were two regiments involved - the 8th consisted of Victorians while the 10th were West Australians. Colonel Noel Brazier, grandfather of the late PETER BRAZIER (1952-58), his brother JOHN (1952-61) and their cousin JOHN FITZHARDINGE (1945-57) commanded the 10th Regiment. The three Johns stood tall among the mourners at Peter Brazier’s funeral.

TOBY BROWNE-COOPER (1985-87) trained as an Architect after leaving school. He then moved into Commercial Law. Working for Linklaters in London proved to be invaluable experience for him. He became involved in Public Private Partnerships (PPP), advising on major British Private Finance Initiative projects. Having since been involved in major construction and mining projects in Australia he is now convinced that standardised procurement contracts might cut the high cost of public infrastructure. Toby was recently awarded a Master of Public Private Partnerships Scholarship by the Australia Council for Infrastructure Development (Aus CID) to undertake a Melbourne University Private Research Masters Degree. He is one of the first cohort of students to enrol in this degree. His Masters’ thesis will investigate the use of standardised PPP contracts in the UK. He will then determine whether similar arrangements can be applied in Australia. We feel sure that Toby will ultimately convince governments worldwide that many public projects can achieve greater value for money by capitalising on private sector expertise and involvement.

JOHN THROSSELL (1972-77) moved to Melbourne last year with his family to take up the position of Principal Environmental Hydrogeologist with Parsons Brinckerhoff which specialises in the assessment and remediation of land and groundwater contamination and soil salinity. He can be contacted at jthrossell@pb.com.au

MICHAEL WILLIAMS (1990-94) who went to Afghanistan with the SAS Regiment as a member of the Army Reserve in 2001 has commenced a course at RMC Duntroon and hopes to graduate as a Commissioned Officer in the Regular Army in July 2005. Meanwhile NICHOLAS WHITEHEAD (1993-00) is in his final year at RMC Duntroon. He will be commissioned this month and upon graduation is hoping to be posted to either an Infantry or Armoured Corps.
After finishing school DAVID THURUNG (1973-79) pursued an ill-fated career in several of Perth’s “leading” bands before realising that an income of $10/week would never pay the bills. He moved to Melbourne, did a course in Business Studies (Advertising) at RMIT and upon graduating joined the Val Morgan Cinema Advertising group. This was to be the start of a series of jobs in advertising/marketing before he embarked on a career in the retail property development. For the past 17 years David has worked with international companies in business development and marketing in Australia and SE Asia. He recently spent three years in Jakarta. Now married with a young son, David lives in Singapore and is the Senior Vice President in Capital and Commercial Ltd, one of Asia’s largest retail property companies.

Recently JEREMY BOND (1991-98) entered the inaugural BRW National Student Share Portfolio Award contested by 1800 university students and won! Punting on volatile ‘penny dreadfuls’ which were rocketing from one and two cents to 20 cents he turned a $200,000 virtual share portfolio into almost $1 million, finishing up with more than twice the value of his closest rival. Jeremy is working for merchant bank Azure Capital along with SIMON PRICE (1991-92) where their mentor is JOHN POYNTON (1957-68). He is looking forward to buying a new suit then investing the rest of his $10,000 prize money. He has indicated that he would like to start his own company one day.

JIM CREED (1953-57) recently visited the School. It was the first time he had seen the campus in 47 years! He and his wife are on vacation from the UK. Jim will ultimately catch up with his older brother WALTER (1952-57) who lives in Victoria. The Creed brothers travelled from Singapore by ship (the Blue Funnel Line) to attend Christ Church in the 1950s. Apart from the top oval, where as a 12 year old Jim recalls scoring 50 runs in a cricket match against Scotch, there were not many aspects of the campus to which he could relate. He did note however, when browsing through the 1956 Mitre, that brother Walter had won third prize in an essay competition for a story on his Singapore experiences titled Beyond Imagination.

DAVID MACKENZIE (1971-79) is a partner in an engineering firm specialising in building long span bridges and while he gets to work in many parts of the world, there are no big contracts in Australia. David lives in Surrey, UK with his wife and four young children. He managed to organise a mini-reunion of the Class of ’79 last year when he met in a London pub with CRAIG ROSS (1975-79) and DAVE MORGAN (1975-79). All three were, at one stage, members of Brian Marsland’s middle distance athletics squad.

Software consultant JASON FERGUSON (1985-90) has opened an office for Aaromba Technologies in Perth which provides GoldMine CRM and HEAT support desk products. The company has won numerous awards and is the largest consultancy in Asia Pacific for their niche software. Old boy NICK RUSSELL (1980-89) recently joined the company as Business Development Manager. They look forward to assisting many old boys’ companies into the future!

SAMUEL RAHMAT (1997-99) went on to study jazz at the Musicians Institute in Los Angeles after graduating from school. Returning to Perth in 2001 he enrolled in a BCom majoring in Marketing at Curtin University which he completed in 2003. Samuel married Stephanie in December 2003 and they are living in Perth working as chemical exporters and part-owners of Merchant Tea & Coffee Cafe at Applecross. Samuel is acting as a guardian for his father’s friend’s son, Garry Mamahit, who is a Year 10 boarder in Walters House.
Darius Tang (1981-89) completed a BA in Art and Design at Curtin University after graduating from Christ Church. He then began an advertising career in Perth before moving on to Singapore, Hong Kong and China. Darius is currently living in Hong Kong working as an art-based Associate Creative Director on regional business for a multi-national agency, TBWA. While working in Hong Kong, he met his fiancée, Claudia, a law graduate from San Francisco. They plan to marry at the end of 2004.

Tim Minchin (1982-92) played Hamlet in Clare Hooper’s streamlined 90-minute production of Shakespeare’s classic which was presented as part of Perth Theatre Company’s Umbrella! program. As soon as Hamlet was over he headed for Sydney to compose the music for Toby Schmitz’s This Blasted Earth which is a parody on the great Australian musical.

Matthew Hudson (1999-03) is studying law at Fremantle’s University of Notre Dame. He is currently in the United States doing some law units at The Catholic University of America. He is also completing a congressional internship in Senator Ted Kennedy’s office. In the lead up to the Presidential election he was sent to Georgia to help win the Democratic Party’s election drive in the 12th district.

Michael Paver (1994-96) is one of the Movember for Canteen crew who donned stubby shorts and trucker caps and grew their moustaches to mow lawns in Fremantle, Melville, Cottesloe and Claremont (and everywhere in between) in support of cancer. Even the Mayor of Fremantle, Peter Tagliaferri, got in on the act.

Blair Hebenston (1996-00) is studying law at Fremantle’s University of Notre Dame. He is currently in the United States doing some law units at The Catholic University of America. He is also completing a congressional internship in Senator Ted Kennedy’s office. In the lead up to the Presidential election he was sent to Georgia to help win the Democratic Party’s election drive in the 12th district.

Egypt and Turkey that fascinated him the most. “Just to be in a country whose religious environment was entirely different from anything I had seen before was sensational. Waking up every morning to the sound of people being called to dawn mosque was pretty cool. Whilst we were in Turkey it was the Muslim Festival of Ramadan, a month of religious celebration, which in Turkey meant there was a carnival atmosphere every night on the streets.” Matt’s article is available at the Old Boys’ Website.

Coming from a farming background near Narrogin Sam Astbury (1991-93) has crammed a lot into his life since leaving Christ Church. Last month Sam won the National Liquor Industry award for Bar Manager of the Year for his work with Luxe and Hudson. He has also been a prime mover in establishing the Australian Bartenders Guild in Western Australia. Then too he won the Restaurant and Catering Institute of Australia Bartender of the Year and in between drinks took out the National Suntory Cup. This most recent win earned him a trip to Las Vegas for the International Bartenders World Convention at the Bellagio Convention.