



# GDC ALUMNI

April 2019

## The Principal's Desk

Dear Alumni,

### Happy Easter!

Congratulations to the GDC Alumni who won the “Jeanette Bell” trophy for the second year in a row. In spite of the weather, a number of past students turned up to compete with current students in Basketball, Futsal, Netball and Touch Rugby. The college won the netball, and the Alumni took out the other three events. Many thanks to our Alumni Director, Nicole Parish, for organising this wonderful event.

The first term has gone very well despite the terrible events in Christchurch. As a school we were not directly affected, beyond students and staff with connections to Christchurch and/or the Muslim community. Two of our Muslim students organised a ‘Green Ribbon’ fundraiser and our Head Prefects (Jess Nielson and Ed Blair) spoke very well to students at a full school assembly.

Otherwise 2019 is off to a great start. We found out that we had the highest number of students in the college’s history (26) gaining NZ scholarship, and our NCEA results were equally impressive. These place Glendowie College in the top level of academic achievement for schools of our size in New Zealand.

We’re also enjoyed success in our sports. Our boys’ and girls’ cricket teams had great seasons. Our girls’ team played in the Auckland Premier grade and ended the season mid-table after beating St Kentigern and Dioscesan School for Girls. Our boys ended the regular season top of the table in the 1B grade, and narrowly missed out on getting promoted to the 1A grade. Next season!

In rowing, our squad returned home from the MAADI Cup regatta with a gold medal. Our Girls’ Under-18 Coxed Quadruple Sculls crew of Jessica McIntosh, Jamie Iro, Olivia Hay, Sasha Moltschaniwskyji and Oliver Heafield (cox) rowed a stellar race in lane 8 to place first in New Zealand. Special mention goes to Olivia Hay who was subsequently selected to trial for a New Zealand rowing squad. That is an outstanding achievement.

On the property front, things are progressing well. We finished the refurbishment of the Quad last year, installed artificial turf on the old netball courts over the summer holidays, and have just completed new netball and tennis courts next to the Moore Gym. These will open for use next term. Next term we expect work to start construction of new garages and a new weights room, before construction starts on the new Science block in term 3. It’s great to see our plans and vision come to fruition ... thanks to the fundraising and support of alumni and parents.

Next term I will be away from the college as I visit schools in Canada, USA and London as part of my Woolf Fisher Fellowship. Mr Gordon Robertson will step into the acting Principal role, and Ms Jo Fraser will be acting Deputy Principal for the term.

Ngā mihi,  
Richard Dykes

## Coming up in 2019...

Recent Leavers' Reunion - Wednesday 3 July, 5pm-7pm

1960's Decade Reunion - August 16, 7pm-11pm

## Alumni Sports Day 2019



The second-ever Alumni Sports Day was held last Saturday and went ahead despite heavy rain at times. The new artificial turf was used for competition for the first time as it hosted the touch game, won by the Alumni team, with a bit of help from some extra school boys.

Futsal was played in the old gym with the Alumni team winning well. And the Moore Gym held the netball and basketball. Despite a strong turn out from old-girl netball players, the school team gradually pulled away and built up an impressive lead, taking out the win. While in the basketball, the school boys battled valiantly against a skilled Alumni team with a height advantage and who eventually won well. Points overall awarded the Jeanette Bell trophy to the Alumni once again. The cup was presented to Loia Tuafafo, one of our most recent Alumni, in the staffroom where refreshments and a social chat were enjoyed.

Thank you to the school players who turned up to take on the Alumni, the Alumni players —especially the team organisers — and special thanks to Physio Rehab Group, The Coffee Guy, and Year 13s Amanda, Liam and Anthony, who ran the sausage sizzle.

## Stay in touch...

Find us on Facebook - [Glendowie College Alumni](#)

## Alumni News

The college had a special alumni visitor in February. Foundation pupil and inaugural head boy Doug Stewart and his wife Riitta were given a tour of the new school sports facilities under construction during their visit to NZ, while on holiday from San Diego. Doug was also the first president the Past Pupils Association and kept in regular contact with foundation principal Lindsay Adams.

As a successful swimmer and runner, Doug won an athletic scholarship to the University of Hawaii after his Glendowie College days in the mid 1960s. However, a string of injuries curtailed his athletics career and Doug ended up completing a PhD in Biomechanics and specialising in orthotics. Doug's wife Riitta originally hails from Finland and this was her first visit to New Zealand. She and Doug are pictured with current principal Richard Dykes on the Adams memorial bench and also with the tree Doug planted as a student.



## BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR THE 1960's DECADE REUNION!!

*A chance to catch up with old friends and reminisce, this is for anyone who attended Glendowie College during any year of the 1960s, so please forward the invitation to Alumni you know of who may be interested.*

Click here: <https://www.trybooking.co.nz/BEV> to make a booking



# The 1960's Decade Reunion



**GDC ALUMNI**

**Glendowie College Hall  
Crossfield Road  
Friday 16 August  
7pm-11pm**

**Tickets \$35**  
Welcome drink and nibbles on arrival  
Supper served at 9pm  
Cash bar — eftpos available

Send your updates to [alumni@gdc.school.nz](mailto:alumni@gdc.school.nz)

## Then and Now...

1983 Glendowie cricket team versus the 2019 First IX after a good win this season.



## School news

### Rowing Gold

Pictured are our MAADI Cup gold medal-winning girls-under-18 coxed quadruple sculls crew of Jessica McIntosh, Jamie Iro, Olivia Hay, Sascha Moltschaniwskyj and Oliver Heafield (cox). They were one of three Glendowie College teams to make the finals - which are the top eight crews in New Zealand. Special mention to Olivia Hay who was selected as a 2019 NZ Junior trialist, with those trials taking place this week at Lake Karapiro.





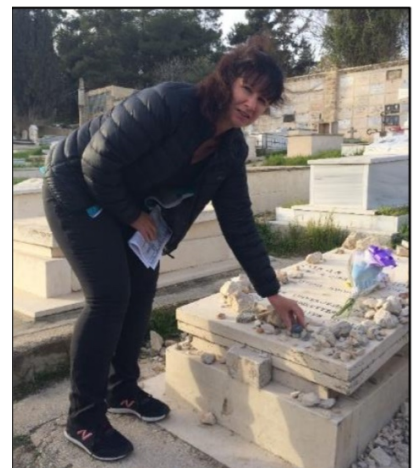
### Never a dull moment

The first term of the year at Glendowie College is always a whirl of outdoor activities, including Summerfest - a celebration of the Arts; Athletics Day - where the house colours of Ruamoko, Tane Mahuta, Tangaroa and Ta Whirimatea are always out in force; as well as camps and field trips - including the recently introduced Year 9 camps which are proving hugely successful.



### Experience of a lifetime

Head of history Michelle Simpson took up her scholarship awarded by the Holocaust Centre of New Zealand and travelled to Yad Vashem in January. Michelle says being able to engage with some of the world's most acclaimed holocaust historians, listening to 115 hours of lectures and meeting holocaust survivors was the experience of a lifetime that will impact both her teaching and everyday life. It will also help her to write the Year 13 history course.





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### Update on the sports facilities upgrade

Significant progress has been made since the last Alumni newsletter. The artificial turf has now been laid and is already in use for hockey training. The new netball/tennis courts are complete and ready for the netball season. Construction will begin on the new weights room to be built between the Moore Gym and the new netball courts in term two.



### Would you like to help us stay in touch?

We are looking for a key person from each year (1961 - 2018) to be involved with promoting the alumni events. If you are interested, please contact Nicole at [alumni@gdc.school.nz](mailto:alumni@gdc.school.nz)

## Spread the Word

If you are in contact with other ex-students

please forward them this newsletter or the link to join our growing Alumni



Find us on Facebook  
Glendowie College Alumni



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Thank you for being part of the Glendowie College Alumni  
We look forward to staying connected  
[alumni@gdc.school.nz](mailto:alumni@gdc.school.nz)