



# Ad Augusta

A NEWSLETTER OF TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

September 2014

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award

Courtenay Giles, Year 13, was awarded her Gold Award after years of hard work, countless hours of giving, tramping and learning new skills, at the Youth Awards Ceremony for Queens Scouts and Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Awards, conducted at Government House in Wellington.

His Excellency, Lt Gen Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae Governor – General of New Zealand awarded 58 young people the Queens Scout and Duke of Edinburgh Award. Courtenay made comment that the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award was "one of the most worthwhile programmes" she had ever been involved with. She was able to see some of the most beautiful places in New Zealand, while at the same time making life-long friends and memories that she will never forget.

The Gold Award is the culmination of the Duke of Edinburgh journey, however, by no means the end. The experiences learnt from the Award process will springboard Courtenay into the next phase of her life. Congratulations Courtenay on a fantastic achievement.

By Mr Grant Simpkins, TIC Duke of Edinburgh



*Courtesy of Photography by Woolf*

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# Dear Parents and Guardians

We are at an important time of the year. I write this as students are sitting our own school's examinations, options choices for next year are being handed in and enrolments are well underway.

As a school we have been attempting to provide as much information to you as parents, and to your students, as we all look to support the decisions and study patterns of our students. We have been delighted with the very strong turn out to the morning tea sessions, offered again in a second round this term. Along with various information evenings and individual conversations we remain committed to supporting you and your students at this important time of the year. If you do have any questions and are not sure who to contact, please send an email to [principal@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:principal@takapuna.school.nz) and I will be happy to respond, or delegate this to some one who can assist you best.

In discussing NCEA, NZQA have released an "NCEA App". It is a free app and is worth a look if you would like some general information about this qualification. International Baccalaureate information is available on [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org). Both qualifications are well described on our own school website as well.

Enrolments for 2015 continue to land at the school as parents and their students seek positions at Takapuna Grammar School. While we remain committed to in-zone enrolments I am also reluctant to split up families so have been looking at ways we can enable the siblings of out-of-zone students and the children of staff to be able to enroll at Takapuna Grammar School. To enable this we have opened up 15 places for those dynamics through the priorities of balloting for out of zone places. In this way we hope to allow families with students already at the school to be able to send their younger children to the same school as the older siblings. At this stage enrolments have arrived very early and the school is already very



house all classes. This will shorten up the time frames on the project significantly. I will update you as decisions about this possibility are secured.

I wish you all well for the balance of this term and encourage you to contact the school if we can assist you through these demanding times in any way.

Regards

Simon Lamb  
Principal  
Takapuna Grammar School

full for 2015.

The progress of the building programmes continues. The Science Facility Development is progressing ahead of schedule and it looks as if we will be able to move in to this precinct sooner than originally planned. Brosnan Construction is the main contractor and has been serving the school well. We will be moving in early January now, in readiness for the start of the 2015 academic year. The main building continues to undergo further assessments. We expect a full report in the next week and from there the detailed remedies will be determined. During this process, as early as December, the successful tenderer will be engaged in both the assessment solution and the remedial works. There is a possibility, with the Science Development ahead of schedule, that we may be able to address both the decanted western wing and the northern wing of the main building concurrently, as the school has the available space to



## For your information:

20 September – 25 September

21 October

22 October

23 October

27 October

29 October

30 October

30 October

31 October

31 October – 2 November

10 November

17 – 18 November

19 – 21 November

24 – 26 November

1 December

2 December

3 December

3 December

4 December

5 December

"Works on Paper" Student Art Exhibition at the Depot

Mufti Day

Sports Prizegiving

Performing Arts Prizegiving

Labour Day

Senior Prizegiving

Exam Slips Distributed

Revision Week Starts

IB Y2 Examinations Commence

Senior Portfolio Exhibition in PB Block

NCEA Examinations Commence

Junior Examinations

Yr 9 Camp

Yr 9 Camp

Christmas Concert

NCEA Examinations Finish

Year Book and Leaver's Dinner

Tickets Issues

Leaver's Dinner

Junior Prizegiving

End of Term 4

## Homestay families needed for 2015

Takapuna Grammar School requires host families for 2015. You will need to be within 1 bus ride or walking distance of the school and have English as your first language.

If you are interested in hosting an International student please email or phone for further information

Bronwyn Hill / Carole Cowley  
[homestay.coordinator@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:homestay.coordinator@takapuna.school.nz)  
 4894167 ext 9226



**KIDSLINK is a kiwi enterprise dedicated to making life easier for children, young people and their families. KidsLink's vision was to build a user-friendly resource that would benefit parents, schools and service providers, and most importantly, our young people. Targeted at finding help (and fun) for the under 20s, [www.kidslink.co.nz](http://www.kidslink.co.nz) is an online community connecting young people and their families with relevant, local and trusted service providers who can help with, Learning, Behaviour, Physical Needs, Extra-Curricular activities & Childcare. KidsLink is proudly supported and used by our school.**



## Barkers All Black Power Breakfast

60 lucky guests joined Barkers at the Hotel De Brett in Auckland to attend an exclusive All Blacks Power Breakfast hosted by Tony Veitch. All Blacks Cory Jane, Conrad Smith and Charles Piutau spoke openly to future 1st XV rugby players from the Auckland region. Donald Coleman, Rei Tui-Lagihiloa and Max Parekura were the lucky ones selected to represent Takapuna Grammar School and were provided a morning of All Black insider secrets, laughs and delicious food.



*Polished Brass performs songs from wartime at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. Conductor Mr Ted Dawson. Polished Brass is the elite brass band of Takapuna Grammar School.*

Congratulations to Christine Zhou, Emilly Fan and Catherine Jacobs for reaching the semi finals of the New Zealand Spelling Bee. They were selected from hundreds of contestants around New Zealand who entered the first round and they were successful in gaining a place among the top spellers for the Auckland/Northland region. They represented Takapuna Grammar well and a great time was had by all.



*From left: Emilly, Catherine, Christine.*



## Language student excels at regional competition

Alice Song participated in this year's Auckland Regional Secondary Schools' Japanese speech festival at Auckland University of Technology. Alice chose to speak on the topic of electronic devices and how they affect our lives. Competing against a strong group of participants, Alice presented for three minutes in Japanese and was awarded the Special Prize in Category Three (Year 13).

Reflecting on the experience, Alice found it really interesting to hear others' ideas on a variety of different topics and to see their performances on stage.

Alice has studied Japanese for five years and in 2010 travelled to Japan on the TGS Japan Tour. She has a real passion for learning languages and hopes to be able to visit Japan again in the future.

## Staff achievement

Ms Woodfield (TGS Salsa Queen) Competed in three divisions at the New Zealand Salsa Solo Championships – Adult Salsa Shines Teams (a team of six ladies), Adult Open Latin Duets (any combination of any Latin styles), and Adult Salsa. Ms Woodfield and her team placed second for both the team and the duet.





# Sports

**Donald Coleman**

Invited to attend the Blues U18 Development Camp, Apprentice Day

**Ellie Cowan**

Silver Medal in the U20 Criterium at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs

**Harry Elworthy**

Silver Medal in the U20 Criterium at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs

**Oscar Elworthy**

Gold Medal in the Team Time Trial at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs for the Junior Boys' A Cycling Team  
Silver Medal in the U16 Road Race at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs

**Adam McPheat**

Gold Medal in the Team Time Trial at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs for the Junior Boys A Cycling Team

**Jacob Kench**

Gold Medal in the Team Time Trial at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs for the Junior Boys' A Cycling Team  
4th in the U14 Road Race at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs  
4th in the U14 Criterium at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs

**Harry Waine**

Gold Medal in the Team Time Trial at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs for the Junior Boys A Cycling Team  
Gold Medal in the U16 Road Race at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs  
Gold Medal in the U16 Criterium at the North Island Secondary Schools Cycling Champs  
3 Gold Medals in the track for Scratch, Points and the Elimination Races at the North Island Secondary Schools Track Champs

**Lexi Fleming**

Runner up in the U18 age group at the New Zealand Highland Dancing Championships in Blenheim

**Rina MacDonald**

Ranked 4th in U16 age group at the New Zealand Highland Dancing Championships in Blenheim

**Ella Ganley**

Represented NZ at the U19 Ultimate Frisbee Junior World Champs in Italy

**Erica Gatland**

1st, National Indoor Bouldering Series, Event 1 in Christchurch - Open Women's Category

**Julia Giurgiu**

1st, North Harbour Secondary Schools Cross Country Champs, Junior Girls

**Max Griffiths**

Selected for the NZ Orienteering schools team to travel to Perth and Tasmania

**Darya Kharitonova**

Represented New Zealand in the team U17/Cadet and U15 Fencing Championships in Sydney, Australia

Bronze medal in the U15 team competition

Highest ranked New Zealand fencer in the U17/Cadet

Bronze medal at the Fencing North U20 Championships

3rd, Fencing New Zealand National U20 Championships

1st, Fencing New Zealand National U20 Championships Teams

**Eliza McCartney**

Jumped 4.40m to equal NZ Senior Pole Vault record now ranked 3rd in the world for the U20 category

Bronze medal at the World U20 Athletics Championships

**Emma Rolston**

Selected for the U20 New Zealand Football Ferns at the upcoming U20 FIFA World Cup in Canada

**Markus Somerville**

Bronze Medal at the ISAF World Youth Sailing Championships in Portugal, 29er class

**Elle Wintle**

2nd, Pukekohe Duathlon, U16 Girls

# Academic

**Shannon Blackhall**
**Benjamin Davies**
**Katherine Jacobs**
**Ella Johnson**
**Natalie Morrison**
**Oscar Treadwell**

High Distinctions in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools Science

**Iverson Chan-Tung**

Absolutely perfect mid-year report - all 1's for both attainment and effort

**Robin Charlett-Green**

Member of the PSSP team and selected by the ADHB as a student leader to help at the training hui. He recently got a team Youth Health Organisation Award at the I am Auckland Awards

**Sabina-Maria Giurgiu**

Special Certificate of Merit in the Rodney Walshe Annual Ireland Essay Competition for outstanding essay writing in her essay "Reviving our Native Languages".

**Sam Cho A+**

Completed MAX (Maths 153) University Paper

**Toshiki Kogiso**

Completed MAX (Maths 153) University Paper

**Samim Ozyurteri**

(97%) which is presumably an A+  
Completed MAX (Maths 153) University Paper

**Mustafa Sherif**

Completed MAX (Maths 153) University Paper

**Adelie Tan B+**

Completed MAX (Maths 153) University Paper

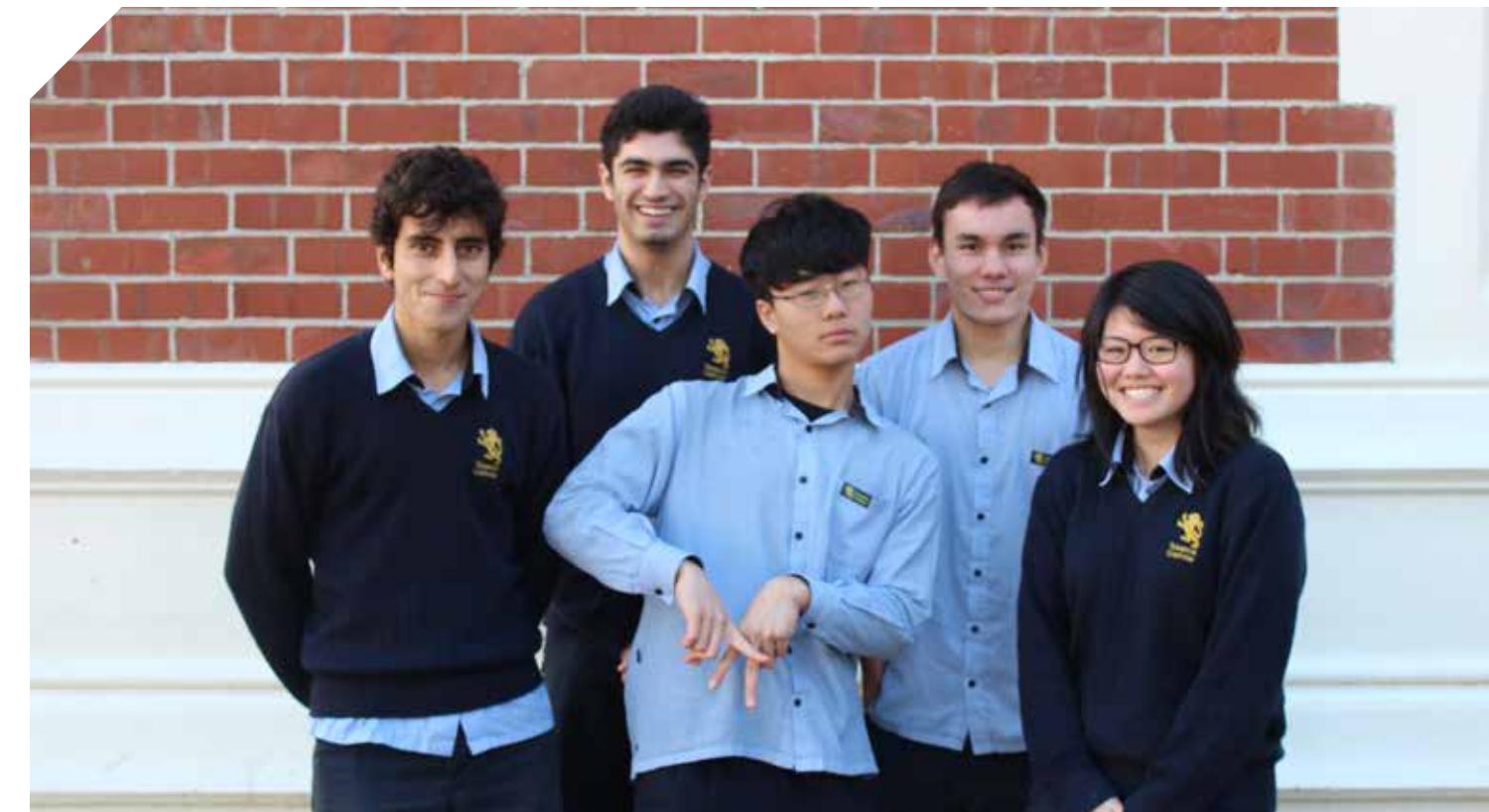
**Emilie Sedelmayr**

Selected in the Eureka! Sir Paul Callaghan Awards and will compete in the national symposium in October

# Extra-Curricular

**Courtenay Giles**

Awarded Gold Award at Government House for Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award



Matto Whizz-Kids: Mustafa, Samim, Sam, Toshiki and Adelie



# A selection of Year 12 responses to books and films - extracts taken from English internal assessments

The novel, *An Abundance of Katherines* by John Green, begins with a self-proclaimed prodigy who is desperately searching for something that will cause him to qualify for the slightly illusive title of genius. Said prodigy also has a slight obsession with dating girls named Katherine, hence the aptly named title. At the beginning of this novel Colin, the prodigy in question, has just been dumped by Katherine number nineteen, and is feeling rather melancholy. In a desperate attempt to cure his sadness Colin's best friend, Hassan, promptly whisks him away on a road trip. After a small amount of exploring they end up in a small town named Gutshot in Tennessee. Here they meet two important characters, a cryptic girl named Lindsey and her busy mother, Hollis.

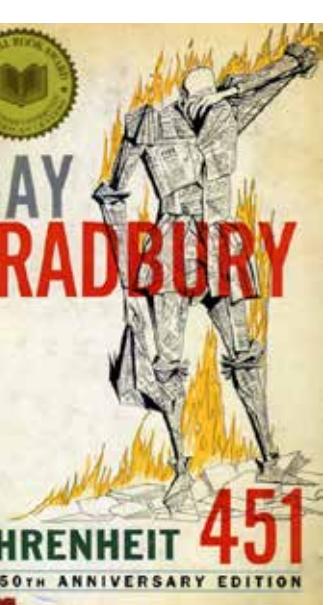
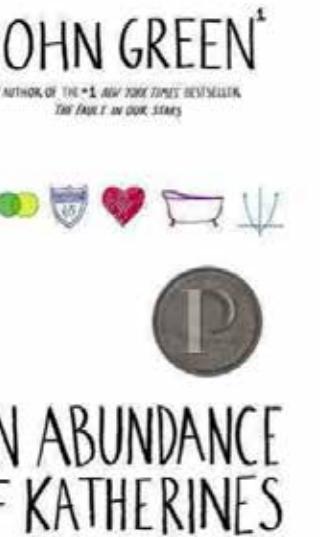
The character of Lindsey was particularly interesting to me as a female reader because she was the only female character, of Colin's age, to be positively portrayed in this novel. *An Abundance of Katherines* contained plenty of negatively portrayed female figures, such as Katherine 1-19 and Katrina; however there were few who were seen to be constructive to the story line. Lindsey was depicted as strong, kind and intelligent, which are attributes that I believe to be important. She was also complicated and had been through and great deal. These aspects of her personality were all tied together excellently by Green, which transformed her into a deep and important character. Also, the fact that, in the end, Lindsey and Colin end up putting their pasts aside and continuing on together filled me with hope. They each received a positive ending, which in my opinion was greatly deserved. "...We're invisible. I've never been here with someone else. It's different being invisible with someone." I think that this quote, said by Lindsey to Colin, describes accurately how a majority of people in the world feel lonely and invisible. This feeling is something that Lindsey is described to feel often, which is also a large part of the relief and happiness that the ending of this novel, when Lindsey and Colin end up together, invoked in me as a reader.

By Mirabelle Field

.....The issue of intensive mass media is prevalent in *Fahrenheit 451*. The futuristic society in the novel depicts a future where corporations and the government (it's funny how the line between the two is often blurred) constantly bombard us with messages and images by mass media, a future where people are always wired and disconnected from reality. The characters in the novel live their lives in rooms with entire walls that act as televisions. Montag's wife, and much of society, spends most of their time either with a miniature radio in their ear, drowning out the real sounds of the world, or in front of their massive televisions. In these TV dramas the viewer's name is woven into the program and the viewer is able to interact with fictional characters called "the family." This increases disconnection from reality, creating what are fundamentally imaginary friends. Scenes in the shows change quickly, images flash rapidly in bright colours, all of it designed to produce distraction; distraction from reality. To people in this society the real world is dull compared to the fast pace of the television dramas. Youth no longer take time to think and appreciate the world, and instead take up thrill seeking in ultra-fast cars.

Throughout the novel, Bradbury portrays mass media as a veil that obscures reality and prevents people's ability to think. It's a way to keep the thought-oppressive, conformist society running. I am a big fan of future dystopian novels and films because of their interesting predictions of the future, and social commentary on the issues today that will lead to the portrayed dystopian future, and *Fahrenheit 451* did not disappoint. I thoroughly enjoyed *Fahrenheit 451*.

By AJ Balmer



*Memoirs of a Geisha* follows Sayuri, a nine-year-old girl who is separated from her family when she is sold as a geisha. Sayuri tells us about her life as a geisha and surviving the hardships during the war.

I found this book fascinating. It was an insight into a lifestyle and time that I could never have even imagined. Hearing Sayuri reflect on her life was a sad, touching and yet amazing story. Her experiences are from a totally different world than the one in which I live which made it all the more gripping. I found her to be a truly inspiring character. She lived through such hardships and yet she found a way through it. From being torn from her family as a child, to living through the war she loses her hope at times but always finds it again. I really enjoyed the theme of hope in this book. It showed me how good will always come to those who deserve it, as it did to Sayuri, which I thought was an inspiring message.

I thought the writing style of this book was amazing. The descriptions were detailed and often included beautiful metaphors which really transported me to the setting of the book. I loved the descriptions of the Kimono and architecture because it meant I could imagine the beauty of some of the things in Japanese culture. Sayuri's feelings were also explained in a way which made me truly empathetic towards her. I found I became very attached to her character and often mimicked her emotions throughout the story. She was a very calm and gentle character which I liked immediately about her. As she was torn from her family I imagined myself in that position and realised just how devastating it would have been for her.

I also really enjoyed learning about a completely different culture in the book. I was compelled by the routine and conduct of a geisha. It was so interesting hearing about the intricate and exotic kimono and the tea and dance ceremonies. I was a bit shocked by the exploitation hidden in this Japanese tradition. Although it all appears to be very conservative and respectable Sayuri shows us that that is not entirely true. It made me realise that not everything is always as it seems on the outside.

This book really opened my eyes to some of the awful events of our past and present. Although this book is set in 1929, I know that similar things happen today all around the world. The theme of war came through strongly and it showed how everyone suffers, not just the soldiers. It made me truly grateful for my safe and sheltered life.

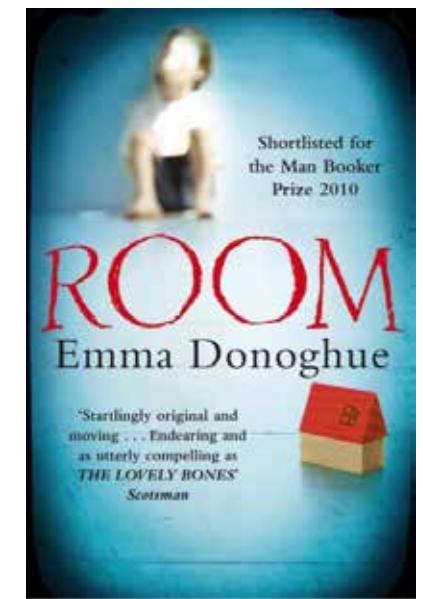
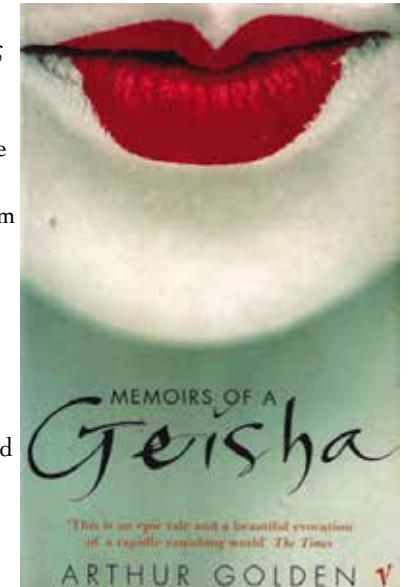
By Lisa Pijper

*Room* is a book about worlds. It will absorb you into the world of the novel, and it will change the way you view the world around you. Emma Donoghue left me feeling uplifted and heartbroken at the same time, I was left with a fear of the world, yet at the same time, faith in the world. This book doesn't show a right and a wrong, it shows the truth of human complexities, and the complexities of the world we live in. *Room* is a book about human resilience, strength and how the bond between mother and child can survive all obstacles.

*Room* is the story of 5 year old Jack and his life with his mother, who he only knows as Ma. He has lived his entire life in a single, locked room. The outside is something he only sees on his T.V. His life with Ma is filled with repetitive games – labyrinth, fort, track and orchestra. Jack doesn't mind, he loves his life, it's all he knows. But when Ma and Jack finally enter the real world, the complexities of life force Jack to question everything he knows.

The entire book is narrated by 5 year old Jack. This means the vocabulary is fairly simple, however this only makes the story even more compelling. In the case of *Room*, less really is more. All Jack knows is the single room he was born and raised in, all he has is his imagination and the love of his mother. This means that as a reader I saw the world through the innocence of Jack's eyes. The irony was how a horrific abduction was the reason behind Jack's naivety and innocence towards the world. Despite all the horrors he experienced, hiding in 'Wardrobe' while 'Old Nick creaks Bed,' with Ma, Jack never loses faith in people or the world. When he enters the real world, he makes a friend, and declares 'I love this boy.' He was born in isolation yet he never lost his ability to love and trust. This is the terrible beauty that grew from an act of cruelty. It was this that touched me. The painfully honest way Donoghue portrayed the world. Not as black and white, not as good or bad but as the grey, confusing mess that people and the world really are. Just as flowers grow through the cracks of pavements, beauty can come from the darkest of places.

By Hannah Patterson





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Although this movie possibly empowers young women to be the best they can be, I didn't like it. Reading all three books, I thought this would be a movie to remember, action, a love story and a heroine saving the day, what's not to love? But the movie screen play was completely different to the book. I didn't feel any emotional attachment to it as I had felt reading the books. The hatred towards Peter wasn't developed during the book. The movie didn't include Edward being stabbed in the eye by Peter, and the fear Tris felt about even being in the same room as him. We didn't feel the heartache that Tris felt about leaving her parents, nor did we see the scene where Tris meets her mum again on visiting day, but we do see her during one of the jobs the 'dauntless initiates' have to do, meeting her mother, but this is a very short scene and doesn't cover the emotion Tris feels.

In the movie we don't see the hatred Tris feels for Jeanine that her Father's parenting passes on to her. 'Valuing knowledge above all else results in a lust for power, and that leads men into dark and empty places. We should be thankful that we know better.' So at the end of the movie, where Tris and Four do defeat Jeanine, we don't see the happiness and sense of accomplishment that Tris feels. When watching Divergent, I didn't feel part of it, I felt like an outsider and never fully understood Tris the character and her admirable way of thinking, like I did in the book.

In this movie, Tris isn't displayed as such a hero, we don't see her thought process changing from an innocent naive girl, to a mature, young woman. At the start of the book and movie, we see that Tris put her life on the line for her friend, Al, but at the end of the book, we see a change in her thinking - she doesn't risk her life for anyone anymore, she knows she has a job to do and accepts that she can't save everyone 'I am no longer Tris, the selfless, or Tris, the brave. I suppose that now, I must become more than either'. We don't see this in the movie, as we don't see her thought process, the movie isn't narrated as much by Tris, and this in turn doesn't show us how the events in her life, such as Al's, her Mum's and Father's death changed her.

By Ciara Connolly



## Works On Paper

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

20th Sep - 25th Sep

*Opening in the Project Space  
and Vernacular Lounge  
Saturday 20 September, 12-2pm*

28 Clarence Street,  
Devonport, Auckland  
09 963 2331  
[www.depotartspace.co.nz](http://www.depotartspace.co.nz)

Depot Artspace



## Get2Go Challenge

Following the senior students who successfully qualified for the Hillary Challenge Grand Final, the junior students were challenged to continue the winning form in the Get2Go Challenge qualifier. This sport is definitely growing at the school, with four teams entering this year, not just the usual one; three mixed premier teams and one all girls' team of Year 10 students.

The North Harbour/Waitakere event was held on in early August, run by the Outdoor Pursuits Centre of NZ around Auckland.

Takapuna Grammar School have won the past four years so along with wanting to make it five in a row, this year's teams were also trying to match last year's team of winning all four sections at the qualifier.

The qualifier included climbing at Clip n Climb, mountain biking at Arch Hill, kayaking on Lake Pupuke and an orienteering/rogaine around Western Springs. With the closest finish in many years, TGS 1 won by just 3 points from close rivals, Westlake Boys' and Girls'. This team was Saskia Vosper, Julia O'Brien, Alex Dooley, Anna Jacobs, Jono Nicholas, Adam McPheat, Cory Pelham and Oscar Koller. The other TGS teams finished 3rd, 5th and 7th - a fantastic effort for all four teams. For the team that now heads to the Grand Final on Great Barrier Island in December, the training starts again in earnest as they will have five days on the Island in full Adventure Racing mode aiming to win the National title.



## Equestrian success

TGS riders were among the 55 teams entered in the Secondary Schools' Equestrian Cup in early August. Each school has two show hunter riders and two show jumping riders. Places 1-10 scored points for their team and overall our team placed 13th = out of 55 which was a very good effort. All our riders posted scores for the team as follows;

India Gibb-Pearson	Hack Show Hunter 80cm, 8th
Elise Power	Hack Show Hunter 85m, 6th
Elise Power	Hack Show Hunter 90cm, 2nd
Eloise Loughlin	Hack Show Jumping 90cm, 7th
Aila Morgan -Guthrie	Pony Show Jumping 80cm, 3rd

The final school equestrian event for this year is the NISS show jumping champs held at St Peters School Cambridge on Friday 24th October.





# Hillary Challenge

The Outdoor Pursuits Centre of New Zealand deliver the hardest adventure racing series for Secondary School students. To qualify and even make the Grand Final is an achievement in itself and only 11 NZ schools make it to this standard. In 2012 our school qualified to make it to the Final but since then we have attended each qualifying event in the attempt to again make it to the Final in Tongariro the year after the qualifier.

This year, a team of eight students travelled to the first North Island qualifier in Wellington during term 2 but narrowly missed qualifying by a very small amount, the equivalent to one orienteering point. This inspired the team to attempt the second qualifier in Auckland with more determination than ever. The race was held in the very wet Riverhead and involved over 20km of mountain biking



Hillary Qualifier Auckland Team: L to R: Aidan Nicholas, Ellie Cowan, Lily MacDonald, Adam Rundle, Tessa McNair, Bridget McArthur, David Sorrenson, Robin Charlott-Green



# Boys' football

After a tough year in the A1 Division the Boys football team headed off to Whangarei for Winter Tournament. They arrived to find flooded fields and a postponed start after the area was subjected to a month's rain in two days.

The Games began well with a 10-0 win and two slightly closer 1-0 games, finishing pool play unbeaten to qualify for the top 8 of the tournament.

The quarter final game came down to a penalty shootout as it was tied 0-0 at full time. Some outstanding goalkeeping from Josh Kirk and professional standard penalty taking from the team gave TGS a 5-4 win on penalties, to go through to the semi-finals.

This game was still tied at 0-0 with 6 minutes to go but a late charge by Kristin led to a narrow loss in the dying minutes of the game. The last game of the week was a success with a win against Botany Downs which meant clinching 3rd place.

The Boys were an outstanding team who deserved the great result that they gained. Thanks to Ian Gray, coach for the year, and to Dave Coshan, his assistant.



# Girls' football

The First XI headed off to winter tournament on the back of their best season in years. They came 3rd in the Auckland Provincial Championships, behind Mt Albert Grammar and St Kentigern's College; teams that train 5 days a week and use gym facilities to maintain strength and stamina all year round.

National tournament saw high hopes for our team; one with a real mix of experience. It included three Year 9 players added to a core group of Year 13s who have been in the team for their full 5 years. These are Clara Garcia, Jasmin Krishnan and Josie Topp (who was the recipient of our Player of the Tournament). We were very lucky to have the services of Aliesha Taylor, Stacey Hallford and Emma Rolston (who is a New Zealand U20 rep) who joined us this year.

The girls started the tournament with two wins and a loss against Mt Albert to finish second in our pool. This meant we qualified in the top 16. Better than last year's result of 18th. We then came up against St Hilda's college and the game saw a close battle but 0-0 at final whistle. A penalty shoot-out went all the way the 8th attempt before

our goal keeper Emily Couchman put the final shot away to secure victory and a top 8 playoff.

The next game against Hutt Valley turned out to be our worst game. Despite our many more attempts at goal Hutt Valley were able to convert off a corner and see the game through to a 1-0 win for their school.

We played New Plymouth Girls' High School for a playoff of 5-8 and we came back with a vengeance scoring 4 goals by half time; final score 4-2.

The next day saw us playing off for 5th and 6th in the country and the best we have every done in the history of TGS football. Our match was against the mighty Tauranga Girls' College who have been in the top four, for the past 4 years. It was an exciting and attacking match. With our tenacious defence, some great attacking play and clever goals, and with a star goal keeper in Emily Couchman, we came away with a 4-2 win and 5th place.



## Cycling championships the individual competition

The NZSS Individual Cycling Champs are held in Auckland each year. With three races making up this Champs, the 45 cyclists have been training hard, leading up to this first of two National events on the Secondary Schools cycling calendar.

The students raced in an Individual Time Trial (ITT), a Hill Climb (Hill) and a Criterium (Crit) over the two days. Also available was the overall combined points from those three races.

TGS Cycling's distinctive yellow skin suit is highly visible on the course and is seen often at the front of the bunch. In total, Takapuna Grammar School cyclists won 17 medals over the weekend with many other Top 10 finishes. The medals were won by:

Harry Elworthy, 1st Hill, 2nd in the ITT, Crit and 2nd in the Overall Points, U20 Boys

Ellie Cowan, 3rd U20 Crit

Katherine Badham, 2nd U17 ITT

Vincent Allen, 3rd U17 Hill

Oscar Elworthy, 1st ITT, 3rd Hill and 2nd Overall Points for the U16 Boys

Jacob Kench, 2nd Crit and 3rd Overall Points for the U16 Boys

Harry Waine, 3rd ITT and 2nd U16 Hill

Adam McPheat, 3rd U15 Hill

Joshua Kench, 3rd Hill and 3rd Crit for U14 Boys

The cyclists now work towards the final National event for the season, the NZSS Cycling Champs to be held in the Manawatu the first weekend of the September school holidays.

## New Zealand Secondary School Squash Nationals

Over the weekend of 8-10th August we made the school's first ever trip to the NZ Secondary School Squash Nationals in Nelson. This is the premier event on the school squash calendar with 26 boys teams and 15 girls teams.

Although TGS did not feature in the top three places we did finish a credible 9th having been the 13th seeded team. Along the way the team faced some tough competition including the 4th, 8th and 10th seeds beating two but missing out against Whangarei Boys High who went on to finish in line with their seeding position at 4th.

This was an excellent experience for the team and some fantastic squash was played over the tournament days. We are already starting to plan and prepare for next year's event in Palmerston North; it'd be great to be able to take a second team, either boys or girls, too.

Our thanks go to Mrs Perry and Mr Alvey for organising the trip.



*Logan Forbes, Chris Pirie, Chris Alvey, Harvey Malva, Michael Laws.*



## UNISS netball tournament

For the 2014 winter tournament, our Senior 1 netball team competed in the Upper North Island division, in West Auckland. Day one was played in torrential rain and resulted in a couple of unfortunate losses for the girls.

The team approached day two with great determination, and emerged as winners in two tight games. Day three was a bit of a struggle, and the girls were unlucky to lose both games in hard fought battles. Day four and five were successful days, with four impressive victories. Adding to the teams strong finish to the tournament, Cartier Cookson was selected for the C Grade Tournament team; a brilliant achievement.



## Open Boy's Basketball

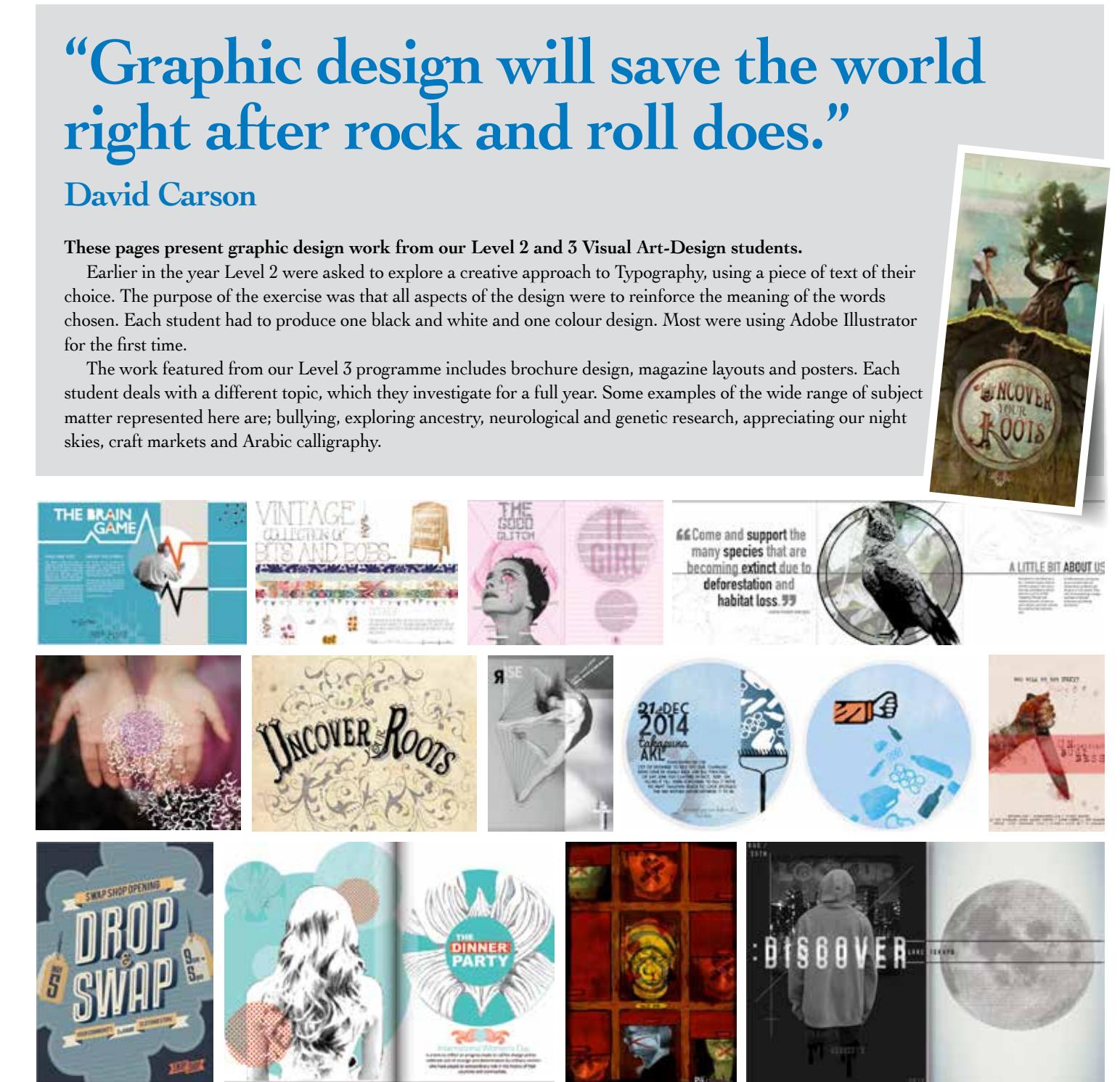
The Open Boys Basketball team competed in the Auckland Secondary Schools Premiership Basketball Tournament held in Winter Tournament Week, at the North Shore Events Centre. The boys got off to a shaky start going down to Rosmini 58-77 and MAGS 40-67. These teams were always going to be the two toughest opponents in our pool, none the less not the start we were looking for.

Day two was a huge improvement as the team began to play some great basketball. First up was Auckland Grammar B and the boys got up 83-73; a relief to get the first win. Next up was Avondale and TGS proved far too strong, running away with an impressive 93-76 win. Spirits were much higher and the boys needed one more win to confirm a spot in the top 16.

And win they did, defeating Kelston Boys 72-59. This was followed by a win against western Springs 80-72. This win guaranteed a spot in the top 12 but the effects of playing six games in three days was starting to show.

The final day didn't go the way the boys wanted, going down 68-109 to St Peters College and 78-91 to Westlake Boys B. Regardless of these two results the boys and the coaching staff of Jesse Mangu and John Nunnington should be extremely proud of the results and effort put in over the four days as they finished 12th out of 24 teams, improving 12 spots on last year's efforts.

Callum Wardell  
TIC Basketball





## Ten years of achievement

**It was a momentous occasion.** The school's 10th annual fashion show was held at the end of August, at the Bruce Mason Theatre in Takapuna. This event has become the highlight of the school calendar, growing in style, prestige and class every year.

Over the past four months, the Level Three Soft Technology class, along with teacher Deb Woodward and HOD of Technology, Jane Rouse, organized the show in partnership with the Starship Foundation – the charity supported by the proceeds of the event. With a legacy to uphold, the students began brainstorming ideas for themes, production, and designers in May, in order to ensure this was the best show yet.

This was arguably the wackiest show so far, with a space ship designed by Ms Woodward and constructed and brought to life by technology teacher Mr Kelly, along with cyberpunk dancers, and steampunk ensembles unlike anything most had seen before.

The show began with the Year 10 onesies with pyjama-clad figures appearing out of the spaceship. It moved on to vintage looks from Devonport's Viva La Vintage, featuring go-go boots and a whole load of fur. Looks from Greek designer Ioanna Kourbela, Auckland boutique Maudella, Top NZ designer Hailwood, Devonport store



Echo Boutique, Takapuna-based suit hire Frank Casey, and surf/street wear store North Beach all featured in the show. Steampunk designers Cogs and Compass provided a series of looks fit for a fabulous – albeit dystopian – future.

Also on display were looks by past Takapuna Grammar students who have gone on to study fashion – Kirsty Woodward, Sidonie Jago, Nicola Irving, Hong Su, Katie Philp, Gina Kearney, Lauren Kerslake, Katie Mantell, Natalija Snjegota, and Olivia Chitty.

Dresses made by the Level Three Soft Technology students were emblazoned with everything from pompoms to intricate beading, laser cut designs, to bold floral embroidery. The Level Two shift dresses referenced 60's icons such as Apollo 11 and the original Batman. The Level One creations were based on famous architectural masterpieces, and the Year 10s also modelled futuristic wearable art.

Phoebe Johnson, a Year 12 student performed two songs – "Fly Me To The Moon" by Julie London, and "You Know I'm No Good" by Amy Winehouse. "Age Of Aquarius" from the musical Hair was covered by a wickedly retro-clad quartet consisting of Maddie Hay, Kate Harris, Phoebe Johnson, and Alexandra Blakely.

By Lily Palmer



## TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL FUNDRAISING OFFER



Peter Ayton and Phil Clark are proud to support Takapuna Grammar School in this, the second year of our Special Recognition Award Programme. Adding to the support we are now offering to donate \$1,000 to the school for every family, staff member or friend of Takapuna Grammar who lists and sells their property with us.

### 'The Power Of Two'

**Phil Clark**

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# Habitat for humanity

A brand-new, five bedroom, house is set to be constructed on the school's front field in March 2015. In an exciting new project the school is thrilled to be involved in, we are partnering with Devonport Rotary and Habitat for Humanity to house a family in need of an affordable, safe home.

Habitat for Humanity is an international housing charity that builds and renovates homes for people in housing need, throughout NZ and around the world. Takapuna will be supporting Habitat with their 101st build in Auckland.

The housing problem in Auckland is acute, with many families forced to live in unhealthy and overcrowded accommodation. Habitat partners with low income families and the wider community, to build affordable homes that will provide hope and stability for the future. They believe in a hand up, not a hand out. After helping in building their home, families partner with Habitat for up to 10 years, making regular, affordable payments until the time they can secure a mortgage and purchase the home.

Conrad La Pointe, executive officer for Habitat, is excited for the build. "Habitat for Humanity is very proud to be partnering with Takapuna Grammar and Devonport Rotary. We see each build as a process that can enable as many people as possible to get involved in the provision of decent, healthy, and affordable housing for families in need. That Takapuna Grammar pupils are engaging with this process on so many levels, shows that the benefits of these community builds can be wide ranging, and provide exciting learning opportunities."

The majority of the house will be built with donated materials and volunteer work, providing a valuable opportunity for many students



Courtesy of Devonport Flagstaff

and locals to get involved in a special community project. Students are already involved in promotion, communication and organisation aspects. Over the coming months, hundreds of students will be given countless opportunities to contribute to the project, as a part of their curriculum learning in design, local service and business. Student, Danielle Desvaux de Marigny says she's honoured to be a part of the project "It is always fantastic to help those less fortunate than ourselves and we are also looking forward to participating in the build, which is a rare and exciting opportunity in itself."

Built in just 16 days, once the house is completed it will be transported to Clendon Park, in South West Auckland, for the Sakalia family of seven to move in. It's estimated the entire project will be finished by December 2015.

The build will be made possible by the generosity of the Devonport Rotary, who are contributing financial support and sourcing products and services, as well as promoting the project throughout Auckland.

Mr Terry Holding, Takapuna Grammar School's Relationship Manager and a member of Devonport Rotary, sees the project as a great opportunity for student learning. He says, "It aligns to the New Zealand Curriculum competencies of Participating and Contributing and also to our school goal of promoting a willingness amongst students to serve their community. It is a chance to put learning in a real life context."

If you are interested in supporting the project in any way please contact Conrad La Pointe at Habitat for Humanity, Auckland, on [conradlhp@habitatga.org.nz](mailto:conradlhp@habitatga.org.nz) or 0272 391 082 or Terry Holding, [t.holding@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:t.holding@takapuna.school.nz). This support could be through the provision of product, trade skills or donation.



The seven members of the Sakalia family



# Habitat for Humanity Build Challenge

**Build a LEGO® house for Habitat!**

Join the Build Challenge: build a house out of LEGO® for Habitat for Humanity and make a difference! Be in to win some great LEGO® prizes too. Join one of our fun local events during the school holidays, or build at home (27 September - 12 October). Check [www.buildchallenge.org](http://www.buildchallenge.org) – registrations open from 27 September.

**Build a LEGO® Brick House for Habitat**

**27th Sept -12th Oct**  
**Build at home or join in at a local event.**

**Register on [www.buildchallenge.org](http://www.buildchallenge.org)**

**FREE All ages**

**Book your space online for an event near you**

**Be in to win LEGO® Sets and Prizes**

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Devonport  
**Rotary**





# Grammar Link

## Memories of school days

Emma Cluett – (TGS Dux 2002)

**What did you do after leaving school?** - I started tertiary study at the University of Auckland, School of Medicine. After completing my Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery in 2009, I started a House Surgeon job at Middlemore Hospital and I am now training in Paediatric Medicine.

**What are your career highlights?** - I have had the opportunity to work in many different settings and with patients from all backgrounds and cultures. I have had the opportunity to work in many hospitals around New Zealand including Tauranga, Hamilton, Gisborne, Christchurch and Auckland. I have also been able to work in rural General Practice in the Bay of Plenty. In 2009 I was able to volunteer at a rural hospital in central Tanzania with no electricity, running water and limited medical resources but lots of love, laughter and of course the resident baboons.

**Do you keep in touch with friends from your years at TGS?**  
- It is lovely to have friendships from TGS that now span almost two decades. Social media makes it easy to stay in touch with class mates. It looks like our 'graduating' year, at TGS, have spread their wings across the world. There are many ex pupils doing some amazing things.

**What are your other interests and passions outside your working life?** - I love all things outdoors; tramping, mountaineering, kayaking and have climbed in the Himalayas, Europe and Asia. I think I was inspired by Mrs Evans Geography trip to the central plateau. We did some lovely walks but missed out on the Tongariro crossing due to bad weather. I have been making up for this ever since.

**What advice would you offer to today's students?** - Your goals both during and after high school have to come from your heart and not the heads of others. Study hard but also make time to enjoy your high school years.

**What did you enjoy most about your years at TGS?** Having varied opportunities: from Jazz band to netball. Being able to take control of my own learning, accelerating in some areas and being able to seek help in areas I struggled with (Japanese).



### CLASS of 1953 Reunion

Venue: Takapuna Grammar School, Bert Sutcliffe Lounge, Sports Hall.

Access from St Leonards Road or Winscombe Road (down driveway).

Our Prefects will be there to guide you.

Date & Time: Labour Day, Monday 27th at 10 a.m.

Contact : Wendy Strain [w.strain@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:w.strain@takapuna.school.nz)

Tel.48941678, Ext 9031 (if you haven't heard from Barbara/Jim)

Cost : Bring a small plate to share



Dear fellow ex-TGS pupils,

Exciting news. In 2017, TGS turns 90. This is an anniversary that deserves a birthday party – and of course with all of us as guests. Right now, we're looking for several capable and enthusiastic people to form a small team to coordinate planning for this exciting event. Within this team we'll need organizational skills, PR skills, social media capability, business experience and connections, and some innovative thinking ability. If any of this sounds like you and you'd really like to see this grand 90th birthday party happen, please help.

If you think you can help, please reply to [w.strain@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:w.strain@takapuna.school.nz) with your name and contact details. We will be in touch with you with a date for an initial scoping meeting for people to attend, before committing themselves to this team.

This is going to be a party for everyone who has ever attended TGS. In other words, a grand general reunion, with several high-interest activities to celebrate the date, but most of all, lots and lots of opportunities to catch up with all those people we went to school with and teachers too.

Three of us have kicked this off, but to make it happen, we're going to need your support. We'll be looking for your ideas about the activities you would most like to see and your help in contacting other fellow ex-pupils

With our best regards,  
Rosemary Cathcart, Committee



GIRL PREFECTS.

Back Row: Joan Fordham, Margaret Wilson, Lynda Wrigley.  
Front Row: Kathleen Darlow, Margaret Reid, Joan Hickey (Head), Marie Mackie, Beatrice Rushton.



BOY PREFECTS.

Back Row: B. R. Woodall, D. M. Riddle, S. H. Downard, A. J. Hendry, S. H. Hunt.  
Sitting: J. S. Reynolds, E. A. Martin, P. C. Rennie, P. A. Macindoe, J. B. King.  
Absent: J. H. Hunt.

Dear Ex-Pupils,

We always welcome news of our former pupils and staff. If you have any news or stories we could publish in future newsletters, please email me [w.strain@takapuna.school.nz](mailto:w.strain@takapuna.school.nz) or by post P O Box 33-1096, Takapuna, Auckland 0740. Tel. 489.4167, ext. 9031. Attention Wendy Strain.

As an ex pupil you are always welcome at Takapuna Grammar School and at TGS events. We hope you enjoy browsing this newsletter.

If you are in contact with friends who attended TGS and may not be on our database, please ask them to update us with their details. [www.takapuna.school.nz/about/membership-form/](http://www.takapuna.school.nz/about/membership-form/)

Regards,  
Wendy Strain





# Catch Up Corner

**FASHION GARMENTS** produced by our Ex Pupils at the recent TGS Fashion Show.

'Back to the Future', the 10th Anniversary of the TGS Fashion Show was held at the Bruce Mason Centre and raised more than \$12,000 for the Starship Foundation. The evening showcased much of the fashion work produced by students. A few ex pupils also displayed their work.

The Colourful item is by ex-pupil Katie Philp (Model is TGS student, Alice Zhou). Katie has graduated from AUT and is now working in the Fashion industry.

The White outfit is by ex-pupil Olivia Chitty (Model is TGS student, Augustine Morgan-Guthrie). Olivia is currently studying at Massey University.

Congratulations to Jacko Gill and Brooke Cull. Both were named in the New Zealand team to compete at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Congratulations to our ex pupils James Robertson and Niwa Whatuira.

The film The Dark Horse is written and directed by ex-pupil



James Napier Robertson. It opened the 2014 New Zealand International Film Festival in Auckland and Wellington and will have its international premiere at the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival in September 2014.

The Dark Horse is an inspiring true story based on the life of a charismatic, little-known New Zealand hero, Genesis Potini, played by Cliff Curtis (Once Were Warriors, Whale Rider, Boy). The film also stars ex pupil Niwa Whatuira who plays the real-life character Michael Manihera.

