



# Collegiate Life Annual Report 2023



## University Operations

### Campus and Collegiate Life Services

Campus Development | Chief Operating Officer | Information Technology Services  
Health and Safety Compliance | Project Management | Property Services  
Risk, Assurance and Compliance | Student Services | Sustainability

University of Otago | PO Box 56 | Dunedin 9054 | New Zealand

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# Foreword

2023 was an apparent return to normality in our colleges and work. The spectre of Covid was no longer all-pervading and collegians responded with a happy and highly engaged cohort.

Towards the end of the year we formally opened our new 450 bed Te Rangihīroa College and closed Arana College for its much-needed refurbishment (to re-open for 2025).

The Inter-College Competition was as vibrant and exciting as ever with teams from all colleges and skill levels filling the weekends with noise and colour.

Aquinas College's beautiful new bedroom wing extension came out of the ground early in the year and will be ready for occupancy sometime in the first semester 2024.

2023 also saw the long-awaited return of large numbers of international students to the colleges and Uniflats; their diverse cultural and language adding to the Otago experience for all.

Uniprint continued to deliver their excellent services to staff and students, and the University Union team began the work of developing an on-campus revival plan to land early in 2024 as part of a wider strategy to keep current, and improve, the campus experience for our students and staff.

Food surveys showed a continued excellence in services and quality as did the College surveys.

As a leader it is both satisfying and humbling to lead such a great team of staff.

James Lindsay JP  
Director Campus and Collegiate Life Services





# Collegiate Communities



## Aquinas College | *Te Kāreti o Akuinahi* Rosemary Tarbotton - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 was a happy year characterised by a friendly and fully engaged cohort of residents. We had to hire a larger bus because so many students were going to class, and our tutorials were well attended, at least until nearly the end of each semester.

The year was a reasonably healthy one with only a small number of Covid and influenza cases, we were very relieved about this. As always mental health issues were many and varied but having Student Health come up fortnightly made it much easier for students to be seen.



The students took part in parties, hops, theme dinners, and particularly enjoyed the ball, which for the first time was held on site. The annual Aq gutbuster (run from Dolphin St up the hill) was well attended and enjoyed (mostly) by all.

As usual Aquinas were enthusiastic participants in the intercollege events, acquitting ourselves well against the other colleges. We won the mixed doubles table tennis so a new pennant for the wall.



This year for our ski trip we went to Lake Tekapo and had a wonderful weekend. The snow was great, and those who didn't ski had an enjoyable time in the village, ice skating and going to the hot pools. The weekend was a resounding success, especially as most of the attendees were our lovely international students.





Thanks to everyone who made 2023 such a success. We look forward to moving into our new block and welcoming another cohort of Aquinians in 2024.

## Resident of the Year: *Chloe Johnston*

I grew up in Singapore but have come from Christchurch where I went to intermediate and high school. I came to Otago to do health science first year with the hopes of getting into medicine for next year. Having finally completed my first year the things I've really enjoyed about university has been for starters the flexibility that comes with lectures and tutorials. It's no longer an hour-by-hour day like it was in high school.

I've loved the college because it has accommodated my transition from living at home to being out of home. I couldn't imagine trying to juggle the new experience of University alongside cooking or cleaning. The sub wardens and wardens have also been such a huge help just as a comfort to know there's always someone in my corner while going through University.

Finally Aquinas has been amazing in that it's small and I got to meet everyone and form friendships with many as well. I've loved my uni experience so far thanks to Aquinas :)





## Arana College | *Te Whare o Hato Rāwiri* Ruben Katigbak - Warden/Tautiaki

Arana College faced its fair share of challenges and adversity throughout the year, but our resilient community emerged triumphant, bidding farewell to Arana College for 2024. In February, our residents arrived brimming with anticipation and excitement for the upcoming year. We kicked off O-Week with enthusiasm, witnessing a surge in engagement with college activities that rapidly energised our community. The early and solid connections formed among our residents fuelled optimism among the staff, especially after the tribulations of 2022. 2023 marked a genuine return to the character for Arana College.



The Arana staff took full advantage of the excited fledgling community, organising numerous small and large events that garnered some fantastic attendance. These gatherings introduced the unique “characters” of the year, with residents sporting persistent smiles and a can-do attitude. This created an enthusiastic core of residents who consistently made our events engaging and fulfilling for both staff and their fellow residents. Key events such as the Wine and Cheese and Tuesday Night Sports in Smithells Gymnasium played a

crucial role in laying the foundation for Arana’s strong sense of community. With the combination of high participation, particularly in the early part of the year, and well-executed event planning, the initial weeks of 2023 were incredibly memorable, and set the stage for a fantastic year.

The strength of the cohort became evident as we navigated the challenges that Arana encountered throughout the year. When Te Rangihīroa College’s completion date faced unavoidable delays, Arana swiftly adapted, making rapid calendar changes to be able to enjoy the rest of the year in Arana’s home site. Student input played a crucial role, leading to the organisation of hall-only parties and the revival of the Arana & Studholme joint party, which had college residents socialising in a safe and enjoyable environment. A highlight was the creation of a hoodie designed by resident Jarel Taunoa, featuring a modernised take on the traditional Arana design, complemented by a ta moko design made by Jarel.

Later in the year, Warden Ruben Katigbak’s promotion to Senior Warden led to Johnny Nu’u stepping in with a massive effort, supporting the Arana College staff in caring for over 380 residents alongside his duties at Studholme College. Despite this and other significant staff changes, Arana College staff and residents persevered, maintaining consistent pastoral care and hosting remarkable events, including an 80th “Birthday” celebration of the college’s opening in 1943!



Arana remained committed to community service, with residents actively participating in volunteering opportunities such as collecting a record amount in donations for Daffodil Day, and the annual Quarantine Island trip which saw 20 students stay the night on Quarantine Island and pitch in to maintain the ecological and historical heritage of the island. The Inter-College Competition gave Arana's residents a chance to showcase their diverse talents, securing 2nd place overall in cultural and sports competitions and claiming 1st place in the gaming competition for the first time in Arana's ICC history. The "certificate wall" at Arana grew extensively in 2023, reflecting the residents' participation and effort.



In terms of extracurricular inter-college activities, Arana triumphed over Carrington College, winning back the Stuart Shield in a day-long multi-event battle. Our elite debating team successfully regained the King Cup from Carrington through impassioned discussions about environmental activism. And, after a two-semester multi-sport battle against University College, Arana secured the Clyde Cup with a nail-biting netball match victory, breaking a 4-4 tie between the two colleges.



The team at Arana College expresses immense gratitude for the opportunity to guide the 2023 cohort through the start of their university journeys. We recognise the privileged position we hold in witnessing the development of over 380 individuals during such a tumultuous time, and we are as always humbled by the resident displays of passion, excitement, and curiosity. The 2023 cohort is one to be proud of, and we hope that they reflect fondly upon your time at Arana.

## Student Profile: *Jack Toulson*

Hailing from Christchurch, Jack came to Arana as an energetic and capable resident who became well known for his cheeky sense of humour. Jack was absolutely in his element during O-week, as he very naturally brought shy and nervous residents out of their shell in what was an overwhelming environment for many. He was also a key figure at all Arana events, and Arana staff greatly appreciated his ability to muster up participation at our events, from speed dating, to the drag show, to the ICC. As evidenced by his various hobbies, ranging from boxing, to music, to snowboarding, Jack was seen at every type of event Arana hosted, each time with a new group of residents.

Jack went on to foster many close connections as the year went on, and had a mixture of large and small friend groups. His easy-going attitude made him excel at forming connections with everyone at the college. Jack also experienced success academically. A first-year health science student, Jack did a great job at balancing his social and academic commitments and has set himself up well for a successful 2024. Arana is grateful to have been a part of Jack's university journey, and we wish him the best for what the future may hold!





In late 2022, in a moving ceremony led by the Ngāti Mutunga iwi, the name Te Rangi Hiroa College was temporarily put to rest (awaiting the opening of the new Te Rangihīroa College a few blocks away) and the building and community started a new beginning as 192 Castle College; the new name reflecting the building's location on one of Dunedin's iconic streets.

The year began with a welcome to the new residents, and the start of a new era as 192 Castle College. The residents embraced the new beginning from the start. With the border re-opening following years of covid restrictions, the College cohort was different to the previous couple of years, with a renewed group of international residents within the College. Although the smallest College at the University of Otago, 192 Castle College is also probably the most diverse.

Staffing wise, it was a year of change, with the departure of Deputy Wardens Jenna Lockhart and Brian Satake, and then the appointment of Dasha Joseph Fernandez as Deputy Warden just in time for semester two. Mhairi Elliot was also seconded to 192 Castle College as an Assistant Warden to work alongside Zoey Taylor. In another important event, our administrator Esther Hanson left us in June for a year of parental leave. All these staff helped to create an environment where people feel supported through challenges and embraced new experiences.

Although we have a great building, it is the residents that really make the College. Led by a fantastic group of subwardens, our 2023 residents embraced the opportunities right from the start as they participated in Orientation Week activities, which finished in a relaxed manner with the inaugural Cumberland-Hayward-192 Castle College carnival on the lawn between Hayward and Cumberland, after a successful floor wars volleyball event at the same venue the previous day.





As the smallest College at Otago, 192 Castle College punched well above its weight in intercollege events. The year began with a tight win in the Waka Ama competition by a combined 192 Castle-Cumberland College team, and finished on wildcard sports day with wins in both kī-o-rahi and renegade hockey. There was also participation throughout the year in a range of sporting, gaming and cultural events and competitions.

Our residents studied a variety of courses, with a large number enrolled in the Health Science First Year course. While our residents formed great connections and participated in both organised and spontaneous events, the majority also knew why they were at University. We had high attendance at College tutorials and our residents were very focussed academically.

Along the way, we had some great College events, including several HOPs, the College Ball, and a full range of floor wars events. Perhaps the greatest sign that the College is in great heart is shown in the fact that around ten percent of our 2023 cohort will be returning to 192 Castle College in 2024, as returning residents.



## Resident of the Year: *Dev Pandya*

The 192 Castle College Resident of the Year winner, Dev Pandya, was someone who fully embraced the college as their own. Dev came to us from Burnside High School in Christchurch and had an impact on virtually all residents and staff, always around the College with a smile on his face, and saying hello to anyone he passed in the hallways.

He gave everything a go and was someone who was continuously first to put their hand up for anything. He was extraordinarily involved in inter-college competitions, which included but was not limited to: Battle of the Bands, netball, debating, basketball, and Big Sing. Dev helped out staff with any odd jobs we needed done around the college and he even jumped in at the last minute to be our college Santa at the Midwinter Christmas Formal Dinner (a performance that will not be forgotten soon by anyone who witnessed it). Saying no did not seem to be in his vocabulary. But despite all this involvement, he was also academically committed, embodying everything that we value in 192 Castle residents.







# Carrington College | *Te Kāreti o Carrington*

## Ali Norton - Warden/Tautiaki

Carrington College entered its 78th year on a sunny Saturday in February. Following our annual "Carry 101" presentation, our entire college gathered on the tennis court for a twilight "speed meet and greet." Rotating through in two large circles, our new residents laughed and chatted as our new community began to take shape. After meeting new friends and starting to feel a bit more comfortable, our Sub-Warden team led a spirited session of college chants, getting everyone hyped for the hotly anticipated Inter-College Sports Day. Two days later, the hard work and relentless practice paid off as we thundered down Union Street, through campus and onto Logan Park, our Carrington pride on full display for everyone to see. The rest of the week was all about building connections, both to each other and to the larger community. Through service initiatives across Dunedin, attending OUSA events, playing Zorb Soccer we ended our O Week with inter-flouse Dodgeball. Dressing up is a must at Flouse Dodgeball, and the 'dads' of Tiro Moana & Pine did not disappoint.



We dove headfirst into the Inter College Comp in 2023 coming out on top across various Sports, Gaming and Cultural Comps! Carrington came 1st in, Puzzlemania (setting the new Inter College Record of 38:41), Debating, and Painting ; 2nd in Men's Competitive Badminton, Dance Comp – Open Division, Overall Visual Arts, 3rd in Gaming Comp, Women's Rugby Sevens (with our friends at Salmond) & 48 Hour Film Festival. Our residents jumped headfirst into every Cultural Comp this year, spending a lot of time practicing and learning dances & songs – most of them dancing on stage for the first time ever.

Some of the highlights of 2023 include taking part in a very wet Relay For Life, with one resident committing to wearing Irwin the Carrington Croc for five hours straight. Carry's Got Talent taught us all about Geo-Guessing (incredible skill), we heard from our songbirds, laughed at some bad dad jokes, and water drinking became classified as a 'talent'. The winner as always was decided by the audience, and resulted in a voting upset when the google form was left without a form limiter and we received 4933 total votes (many of them strategic) and the winning performance ended up being a haunting rendition of 'Tequila' by The Champs. 16 brave residents went on a volunteering camping trip with two sub-wardens and Chloe. After tidying up Trotters Gorge for our friends at Unipol, they spent a night under the stars. CarryVision (our version of the Eurovision Song Contest) rounded off Semester 1 nicely, with some good-natured roasting of other flouses, fun costumes and an ode to all the dishes taken from the dining room back to students rooms.





In Semester 2 we kicked off by hosting a Taylor Swift Era's Tour (Carrington Version) where students dressed up as their favourite Taylor Swift Era and they sung along to all of their favourite Taylor Swift songs. We then hosted a 'C' Rave where our resident DJ (DJ Court – Ali's husband) played the best drum&bass hits of the 90s and many Conspiracy theorists, Cookie monsters and Cows were in attendance. The Carrington College Ski Trip was great success. A group of keen staff and residents went to Queenstown for a weekend of skiing and hot chocolates. We had an enchanting Ball night when we transformed the college into an Enchanted Forest for a night of twinkly lights and fun. Residents danced the night away in the Cube and our catering team created some incredible food for us to enjoy.



Towards the end of Sem 2 we hosted an Outdoor Movie night on the tennis court, where we enjoyed the best movie snacks (made by our catering team) of popcorn, cupcakes, lollies and slushies. Though it was a cold September night we all rugged up in our winter woollies and watched Barbie. The second semester concluded with a delightful wine and cheese evening on the final day of lectures, during which we said our formal farewells, wishing our residents well for the future. Residents then dove headfirst into studying for their exams and then headed home for summer. We were delighted when Ali and Court's son, the newest addition to our Carrington family, arrived. Shortly after this very happy event, Christina joined us as our new Tautiaki (College Warden) when Ali started her parental leave.

As we conclude this exceptional year, our heartfelt appreciation goes to every individual in our remarkable 2023 cohort.



## Resident Profile: *Riya Sarker*

Riya Sarker came to Te Kāreti o Carrington from the mighty Te Whanganui a Tara. She came to Otago like many others to study Health Science First Year. Riya did not only excel academically but also made the most of her time at Carrington getting involved in many Inter College Competitions and cheering on the sidelines for her fellow collegians. Riya received our Magda Marx Atawhai Award for 2023 for being someone who embodied the Carrington values of atawhai, whanaungatanga and manaakitanga.

Riya's highlights of the year were taking part in the Inter College Dance Comp, dressing up for the C Rave, the Carrington Ball and her absolute favourite was CarryVision.

Riya says that her favourite part of Carrington is that there's always something to be a part of. 'Whether it be an Inter College Competition, Carrington Club, or even just going to the dining room at 10pm, people are always down to get involved in things as well as just having a good yarn. It definitely helped me come out of my shell so much more this year. Also the desserts - we were not a dessert household growing up so most of the desserts I've tried for the first time have been at Carrington and I've loved every single one.'







## Caroline Freeman College | *Te Kāreti o Caroline Freeman* Chris Addington - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 has been an exceptional year for Caroline Freeman College. With COVID-19 challenges starting to recede in the rear-view mirror, the college was back to all our wonderful traditions, events, competitions, opportunities and academic support. Our college continues to be incredibly diverse, friendly, welcoming and highly engaged.

On the staffing front we welcomed new Deputy Warden, Eric Nabalagi, to his first full year of CFC life. Eric has been a fantastic addition to the CFC whanau and we have particularly enjoyed his passion and enthusiasm for art, sport and pastoral care. Eric rallied the entire college to produce a fantastic "Community Tapa" which symbolises all that is CFC. Assistant Warden, Kieran Duncan, has had five excellent years as part of Caroline Freeman but will be leaving in January for a new experience in the USA. We wish him well.



Our ten sub-wardens, both live-in and live-out, were a fantastic team and provided excellent event management and support as well as great pastoral care. Other key staff positions were unchanged for the year and we were very well-served by our management, administration, maintenance, catering and domestic services teams. Resident feline, Kinko, continued in her position as Queen of the College.



Activities, events and competitions are the heart and soul of CFC and 2023 was no different. The Flamingo Players continued the strong dramatic traditions of the college producing two spectacular one-act plays which had sell-out crowds at all performances. Yet again, these shows were student acted and directed with input and oversight from members of the sub-warden team. Multiple open microphone nights were very popular and numerous art competitions continue to be a staple of Freeman life. Continuing on the artistic front, a large group of residents produced the winning Inter-College 48-hour film, a fantastic achievement.

We love our quirky traditions at CFC and these continued with wonderful events such as our mid-year OOF awards (Order of the Flamingo), Valedictory Awards, our wonderful and eccentric dress-up competitions and the best trivia quizzes in North Dunedin. We are also famous for our April Fool's pranks and this year's "Human Foosball" was no exception. Many were completely fooled.

Team Flamingo participates in all the Inter-Collegiate competitions and you can't miss a CFC team decked out in our bright, pink sports shirts with the big phoenicopter on the back. Throughout the year we had multiple teams playing netball, touch, basketball, badminton, debating, chess, Scrabble, table tennis, rugby and more. We finished solidly in the middle of the field in the sporting and cultural competitions. Unfortunately, our drive to win the Gaming Competition for the third year in a row fell short and we had to settle for the overall silver medal. We will be back on top in 2024! We still remain undefeated in perpetuity in inter-collegiate foosball.





Academically the college continues to perform very well and 2023 saw a repeat of the excellent results from 2022. Over 25% of the college achieved an “A” grade point average for the full academic year, an exceptional result. Our tutorial team did an outstanding job providing content explanation and encouragement to our residents.

All-in-all, Team Freeman, 2023, embraced the “CFC Way” and made the college vibrant, engaging, supportive and fun. We can’t ask for more than that. Well done to all! As we look to the future we can confidently say “CFC, the 2024 place to be!”

## Collegians of the Year: *Charlie Waterhouse & Ella Court*

Each year Caroline Freeman College recognises two residents as the Collegians of the Year (COTY). These residents, through their engagement, attitude and enthusiasm, typify the spirit and personality of CFC.

Charlie Waterhouse attended Paraparaumu College and is studying towards a double degree in Law and politics. Throughout the year he was involved in a wide variety of college and inter-college events and activities and in particular inter-college sport. He also helped ensure the winning foosball tradition at CFC as part of the triumphant CFC doubles team.

Ella Court attended Auckland’s Glendowie College and is studying towards a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in chemistry and performing arts. She played a significant part in the college’s dramatic productions as actor, producer and director and was very involved in our art and music competitions throughout the year.

Both Charlie and Ella have been exceptional collegians and have enhanced the Freeman community this year in multiple ways. We congratulate them on being the 2023 “Collegians of the Year”.







# Cumberland College | *Te Kāreti o Cumberland*

## Luke Morrison - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 will be remembered by those at Cumberland as an incredible year of new relationships, new learning, new challenges, and a lot of fun. Cumberland College is well known as a community with heart and soul, and that continued throughout 2023. Our physical environment was also greatly enhanced with newly laid turf on our tennis court. Staffing wise, it was a year of change, with the departure of Deputy Wardens Jenna Lockhart (who had been with Cumberland for six years) and Brian Satake, and then the appointment of Dasha Joseph Fernandez as Deputy Warden just in time for semester two. Mhairi Elliot was also seconded to Cumberland as an Assistant Warden to work alongside Zoey Taylor. All these staff helped to create an environment where people felt supported through challenges and embraced new experiences.







But it is the residents who truly make the College the wonderful environment that it is. Our 2023 residents embraced the opportunities right from the start – from the activities such as sports day, the foam party and our pre-Toga party, as well as more simple activities like introducing interested residents to the great nearby ice-cream shops. Unfortunately, weather caused the cancellation of our Orientation Week volunteering activity. O'Week finished in a relaxed manner with the inaugural Cumberland-Hayward-192 Castle College carnival on the lawn between Hayward and Cumberland. The positive vibes of the carnival meant it is set to become a regular feature in coming years.

Resident participation continued throughout the year, particularly with sports. The intercollege rowing competition, which had been won by Cumberland the previous two times it was held (pre-covid) was replaced by Waka Ama and which a combined Cumberland-192 Castle College team won in a very tight finish. Cumberland won the Women's Netball competition for the 5th year in a row, and Cumberland also won the Cricket festival and mixed doubles pool competition. As well as these wins, there were Cumberland teams entered in almost all inter-college sports and games throughout the year. We also had some very talented sportspeople within the College who competed internationally in several sports.

Cumberland is well known for its mix of social and academic, and once again, our residents knuckled down when they needed to and produced some excellent academic results.

As we emerged from the covid restrictions of previous years, a particular highlight of 2023 was the Midwinter Christmas Dinner, which was the first formal dinner held on site in the Cumberland Dining Room for three years and included a stunning performance of singing and guitar by two very talented residents. The College Ball was also held on site and was a night to be remembered by all. We also had several HOPs onsite throughout the year.

The year finished with a barbecue on the new turf and the awarding of numerous awards, including the prestigious Ryan Adamson Resident of the Year Award.

## Resident Highlight: *Neve Spooner*

This year's recipient of the Ryan Adamson Resident of the Year Award was Neve Spooner, who came to Cumberland from Alexandra. Neve embodied the Cumberland spirit, as someone who was always friendly to residents & staff alike; showed genuine care for other people and would bend over backwards to help a friend or any other Cumberland resident.

For example, Neve on more than one occasion accompanied unwell friends to ED and kept staff informed of how things were going. She was not afraid to give anything a go and assisted staff wherever she could - on Tertiary Open Day she gave tours all day to prospective residents and their families, and at various points throughout the year she liaised with staff to run some spontaneous events. She was also one-half of the mixed doubles pool team that won that event in the Intercollege Pool Competition.





# Hayward College | *Te Kāreti o Hayward* Amber Robertson - Warden/Tautiaki

“Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi”  
“With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive”

The 2023 Hayward College family displayed many examples of this whakatauki, which talks to creating a dynamic and inclusive community that thrives on the principles of learning, collaboration, and mutual respect. It acknowledges that everybody who was a part of Hayward, our Senior Leadership, the Kaiāwhina team, Administration, Maintenance, Kitchen Staff, Domestic Services and most importantly our Residents all had something to offer and by working together we all flourished in this environment.



## Hayward Events

This year, our commitment to fostering a sense of belonging has been unwavering. Numerous events and initiatives have brought together residents from diverse backgrounds, creating a rich weaving of cultures, ideas, and experiences. The establishment of our committee groups such as HAYSCO, Sustainability, LGBTQ+, Māori and Pacific Island has further strengthened the bonds within our community. We continue to strive for inclusivity, ensuring that every resident feels valued and heard.



Many highlights were shared by our residents starting right at the beginning of O' week. These highlights included a volunteer trip to the Otago Peninsula, The Wacky tacky tour bus and the carnival at the end of O' week with our fellow neighbours from Cumberland College and 192 Castle Street, which was a crowd pleaser. Throughout the first semester, residents were responsible for numerous events as part of the various committees they were involved with. Events such as the Themed Dinner & HOP as well as our 1920s Themed Ball which were well organised and well received by the Residents.

## InterCollege Events

The Inter-College Competition is always an experience that residents love to be a part of, and this year was no different with many of our talented Haywardians participating in the sporting, gaming and cultural events. Coming together to form a team and have fun is always the goal for our residents and if you won then that is just a bonus, luckily this year our talented Haywardians were winners of the more prestigious events like Battle of the Bands, Dance competition, Laser tag, Gaming and also proud winners of the Cricket in the mixed recreational division.

Hayward really raised the bar with some memorable performances from our Residents in the Cultural Night and the Big Sing filling their audiences with mahana and aroha. These events have not only provided moments of joy and relaxation but have also contributed to the development of lasting friendships. The success of these events is a testament to the collaborative efforts of our student-led Māori, Pacific and Event committees.





## Staff Comings and Goings

Abby Spronken was AW for the early part of 2023 and was super helpful in supporting and creating an atmosphere that allowed residents to feel at home. Unfortunately, she was only with us for short stint as she already had plans to venture overseas so we wished all the best when she departed.

In April, we welcomed our new AW Mike Mata'afa who has joined our Hayward family and has brought his mana, skills and knowledge to the role and we look forward to him making more of impact on our residents in the years to come.

Sadly, we say Goodbye to our long-standing Deputy Warden Luke Lovegrove. Luke has given a tremendous amount to us at Hayward over the last 15 years and to the University in total for 18 years. His experience is vast, and he has enriched the lives of all of us with his friendly and supportive presence. The great news is that he is taking up a post at Aquinas College and many more students are set to benefit from his mahi.



## Hayward Prize Winners: *Olivia Bedwell & Seren Stevens*

2023 saw the Hayward Prizes awarded to residents who are outstanding community citizens and who demonstrated commitment to scholarly achievement. This year, the two successful Haywardians were Olivia Bedwell and Seren Stevens, central figures in the Hayward Community.

Olivia Bedwell is studying towards a degree in Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science. She displayed strong leadership qualities, plenty of initiative and was very popular amongst her peers and staff team. She was the Vice President of HAYSCO and was an integral committee member in charge of the Ball as well as a member of our Champion Dance team.

Seren Stevens is studying towards a Bachelor of Arts Majoring in Geography and film with a minor in Environment and Society. She is very confident and mature beyond her years, she relates well to others and is always respectful and has demonstrated kindness to her peers. She was a member of the Sustainability Committee, also a floor representative. She was also a member of the Dance team as well as a member of the group that won Battle of the Bands.







## Knox College | *Te Kāreti o Knox*

Caroline Hepburn-Doole - Head of College/Tautiaki

Opening Day 2023 saw Knox quickly full of vibrant, busy, and somewhat nervous life. With plenty on offer from the Welfare Team and Student Leaders during O'Week... Knox colours HoP, movie nights, waffle-making, Games Night, Subbie Quiz, cup cake decorating, Tea Time, SPCA chew toy making, RSA poppy pinning, BBQs, Toga Feast, paint & sip, morning teas, Garden Party, meet the mentors... there was many opportunities to meet and mingle, and to connect with some like-minded people. Helping to settle some of those nerves; a great start to shaping our 2023 community and helping to make our residents feel welcome.

As the focus on academics kicked in the College settled into its busy programme of events and activities. Student voice had told us that we needed to review our Formal Dinners, so we moved to a new format, increasing the number of themed and community dinners: Retro Time Warp, Mid-Winter Christmas, a Fantastical Feast and Matariki as well as Italian, Asian-fusion and other inspired and influenced food-themes. The ice sculptures and retro food-styling of the Time Warp were particularly well-received and highlighted some of the lesser-known skills of our Food Services Team!



Another new initiative saw the inaugural launch of our Foodtruck festival with Selwyn College, our historic rivals. This was hugely successful, with over 400 students in our Quad vying for treats such as blue cod 'n chips, Korean-style popcorn chicken, Persian pizza, sushi, churros, and Mr Whippy! In keeping with our philosophy adaptive evolution, it's exciting to know that this is now a new tradition for our Colleges!

Our service and volunteering opportunities extended beyond O'Week; cooking for the food bank, getting outdoors to help local agencies, and involvement with our Valley food kitchen were just a few of the opportunities taken up by Knoxies. Relay for Life proved a real highlight, with our new Deputy, Helen Alderson, and the Welfare Team spear-heading a Neighbourhood competition, and also running a 'Dunk a Subbie' as a fundraiser, resulting in over \$3000 being raised. A dedicated group attended the event and two residents even walked 50km each!



A unique part of Knox is our Chapel life. Open to all, services and reflections included our opening for the year, our ANZAC Day memorial and afternoon tea, Founders Day, Matariki and a new Remembrance Day initiative. Our all-comers choir continues to be an important part of our Chapel life, as well as taking on a diversity of waiata and other secular music and opportunities, including the Nevill Cup against Selwyn College.

Sports and Cultural opportunities were spread across the general Intercollege Competition, as well as the Cameron Shield (sports) and Nevill Cup (cultural) against Selwyn College. Keeping us humble, we relinquished our hold on both of these, which will give us a massive incentive to get them back in 2024.

Open Mic Night and Karaoke drew big crowds, with a number of talented residents taking the stage every time they took place. Our College band, Caribou, placed second in the Intercollege Band Competition, going on to play live gigs around town and recording a couple of original singles now released on Spotify! A fantastic example of the unexpected but fortuitous connections that can be made during college-life.





Other highlights of our year included our annual Larnach Castle Ball; dressed to the nines and ready for live music followed by a DJ, in New Zealand's only official castle- what a treat! Temper that with over two months of highly competitive sock tag, ending with a well-placed ambush in a corridor to go from three 'standing' to a winner in a matter of seconds! Our Ross Fellow's Knoxie Nerds initiative developed into a weekly speaker series with the tagline 'come for the cheese and stay for the chats', drawing speakers from outside the college from both town and gown: chemist, play wright, ex-military, lawyer, service-focussed, and many others, some from our Fellows network and some from our wider community. For the first time we opened

our doors to hundreds of members of the public for the Rotary Historic Homes Tour fundraiser; and we also hosted Pacifica on Campus again; such a great experience for Year 13 taura to be able to have a taste of Knox and Otago life.

As the academic year drew to an end, we farewelled our Assistant Head, Alec McWhirter, a man of many talents. Having started his time at Knox in 2016 as a resident with very obvious strength in the performing arts, Alec returned in 2018 as a Sub-Master. His plan for a one-year gig turned in to several in various staff roles, including his final appointment as our Assistant Head with a strong focus on pastoral care and events management. Alec has headed away from Knox to pursue his passion for New Zealand history, securing a position at the historic Dunedin home, Olveston where we know he will continue to revolutionise the lives of those around him.



And as exams approached, we finished the year with our traditional Welfare Day- bouncy castle, candy floss, back yard games, canine cuddles- and we came together to celebrate our time as a community and to acknowledge some of the amazing achievements made by Knoxies during the year. A chance to give thanks for each Knoxies contribution to the Knox community, no matter how great or small, and to celebrate that this is a vibrant place to live and develop connection with others. Fittingly, Rosie Risbrook was awarded the KCSC Cup 'To the student who, by his or her example of kindness, cheerfulness, courage and loyalty to ideals, most worthily upholds the spirit of Knox College'.

From our 1909 foundations: Gratia et Veritas; Grace and Truth  
 Grace: a gift given freely because of love and compassion for the recipient.  
 Kindness, mercy, compassion. Truth: an accurate perception of reality.  
 Honesty, integrity, faithfulness.

And gifted to us late in 2020, the College's whakataukī is 'Ko te toa i a tini, i a mano o te takata'. This translates to 'it is the bravery of a multitude, of thousands of people'.

This Ngāi Tahu whakataukī (attributed to Tū Whakauika and Te Oreorehua) refers to the strength of collectivity and testifies to the vibrancy of the living tradition which Knox represents, stretching back over 110 years, but also reaching into the future as each cohort of students contributes to the Knox story and legacy.







# Salmond College | *Te Kāreti o Salmond* Nick Bates - Head of College

The year at Salmond started off with a bang during O-Week with residents quickly immersing themselves in the life of the College with a chocka O-Week calendar. A new event for 2023 was the Baldwin Street Bash where residents chose to run or walk up Baldwin Street in what will hopefully become an annual O-Week tradition. One goal is to at least beat mascot Sammy the Salmon to the top!

In March the College had a great turnout for the Relay for Life where 27 residents and staff ran over 700 laps and raised \$3500 for the Cancer Society. One college leader's head was shaved as a result of a fundraising target being reached. Volunteering efforts continued throughout the year with street appeals, can drives, fundraising quizzes and a trip to volunteer at Qaurantine Island.



During May a team from NZQA and New Zealand Universities visited Salmond as a part of their review of Pastoral Care Code of Practice at Otago University's residential colleges. Meetings with groups of residents and staff, interviews with individuals and tours of the college were undertaken by the reviewers. Feedback was extremely positive, and reflected the happy, settled and inclusive atmosphere at the college.

The annual College Ball was held at Otago Museum in May and was a highlight of the year for many, with a night of great food, music, and dancing. The next day saw the traditional Salmond Bubbly Brunch organised by the Student Exec, serving residents still in their dancewear from the night before.

The special character of Salmond continued to flourish at Salmond in 2023. Professor Patrick Vakaoti, the Dean of Te Tumu and member of the Knox College and Salmond College Board, led a series of talanoa sessions which continued to be popular with residents, this year attracting a group of residents from other colleges as well, reflecting the whanaungatanga of the collegiate network. Our chapel reflections were special events, led by Pastoral and Special Character Assistant Richie Brown. They were held across Knox and Salmond, on occasions including ANZAC Day and Matariki as well as the beginning and end of each semester.







Salmond residents got stuck into the Intercollege Competition in 2023 with wins or podium places in Futsal, Football, Cricket, Laser Tag, Quiz and the Arts Competition - Children's Story, Caption, Photography and Poetry categories. The undeniable crowning achievements of the year were wins in Competitive Badminton and the hotly contested Men's Rugby, and a podium place in Women's Rugby.

The Mixed Competitive Badminton trophy had been held by St Margaret's since its introduction in 2019 so that was a special win, and Salmond is the fifth college to have held the Men's Rugby shield. Our men's and women's rugby teams trained together for much of second semester, accompanied by a contingent of Carrington women's players, and the hard work and determination of both residents and staff paid off.

Late in August, 36 residents, 3 RLs and our Assistant Head made the treacherous journey to Arrowtown at the start of the semester 2 break for two full days of skiing, snowboarding and sightseeing (and trips to the Frankton Kmart). A great time was had by all.



A highlight of the year for many of our residents was the series of nature walks/visits lead by the college Residential Leaders. Across the year, groups visited sea lions at Allan's Beach and Sandfly Bay, watched the sunrise from Mount Cargill and Aramoana Beach, and got up close with the super blue moon at Harbour Cone. Residents who headed off on these trips commented on how much they enjoyed exploring the special places Otago has on offer outside the student quarter.

The rest of the mid-semester break saw several creative activities at the college, including a 1920s Murder Mystery party.

The Farewell Dinner at the end of second semester was an opportunity to acknowledge the residents who have contributed so much to the college this year. Our intercollege wins were celebrated with custom medals for the residents to take home with them, and our annual awards were awarded.

The Bursar's Cup for the student who has contributed most to Salmond College in 2023 was awarded to Grace Lovelock, for her enthusiasm, cheerfulness and involvement in college life this year. Grace is a humble, yet talented young person who will go far in life with her concern for others and genuineness. A number of other Salmond Legends TM were also acknowledged during the event for their contributions to Salmond in 2023.





## Resident Spotlight:

*Hannah Hickey*

*2024 Salmond Student President Elect*

Hannah joined Salmond in 2023 from St Catherine's College in Wellington where she had leadership roles such as Special Character captain, School Council Leader and was a champion javelin thrower and successful cricketer. Hannah's application indicated she would come to the College with an enthusiasm for life and community, and we were not disappointed.

Hannah is motivated by a deep desire to help people and make a positive impact on the world, which is why she led in the Relay for Life, contributed to volunteering efforts and just about every event going this year. She is a genuine superstar of college life and is well loved and respected by staff and residents alike. Hannah has channelled her concern for others into her career by enrolling in a Bachelor of Nursing at Otago Polytechnic.

A special highlight for Hannah this year was being a part of the winning Salmond quartet at the inaugural Colleges Lovelock Relay event.

Hannah will be returning to Salmond in 2024, as Student President. The 2024 residents are going to love their student leader. Hannah has been awarded a Salmond Leadership Scholarship, and a Wilson Family Scholarship for 2024.



## Resident Profile:

*Jack O'Connell*

Jack arrived at Salmond from Invercargill where he attended Southland Boys High School. Salmond was his first choice and says that "the whole vibe of the college is what I was after"

He was awarded a scholarship from the Foundation of Knox College and Salmond College as well as a University of Otago Donna-Rose McKay Entrance Scholarship.

Jack is studying towards a Bachelor of Teaching endorsed in Primary Education and has enjoyed his first year of study. Jack is the sort of wholehearted resident typical of the 'Mond – he gets involved, is open to others, has heaps of fun and keeps learning even through the tough times.

Jack is a real team player and is always keen for a chat or a game of pool around the college. Jack's goal at the start of the year was to meet every other Salmond resident and build meaningful relationships. During the year he has been involved in many of the intercollege competitions, including participating in the shield-winning Rugby 7s team. A multi-talented young man, Jack has also performed at formal dinners and the Mid-Winter Christmas dinner playing the euphonium and trumpet, as well as singing when the opportunity arose.







## Selwyn College | *Te Maru Pūmanawa* Luke McClelland - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 was an immensely enjoyable year at Selwyn College for 215 residents from across the motu. The diverse academic interests of our residents included the Performing Arts, Sciences, Humanities, Commerce, Health Science, Medicine, Surveying, and Law.

Our Orientation Week kicked off the year with an engaging mix of events—a combination of academic, social, and unique traditions, giving our taura an opportunity to form new friendships, the knowledge to navigate University life, and transition into their new home away from home. Our annual 'Ori Ball' was a highlight event of O-week alongside our annual 'Leith Run', a Selwyn tradition that has been running since 1935. As the year followed, the famous Selwyn Ballet, performed as part of the OUSA Capping Show, and celebrated its 94th year of performance.



Our longstanding historical sporting and cultural competition with Knox College is another integral part of college life at Selwyn. 2023 was no different with the Cameron Shield and Nevill Cup events occurring almost weekly. Of note was the Women's Rugby match, where our wāhine displayed an impressive skill level. The lead was traded back and forth multiple times before Selwyn came out on top with a very impressive final try to end the match. Selwyn College won both the Cameron Shield and the Nevill Cup, but we thank our friends at Knox for showing a true competitive spirit and giving us a great competition.



Our annual sporting and cultural exchange with College House (University of Canterbury) continued to be another highlight of the 2023 Selwyn year. This year Selwyn hosted College House for the Sporting Exchange and College House returned the favour for the Cultural Exchange hosting Selwyn in Christchurch. Selwyn retained Warden's Cup with winning the sporting exchange, while College House won the cultural exchange and retained the Principal's Cup.

In 2023, we also celebrated the Hamani Festival and flowering of our cherry blossom trees with the playing of the O-takio (Japanese drums) by the Japanese Otago Students' Association before the beginning of the annual 21sters ball.



Our shared experience was celebrated at our end of year Valedictory Service High Tea function, during which numerous residents were acknowledged for their achievements and contribution to college life. We look forward to warmly welcoming our 2024 taura to Selwyn College, so we can “pass on the torch of life”. Vitai Lampada Trudunt!



## Welfare Team: *Sub-Warden Spotlight*

Welfare Team - Sub-Warden Spotlight:

Our 2023 Sub-Warden team was comprised of an enthusiastic and committed group of young leaders who stepped up to the challenges provided and often went above and beyond to provide the best experience for our residents. They once again proved why Sub-Wardens are such an essential part of the College community as they supported our taura in their transition to university life, a transition that faces challenges for the outset of the academic year. Our 2023 team consisted of leaders from New Zealand, Nepal, Australia, and Kiribati, representing diverse cultures. Their dedication, leadership and commitment has contributed significantly to the overall success and vibrancy of the Selwyn Experience this year. Three cheers for the Sub Warden team!







# St Margaret's College | Te Kāreti o Makere Tapu

## Elizabeth Koni - Head of College

From arrival weekend in February to the very last exam and departure in November, 2023 was a year that St Margaret's College members made sure would be a memorable one. New Head of College, Liz Koni, alongside College Leaders, our Members Exec and staff, excitedly welcomed new residents and Returners on Arrival Weekend and this kicked off a week of inhouse and wider O-Week activities (including speed friendship, the great spicy noodle challenge and Floor Olympics), all geared towards helping our 2023 cohort settle in to their new home, have fun, make new friends and get prepared for the year ahead.

And what a year it was! Inside the College, both traditional and newly created events provided a great balance of fun, learning, camaraderie and rivalry for residents throughout the year, all aimed to encourage members to get involved, try something new, maintain a balanced lifestyle and make their College experience an unforgettable one. Among other invited guests, Paralympian Anna Grimaldi and ED Clinical Director and the first Kiwi to ski unsupported from the Antarctica Coast to the South Pole, Richard Stephenson, joined us for Expert Breakfasts and Formal Dinners, inspiring Members with their goals, experiences and tenacity. Occasions and games, including Murder Mystery and Circus themed dinners, sock tag, karaoke, speed eating, mystery bus trip, the incredible College Ball at Orokonui Ecosanctuary, and the 'Best day ever' to wrap up 2023, were all amazing Exec-led events that truly brought out Marg's members' (and staff) true character, talents and dance moves!



Not only did St Margaret's members live up to their enviable reputation of excelling academically in 2023, but they also rallied together in true collegial spirit to proudly show the wider community that Marg's is so much more than meets the eye. Whether it was volunteering for the 'backyard' clean up, laps of the Clock tower to support the Relay for life, or the first Intercollege event to the last, members were keen to get involved and gave everything their best shot.

We had teams join in the competitive and recreational divisions in the sports, games and cultural intercollege events with vigour and slowly but surely, we crept up way up the points table, ultimately proving that we are just as much brawn as we are brains and putting to rest the rumour that 'all they do is study'. We might not quite be in Studholme's league just yet but watch this space....!



As the year ended the annual Valedictory celebration provided time for reflection and celebration as we recognised the many outstanding members who excelled, and farewelled leaving staff, Head Chef, Bede Beaumont and Dean of Students, Jill Spencer.

The final mention – and grateful thanks – goes to all of those who contributed to our St Margaret’s whanau in 2023; from our incredible College Leaders, our energetic Exec committee, and our returning and first year residents, to our staff, College Council and those in the wider University and Dunedin communities who gave their time and energy for the benefit of our members.

Thank you all for the part you played in supporting our members to flourish and ensuring the vision and culture of St Margaret’s continued to go from strength to strength. Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini. Then, when everyone was exhausted, there was an outdoor movie night on the tennis court. It was an exceptionally fun end to an awesome year.



## Resident Profile: *Genelle Ventura*



For me, St Margaret’s has not served as a hall, but a home away from home. I have been blessed to have met my lifelong friends and have made memories at Margs; making these past couple of years the best ones yet. What I love about Marg’s is that it is filled with others eager to explore different hobbies, sports, etc. Wanting to crochet? Go for a run? Bake or cook? Go on a night walk? Group study? Prayer group? A Rob Roys or Joonis run? You name it there is always going to be others who are keen too! The 224+ people that I have met over the past couple of years have truly made it easier to be away from home, and I will forever be grateful for them.

This year I was fortunate enough to take on the Social Representative role on the Members Executive team. The social calendar this year was filled with memorable events. Especially after the years of COVID-19 constricting and putting these events on hold, it was such a blessing to see all the new and returning members (even alumni!) share laughter and create more memories through these.

Everyday I’m surrounded by such inspiring people—current and future leaders, making St Margaret’s a place of growth. There have been opportunities given and people that I have met that I don’t think I would’ve had if it weren’t for being at Margs. I’ve met inspiring leaders through the expert breakfasts, formal dinners and even down the hallway; and have learnt so much from each of them. Perhaps it’s because I’ve been surrounded by future health care professionals, CEOs, scientists, artists and more, but St Margaret’s is a safe home. It’s a home filled with people that genuinely care and want the best for you. He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata he tangata. What is the most important thing? It is people, it is people it is people. It is the people that have filled this College with love, laughter, and generosity; and is what truly makes me proud to call St Margaret’s a home.





# Studholme College | *Te Kāreti o Studholme* Johnny Nu'u - Warden/Tautiaki

As we reflect on another great year, it is hard not to smile ear to ear. Our last formal dinner had us going "Sheesh!" after hearing all the amazing feats of our taura in 2023. To capture the essence of our taura, 2023 was a vibe.

The turbulence and challenges of the previous years seemed to disappear with the arrival of our taura. Opening weekend at the college is always a fun and exciting time. It is always good to see smiling faces, warm embraces with family and lots of nervous excitement. There is always a little hesitation to start the year thinking to yourself 'do we have what it takes to build a great college community'.

We filled O'Week with events at the college and OUSA events. What has become a fun achievement in the first week was successfully being the Tug-o-war champs for another year!



Despite COVID-19 still being in our midst, it did not rear its head as it had done previously. Safe to say our taura really went for it through out the year. Studholme was involved in all the inter-collegiate events throughout the year. There were many highlights that marked 2023.

In sports, our women's rugby once again proved to be a success taking out both the 7's and touch competitions. After some hard mahi it was a delight to see the men's basketball finally getting their win after being pipped in the final in successive years.

A true stand-out success for the college this year was winning the chess competition. It was the first time Studholme had ever taken out the chess in the inter-collegiate competition, so it marks a pretty special 2023.

Following alongside chess was our 'almost win' in the debating competition. The final was close; the speakers were confident, fluid and connected to each other as they transitioned from first to second to third speaker and then to close.

As a result of these successes, along with others, Studholme won the cultural and sporting divisions of the competition.





## Resident Profile: *Adrian Issah*

Studholme to me was more than just a hall, but a family. Coming to Studholme was one of the best decisions I have made. It has been a big year for me at Studholme, entering the gates as an ambitious young man, and leaving the same. The difference is that I have made lifelong friends and connections along the way. When they say “time flies when you’re having fun” they mean it.

This year went so fast. All the Studholme events, to the dusty Sunday morning brunches. It will be greatly missed. My favourite memory at Studholme this year was definitely the Ball. The Ball was an amazing night, with the subbies setting up the dining hall into a winter wonderland. It was gorgeous.

Winning the Lesa Shield really completed my Studholme year, making me really cemented into the Studholme culture and legacy. I will always be thankful for Studholme. Best college I could’ve asked for.







# Te Rangihīroa

## *Te Whare Whakamaru O Te Rangihīroa*

### Kara Whaley - Warden/Tautiaki

The build of Te Whare Whakamaru O Te Rangihīroa has met many key milestones this year as it reached practical completion and commissioning to be handed over to the new Kaimahi (staff) team in mid-December. Four hundred and fifty mattresses have been unboxed and new sports gear has arrived, all ready to welcome the first cohort of taura in 2024 (after it has been 'stress tested' with the Hands-On at Otago students in January of 2024). Te Whare Whakamaru has transitioned from an empty shell to a place where people can live, work, and succeed. As with any new project there has been many problems to solve and creative thinking required to find solutions, but the project team worked tirelessly through to help deliver the wonderful building that now stands on the corner of Forth St and Albany St.

A key date for Te Whare Whakamaru was the Whakawātea and official Opening on the 27th October. The Whakawātea saw over 100 people from Ngāti Mutunga arrive in Ōtepoti from all across Aotearoa to bless Te Whare Whakamaru, and clear the way for future students to live and grow in the building. The Whakawātea was done at dawn on the coldest day in October, starting with snow and seeing all the seasons within the day. It was wonderful to have people in the space and starting to use it as it was intended, as a place for whanaungatanga and a space to feel at home within. The cultural elements have all been added so that any visitors to Te Whare Whakamaru can feel the mauri and understand the stories that the building tells of Te Rangihīroa, and of the history of the area, including narratives from Kai Tahu (Mana Whenua) and Ngāti Mutunga.



The Kaimahi (staff) can now turn their minds to preparing for the first cohort of Te Whare Whakamaru O Te Rangihīroa, and the spirit they have, to bring the college to life in 2024!







## Toroa College - *Te Whare o Te Toroa* Christina Watson-Mills - Warden/Tautiaki

Our residents and staff continued to contribute to the great community spirit that is Toroa. We had an enormously successful Welcome Week that had a fantastic variety of events and activities to help our new residents settle into life at Otago. These included academic orientation events, friends in sixty seconds, a Greek feast, laser force, paintball, toga night, dumpling making, movie and ice cream evenings. The days of COVID, isolation, and social distancing a distant memory!

Our residents took part in the inter-college cultural and sporting programme with pride and personality. Toroa is known for our sense of fair play, sportsmanship, and strong team spirit! Our teams performed well in the quiz night, football, netball, volleyball, debating, musical events, pool competition, rugby sevens, touch, 48hour film and arts competitions.

At either business end of the semester, you would find many of our residents in tutorial spaces, lounge rooms or on our roof terrace studying together. Another year of 'do the mahi get the treats', was as popular as ever this year and gave rise to our residents receiving some well-deserved sustenance for their study breaks. Honourable study treat mentions were Donut Stress You Got This, candy floss nights and pizza evenings for a morale boost.

As always, the College Ball was a highlight of the year, and it was great to see Toroans in all their finery for a Casino themed evening. It has been another great year for Toroa with many memorable moments had by all. We wish them all the best on their next adventures.



## Resident of the Year *Isla*

Isla, like most first year students, arrived from outside Dunedin. She attended Long Bay College in Auckland where she was a Prefect in Year 13. She is also an avid horse enthusiast and over the summer works as a horse instructor teaching people from all ages and abilities. She is studying Health Science First Year at Otago.

Isla was an outstanding member of the community. She was always courteous and polite with a big smile. She was a beacon of positivity, empathy, and liked by all. She was the recipient of the Resident of the Year Award, and we cannot think of anyone more deserving!

Isla is a remarkable young woman and has a bright future ahead! We have full confidence that whatever path she chooses she will excel!







# University College - *Te Kāreti o Te Whare Wānaka* Pauline Donovan - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 was another eventful year for the University College team. We farewelled Administrator Joel Bartlett, Assistant Warden Jess Young, and Deputy Warden Ange Spears. We were fortunate to add some new members to the team for 2023: Assistant Warden John Coughlan, and Administrator Kelly Curtis.

UniCol is proud of the diverse composition of its community. It is a place where everyone can find their people. Our cohort hails from all over the country, representing 170 high schools, studying a variety of majors from sciences, health science, law, commerce, arts, humanities, surveying and education. UniCol continues to embrace traditional collegiate structures with live-in management supported by a large and diverse team of Sub-Wardens.

The College's Orientation Program was back in full force this year after being severely hampered by Covid-19 in the previous year. We started the year off right with a whole college meeting in St David's followed by a lovely blessing for the year and a barbeque back at the college. O-week was full of highlights and our amazing Sub-Warden team put on a plethora of well attended activities including: Paint & Sips, Black Light Party, Silent Disco, Quizzes, Trips to the Glow Worms, and speed meet and greets. Sub-Wardens continued to be an essential part of the fabric of the UniCol community. The team shared their lives and experiences with the new students. Their role in supporting the first year students cannot be overstated. All members of the team experienced personal growth and development in their roles as collegiate leaders.



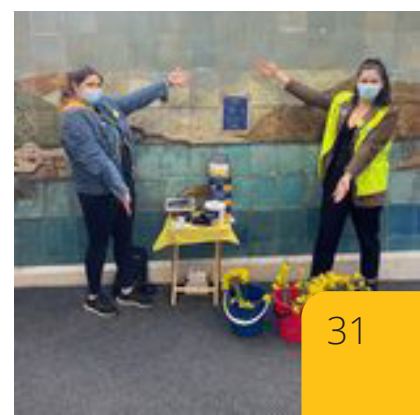
## Mahi Aroha

At Unicol we offer opportunities for students to give back to the community and fundraise for various organisations. Some of the engaging opportunities offered have included tree planting through Halo project, beach clean ups, blood drive organising and various fundraising events. Every year we also host cuddle fixes in the college where dogs and puppies are brought in to provide time with animals as students start to miss their pets at home. This provides much needed time with animals for the residents and helps raise funds for an amazing cause. We participate in Octacan, Daffodil day, Pink Shirt Day and this year also raised money for the cyclone relief fund for those who were impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle. University College aimed to raise three thousand dollars and ended up raising over five thousand. The biggest event being Gumboot Friday where we raised over two thousand dollars and shaved the heads of over ten of our staff and student's heads.



## Sustainability

This year Unicol has been utilising the Green your scene programme to set up a range of sustainable changes within the college, with the aim to promote awareness, reduce waste, reuse, and recycle. University college has ample method bins available throughout the main building and utilised suggestions from the waste management audit such as extra signage and labelling of what cannot go into the recycle bins such as paper towels. We have also run events that promote creativity through turning trash into treasures such as paper flowers, butterflies, and weaving baskets. University College has also strived to promote equity and diversity within the college by promoting awareness and an understanding of the experiences of Para athletes. We were honoured to have Paralympic Gold medallist; Holly Robinson come to Unicol and share her experiences with the residents around her journey and achievements. Through these events and initiatives University College has achieved the Kowhai award through the Green Your Scene project.





## Inter-College

This year at UniCol we had some great success in the intercollege competition. We placed in the top three across a number of events which include, First place in the women's competitive Football competition, Men's Touch Rugby competition and the Amazing Race. Second place in the Men's competitive Rugby Sevens, Men's competitive Basketball, Ki O Rahi, Women's Touch Rugby, Women's Futsal, Women's competitive Netball, 48 Hour Film Festival and Mixed competitive Handball. UniCol placed Third in Mixed competitive Netball, Mixed recreational Netball, Table Tennis, Quiz night, Ultimate Frisbee mixed competitive competition and the visual arts drawing competition. On top of this we ran some fantastic events in-house such as the UniCol Ball, Paint and Sip, Silent disco, Black light party, Movie nights and of course the hugely popular weekly Quiz night!



In addition to representing the college in events, by their actions and support for each other, the students made UniCol a great place at which to live and study in 2023. It is immensely heartening to see the care they show for each other, despite the challenges they all faced in the year. Our end of year dinner was a fabulous celebration of the year and the residents who made it special.

## The Felis Leo Awards

### Outstanding Contribution to Sport

Mac Galvin  
Summer O'Shea  
Brooke Loveridge  
Samuel Hickey  
Peyton Dickson

### Outstanding Community Spirit

Charlotte Dunne  
Maddy Copeland  
Cameron Malendoski  
Thomas Broomfield  
Connor Broadhead

## Sub-Warden Long-Service Award

Will Whelan - Four Years  
Jamii Kingston - Four Years

Takudzwa Chiketa - Three Years  
Grace Dennis - Three Years



## Collegians of the Year: *Grace Kitchen & Georgia Brown*



### Grace Kitchen

This resident was a vivacious individual. They were always around when we needed a hand and participated in many Intercollege as well as in house events. In sports this resident played Hockey, Handball, Volleyball and Cricket. She also participated in the Cultural Competition, 48 Hour Film Festival, Battle of the Bands, and the Quiz. She dazzled us in the UniCol play as the Bachelorette. An outstanding collegian who really embraced everything the college had to offer.

### Georgia Brown

This resident was an integral part of the UniCol community throughout the year. They are a passionate individual who really promoted the values we aspire to embody here at Unicol. They participated in many sports including Football, Futsal, Netball, Volleyball, Women's Sevens and Basketball. She also gave her time to support the community through Mahi Aroha, working on the Halo Project, Daffodil Day, and Breast Cancer Society. She was on the Student Liaison Committee and the Ball Committee. Georgia is an amazing collegian and we are excited for her to join us as a SW in 2024.







# University Flats

## *Ngā Whare Rīti o te Whare Wānanga o Otāgo*

### Tracy de Woeps - Warden/Tautiaki

2023 was a big year for Uni Flats with the arrival of international students for the first time since 2020. This year we housed over 1200 students of varying ages, degrees, and cultures, once again becoming the largest and most diverse collegiate community on campus. Our community came from across the globe, with our staff ensuring all arriving students experienced our manaakitanga (hospitality) and atawhai (kindness) that Uni Flats is internationally renowned for.

Our year kicked off with a bang, starting with College Sports day and many barbeque pop ups during the month of February. Our pop ups continued across the year and ranged from handing out Kiwi Favourite ice creams in the warmer months, to soup in the winter. We ran a number of events across the year for our community which included 3 quiz nights, 2 trips to Puketeraki Marae and Huriawa Pā, and 1 volunteer trip to Sinclair Wetlands. Inspired by the College's HOPs (Hall-Only Parties), we trialled a Uni Flats social function at U-BAR which was a huge success. Our students also got out and about exploring all the beautiful places that Ōtepoti and Aotearoa has on offer, hearing countless stories of the pristine beaches nearby with perfect waves for surfing, the fun times had skiing in Queenstown, hikes up Mount Aoraki, and the memories made road tripping the country with flatmates.



2023 will provide plenty of awesome memories to look back on, but the staff and community were extra proud of our results in the Inter-College Competition this year. Uni Flats came second in the Inter-College men's football competition, our FOFOA students put together two beautiful Pasifika cultural performances, and we had a number of students compete across the sporting, gaming and cultural competitions on offer. But the biggest congratulations must go to Harry Smith and Nuhaka Maitai who came first place in Scrabble as part of the Inter-College Gaming Competition – bringing home Uni Flat's first ever title in the gaming competition!

The Uni Flats staff team and structure has changed significantly across 2023. We've said goodbye to a number of long-serving staff members and welcomed many new staff as our team continues to grow. Our facilities team has now transferred over to Property Services, while other staff have returned from secondment and moved into new roles. As the year went by the role of our Sub-Wardens evolved as we figured out how they can best support the senior staff team and add value to our community. Behind the scenes, staff have worked tirelessly to streamline and simplify processes and offer the best experience possible to students.





Despite some of the challenges we've faced across the year, our staff and students have become more resilient, learnt a lot, and finish the year with a big smile having survived what has been a hectic but enjoyable year. Looking back, the greatest thing about 2023 has been the people. People that look out for one another, people that have taken every opportunity on offer, people that have come together from different parts of the world that have developed lifelong friendships and leave as whānau. e aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata - What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.



## Resident Spotlight: *Abraham Siaw*

Reflecting on this past year as a resident has been nothing short of remarkable. Engaging in the vibrant community of Uni Flats has been a defining aspect of my university journey.

I am fortunate to have stayed in such a spacious flat within a complex with 14 others. Together, we created numerous wonderful memories throughout the past semester. Shoutout to Uni Flats for providing me with the opportunity to immerse myself in these amazing international experiences. I will never forget the trips, birthday parties, "Fikas" (learned from our lovely Jennie from Sweden), movie nights, late-night talks, study sessions, and countless memories that we created together as part of the Uni Flats whānau. From being strangers at the start of the semester, we have become lifelong friends whom I can always rely on. Harbour Terrace will always hold a special place in my heart.

Additionally, I want to express my gratitude to Uni Flats' staff for being so welcoming and helpful. They genuinely prioritise our mental health and wellbeing. I remember walking past the Uni Flats office, and the team invited me in to have some hot pumpkin soup. Every staff member I encountered in Uni Flats made me feel like I am not alone; the smiles on their faces and kind greetings mean a lot to me. The inclusivity and warmth exhibited by every member of the Uni Flats community have made this year unforgettable. Being part of the Uni Flats community as an international student was definitely the right choice. Live, Laugh, Love.





# College Catering

The University College Catering operation had another successful year. We had 250 employees working across nine production kitchens and catering more than two million meals to over 2500 students. We are very fortunate to have such a hardworking, passionate group of food service professionals across our university campus.

It was welcoming to begin a year with minimal Covid, a Supply Chain that was returning to normal and a Labour Market that was revitalised. We had two Food Service Heads leave us during the year, Carrington College Executive Chef Leo Policarpio emigrated to the Sunshine Coast and Aquinas Head Chef Claire Stewart moved to an Assistant Warden role at Cumberland College. I would like to thank Leo and Claire for their contribution to College Catering and wish them all the best for the future. We are delighted to have Carrington Senior Chef Sarah Mason as the new Executive Chef at Aquinas College. We are also pleased to have past Cumberland College Food Service Manager Kevin Strange return as Executive Chef at Carrington.

It is with much excitement we anticipate the opening of the 450 bed Te Rangihiroa College. Our Arana College kitchen team headed by Food Service Manager Brian Galvin will provide the catering at the new college in 2024 while Arana undergoes some seismic work. We wish Warden Kara Whaley and her team all the best for 2024.

And finally, we would like to take the opportunity to thank the Divisional Office and College Wardens and their teams for all their support during 2023.

Stephen Baughan  
General Manager, University Union





# Sustainability

With the launch of [Tī Kōuka 2030 \(the new sustainability strategic framework\)](#) CaCLS have jumped to the challenge of bringing the vision it has set out to life. This in many ways is leading the way for other areas across the university. It's important to recognise the hard work of all of those on the Sustainability Working Group who have been crucial in putting CaCLS in this leading position.

Early in 2023 we saw one of the first all-colleges food waste audits conducted by Briar Mills, a Human Nutrition MSc student. This gave us some initial data to inform our planning and as Briar continues her analysis there will be further information on what menu choices create less waste. You can read more about Briars' work and how we compare to other [Universities in Aotearoa via this link](#).

Our emissions reporting continues to be leading as the only New Zealand University looking at the significant impact of greenhouse gas emissions generated due to the food we purchase. While we saw a significant increase in emissions from food in 2022, likely linked to operational changes for COVID19, the initial analysis of the 2023 data shows a promising downwards trend due to changes in practice in our kitchens, and the continuation of Mindful Mondays. You can see more details of our emissions reporting on our [Net Carbon Zero 2030 page](#).

The initial task for the working group was to establish to what extent CaCLS already had a Sustainability Culture. Informed by the work of Prof. Janet Stephenson at the Centre for Sustainability, staff were surveyed and the outcome indicated that the vast majority of staff in CaCLS really care and think about sustainability, but still wanted more opportunity to act on that. This was a great foundation for the next step which was a workshop with staff from all over CaCLS to establish some heat maps of what we are already doing and what we could be doing. This work culminated in the CaCLS Sustainability report at the end of 2023 and the commitment by all department managers to have sustainability goals for their area in 2024.

2023 has set CaCLS up well to push forward with the implementation of Tī Kōuka in 2024 and demonstrate leadership for campuses not just across Aotearoa, but internationally. A specific opportunity will be getting staff and students onboard with Tī Kōuka Ora (the replacement of Green Your Scene) where student and staff can achieve eBadges for their participation in sustainability activities.





# Uniprint

Uniprint is a business unit inside the Campus and Collegiate Life Services Division. Uniprint's primary function is to support students and staff printing requirements on all University of Otago's campuses.

2023 has been a year where Uniprint has continued to have a reduction in print volume, and new emerging digital platforms arriving.

Throughout 2023 Uniprint has worked within a group to review the University's exam procedures and improve systems for the Exam Office and Uniprint. Final exams for semester two saw a huge improvement and deadlines were easier to meet than in previous years.

2023 also saw the transfer of Multi Choice Question papers from ITS to Uniprint. This involved working with Departments and specialized software manufactures to ensure that their products would scan and read answer sheets accurately. Uniprint now handles the whole process from printing answer sheets to sending reports back to Departments.

Digitalisation of printed matter has also been increasing with Uniprintshop staff assisting the Central Library with some of their requests for digital scanned products.

The University of Otago uniFLOW "follow me" print solution contract comes up for renewal in October 2024. This contract covers over 740 printing devices located over all of the University of Otago's campuses.



Uniprint's ID Card Office also had a successful year with minor changes to systems that increased student through-put at semester one peak time. Result was an average of 1200 students being processed daily during Orientation Week, and at the Colleges on their move-in weekend in February.

