



# the Cornerstone

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION MAGAZINE

ISSUE 8 | AUGUST 2012

## INSIDE:

INTERVIEW WITH OLD BOY  
FR BRIAN CUMMINGS SM

PROTECTING WHAT ST PAT'S HAS

PUTTING THE SCHOOL IN YOUR  
WILL

ROLL CALL FOR 1959-63 CLASS

WE REMEMBER ...

## UPCOMING COLLEGE AND FOUNDATION EVENTS:

2 AUGUST

Mother & Son Dinner

24 AUGUST

Art Exhibition  
SPC Parents' Assoc

20 SEPT

Sports Awards Dinner

23 SEPT

Family Mass College Chapel  
5pm – all welcome

27 SEPT

Barbershop Chorus Nationals

28 SEPT

Term 3 ends

1 NOV

7.30PM

Senior prizegiving

2 NOV

Leavers' Mass

## Ginette McDonald & College performers wow the crowd!



*The engaging and effervescent Ginette McDonald*

ST PAT'S WAS THE WINNER ON THE NIGHT AT LAST MONTH'S FOUNDATION BENEFIT DINNER & AUCTION. WITH A FULL HOUSE, SUPERB PERFORMANCES FROM COLLEGE MUSICIANS, DANCERS, ORATORS AND SINGERS, THE DEPTH OF TALENT AMONGST THE STUDENTS BECAME EVIDENT TO ALL.

Special thanks must go to the charming Ginette McDonald for her warm, witty and thoroughly entertaining speech. This engaging lady gave of her time to support her brothers' old College and all the guests were highly entertained for over 20 minutes.

Justice Denis Clifford, Chair of the College's Board of Proprietors spoke of the importance of the Foundation to the College community fostering the Education programmes and providing a funding stream for the Artificial Turf and Performing Arts Centre projects.

Thanks to Old Boy Phil Costello who, as Master of Ceremonies, kept the full programme running to time.

Once again Old Boy and auctioneer extraordinaire Mick Robbers powered through the auction, guests knowing not to brush their hair or make any sudden movements during the furious bidding.

From the generosity of those that attended, the Benefit sponsors and those companies that provided auction items over \$32,000 was raised to go towards the Performing Arts Centre development.

### Our Foundation Benefit Dinner sponsors were:



*From left: Ballet performance by Georges Tinawi; The School Choir performs; Solo from Les Miserables Logan Beasley; Auctioneer Mick Robbers in action*

# An interview with Fr Brian Cummings SM

ST PAT'S OLD BOY & PROVINCIAL OF THE SOCIETY OF MARY NZ



**BORN IN 1953 AND RAISED IN PETONE, FR BRIAN IS ONE OF FOUR CHILDREN WITH IRISH GRANDPARENTS.**

In the 1950s Fr Brian was educated at Sacred Heart Primary School, Petone, by the Mission Sisters. The family home was

a regular haunt for local parish priests and the newly arrived Irish Assumption Sisters. Fr Brian reminisces: "Just like a lot of other Catholic families it was commonplace for us to have religious as visitors, often staying for dinner and sharing in family time".

Following in his older brother's footsteps, Fr Brian caught the train to Wellington station and then a bus but more often walked to St Pat's Cambridge Terrace. "School was school, you were caught up in the daily life and experiences of being taught by all those priests who lived at the College. These men gave so much of their time not just in the classroom but on the sports field, music and drama that you didn't realise just how shabby the property was – St Pat's was what it was and we loved it."

How did Fr Brian know he had a vocation? "The whole idea of considering a vocation was such a normal thing, not only at home but also at St Pat's. My father had been at Mosgiel, my mother had been interested in joining the Bridgadene nuns, one of my brothers was a Columban seminarian and my sister a Mercy novice. "At St Pat's eight from the year ahead of me went into the Society of Mary, five from my year and nine the year after, so the question was more 'who is going?' instead of 'is anyone going?' The idea of a vocation was quite openly discussed and was really regarded as another option for those leaving St Pat's."

After graduating from college Fr Brian went to the Society of Mary seminary at Greenmeadows, Hawkes Bay. After his ordination he was appointed to St Bede's, Christchurch, in late 1979 and taught English and Religious Education. During the following seven years he held the positions of Dean of Boarders, Head of English Department and, for the last four terms, Acting Senior Master (what we know as Deputy Rector, Pastoral).

From 1988 to May 1990 Fr Brian was at St Pat's Silverstream as Deputy Rector, and then was appointed Rector of St Bede's in May 1990, an appointment that lasted to December 2001.

For most of those years working in colleges, Fr Brian did not normally hear confessions from the students. "When you are in charge of discipline or holding a senior position, you may hear things from people that could become blurred with what you've heard in confession. So this was the most effective way to make sure I always knew that the information I held had only come from outside the confessional and then I could take appropriate action."

In 2002 Fr Brian moved to St Mary's of the Angels for six months working in the parish and then for a year studied with the Jesuits in Canada.

"I did an internship at their Retreat Centre which included a 30 day retreat and then being trained in facilitating retreats. It was an opportunity for me to train in something that would be applicable for the rest of my life, which included working with adults."

Returning from Canada Fr Brian was appointed Rector of the seminary at Auckland. In February 2005 he was elected to the Society's Provincial Council and in February 2008 elected as Provincial.

"The Provincial Council is made up of five Marists elected as an advisory panel to assist the Provincial (Head of the Order). From that group of five two are full-time appointments supporting the Provincial. The role of the Provincial and Council is to make sure all the other 138 Marists living and working in the New Zealand "province" have what they need to carry out their work and ministry."

The late 1980s saw the deliberate move to withdraw Marists from teaching. This was a confusing time for many Catholics who had been taught by nuns and priests. Fr Brian recalls: "For years lay staff in the colleges had been the novelty but by the 1980s things had changed. There was not the same manpower within the province to continue the practice of as many Marists working in schools, there were discussions around what could Marists do that others couldn't and where best these men could be used."

"Unfortunately the planned withdrawal in some cases went faster than expected and what had been our intentions did not quite match up with what happened in reality. Consequently there was some hurt in those communities that had always strongly supported the Marists as the shift from education to missionary and social justice work was often not well understood."

Fr Brian notes that there are now four Marists working at St Pat's and "this is a great opportunity for today's young Patricians to see first hand vocations in action."

And where to for this Old Boy once his second term as Provincial is complete?

"One idea would be for me to utilise further my training in facilitating retreats and working more in that area."

Interested in the College Rugby hey days of the 80's?  
Visit <http://blog.skysport.co.nz/collegerugby/a-dooley-dynasty-st-pats-town-first-xv-1980-1991/>

# Protecting what St Pat's has now, and ensuring the future.

THE CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKES HAVE FOCUSED RENEWED ATTENTION ON SEISMIC ISSUES AFFECTING BUILDINGS IN WELLINGTON.

Responding to that, and as part of the planning process for the Performing Arts Centre/Quad redevelopment project, the Board of Proprietors – the charitable trust which owns the College on behalf of the Society of Mary – has commissioned an extensive series of reports on our buildings and land. Those reports have established

that earthquake strengthening work is required to both College buildings and land to achieve 100% compliance with current seismic standards (known as the New Building Standard or NBS).

## College Buildings

Dunning Thornton (structural and civil engineers) have completed a seismic analysis of each of the Watters, Kennedy and Redwood blocks. Those blocks have assessed seismic capacities of between 30% and 35% of NBS: Watters 30%; Kennedy 30%–35%; Redwood 34%. A building with an assessed seismic capacity of less than 33% of NBS is described as earthquake prone. Please note that the required NBS standard of an educational facility is higher (x 1.3) than that of a 'normal' building.

Advice provided to the Board's representative body, the Association of Proprietors of Integrated Schools, recommends that buildings with seismic capacities of less than 15% NBS should not be occupied on a regular basis, that strengthening work be undertaken within three years on buildings with seismic capacities between 15% and 34% of the NBS, and within 10–15 years for buildings between 34% and 67% of NBS.

Accordingly, detailed plans are being prepared to strengthen the Watters, Kennedy and Redwood blocks within that timeframe. The Board of Proprietors has appointed Monastra QS Consultants (David Monastra) as project manager. Strengthening work is planned to begin as soon as practicable on the classroom blocks, ideally during the 2012–2013 summer recess.

Dunning Thornton is also currently preparing reports on the Chanel and Egden blocks. Once those reports have been received the next steps will be decided.

Preliminary assessments by Dunning Thornton of the rest of the College buildings estimate seismic capacities in the range of 40%–60% of NBS. Work will be undertaken on those buildings over time.



## College Land

Tonkin & Taylor (geotechnical engineers) have prepared a report on the College site. The College is built on land reclaimed during the 1950s. The characteristics of the land mean that liquefaction and lateral spreading could occur to a material extent in a one in one hundred year earthquake. Undertaking the recommended strengthening work on the College buildings brings them to 60% of NBS. Achieving 100% of NBS requires remediation of the land. The recommended

remediation involves constructing an underground dam, or wall, of reinforced materials at the boundary of the College with Cobham Drive. Planning is underway to undertake this work so as to cause the least interruption possible to the operation of the College. It is likely that this work will be undertaken after the classroom blocks have been strengthened.

## Continuing Development

At the same time, the overall development of the College will continue. Our ability to commence work on the Performing Arts Centre is affected by the work required for seismic strengthening. How the two projects might be combined is part of our planning.

As you may now be aware, the College will partner with the Wellington City Council to construct an artificial turf and associated amenities, in place of the current grass field. Work on this project is planned to commence in November/December of this year. We are looking forward to having this exciting new facility ready for the beginning of the 2013 winter sports season.

## Financial implications

As you can appreciate, these projects have significant financial implications for the College. That is likely to be reflected in the future in the level of support we seek from parents, caregivers and Old Boys. We do look forward to your continued support.

Please be assured that the provision of a safe and healthy environment for all our students and staff forms the basis of our decision making for the College.

**FATHER PAUL MARTIN SM, RECTOR**

*and on behalf of the Boards of Proprietors and Trustees*

*Below: A triptych of the current College site before it was built, with all three photos taken from the same angle.*



*Early 1950's view of the current College site as sea prior to the reclamation. Note the adolescent pothutakawas along Kilbirnie Park on Evans Bay Parade.*



*Reclamation of the foreshore underway*



*Early 1970's – this site was for the local athletics track prior to the College being built*

# Putting the school in your will

By Michael Thornton\*

DO YOU HAVE A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION IN YOUR WILL? IT'S THE SIMPLEST THING TO DO, AND GIVES A HUGE SENSE OF SATISFACTION. FOR A START, IT PROMPTS YOU TO MAKE A WILL.

60% of people don't have a will.

Some years ago I spoke at a conference of fundraisers. The topic was bequests and I began by asking those present to raise their hand if they, themselves, had included a school or other charity in their own will. Only six or so hands went up; I couldn't believe it. Here were people who asked others to make a bequest, yet they hadn't done it themselves. Winston Churchill's famous address to students at his school, Harrow, came to mind. He is said to have stood up, looked out at the packed school assembly, and said: "Never give in, never give in, never, never, never." He then sat down! I wasn't going to give in either!

Bequesting sounds hard, but it's not. I get a lot of pleasure knowing that when I die my modest bequests of \$2,000 and \$10,000 to two schools will do some good, however small. I've already had my 'monies worth' of pleasure.

Including the school in your will won't cost you anything in your lifetime, yet during your life you can enjoy the pleasure of knowing that you won't be forgotten and that you will have done some good. You may want anonymity – although that seems unimportant after you die. Many people do enjoy the thought that their bequest will enable a scholarship to be awarded, a prize or grant given, or library books funded, in their name.

Bequests don't need to be huge, and schools know they must never come between a bequestor and his or her family. You must always consider your family first, and then a bequest to the school in such a way that it doesn't intrude on your plans for those whom you love.

Yet leaving something to education is a very worthy gesture and one that this school would welcome. If the idea appeals to you, I ask you to consider the four 'P's' of Bequesting: **Purpose**, **Perpetuity**, **Percentage** and **Process**.

Some organisations ask you simply to leave them an amount, preferably a large amount. This school offers you the opportunity to support an activity you like. It might be a scholarship, or to help a student who otherwise couldn't attend the school. It might be teacher development, library programmes, sport, music, drama. Undoubtedly, you will support something that interests you.

**Perpetuity:** When placed in the School Endowment your bequest becomes a notional fund of its own and should remain intact in perpetuity – and indeed grow in actual dollar terms. Only interest after inflation is spent each year on the purpose you have designated. The effective annual 'payout' of each fund in the Endowment usually is 5%. To establish a Fund you might show the following to your solicitor:

*I GIVE free of all duties to .....SCHOOL of ..... in the state of ..... ("the School") the sum of .....dollars (\$....) to be held by it on the following trusts: (a) to establish in the general School accounts a Fund to be known as 'The ..... Fund'; (b) to appoint the School Principal (or his/her successor or successors in title) as the Trustee of the Fund (the "Trustee"); (c) to invest the Fund in investments*

*authorised by law for the investment of trust funds in any State or Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia; (d) to pay the income from the Fund net of the prevailing annual rate of inflations for the purpose of ..... ("the Purpose"); (e) any income not applied for the Purpose shall be accumulated and added to the capital of the Fund; (f) if at the sole discretion of the Trustee expenditure in any one year on the Purpose is not suitable the Trustee shall not be required to distribute income from the Fund in that year.*

**Percentage:** Using the 5% Endowment payout, it is possible to endow areas specifically. So, if fees are \$3,000 a full scholarship or bursary would require a bequest of \$60,000, a half scholarship \$30,000. A bursary to assist for one term each year forever, in your name, would require \$15,000. These percentages cover inflation. A bequest of \$1,000 will endow a \$50 speech night prize. A periodical in the library will cost \$2,000, and would be listed as follows:

*The Johnsons Family Fund \$2,000*

*Established in 2011 by the Johnson family (Jeff '01); income to fund a periodical in the School library.*

The possibilities are endless. It only requires a willingness to do it. The school may have a friendly solicitor who will alter your will for free. Just \$500 is enough to establish a named Endowment Fund in your family's name, or in honour of a teacher. Think about it; leaving a bequest can give you great personal satisfaction.

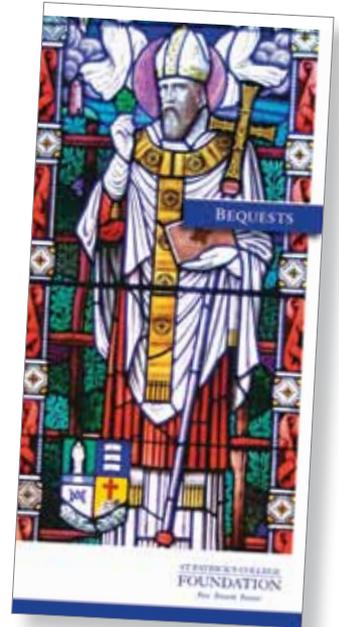
The process is easy. First, tell the School if you have or plan to include the School in your will. The School would like to thank you now, not when it's too late. Secondly, forward the attached sheet to your solicitor. Or just tick a box below and send it to the Principal. What a surprise!

Bequesting isn't just for older people. All of us can do it today.

*Dear Principal:*

- I/We wish to advise that I/we have included the School in my/our will.
- I/We wish to advise that I/we plan to include the School in my/our will.
- I/We would like more information on including the School in my/our will.

\*Michael Thornton consults on philanthropic fundraising to independent schools





# ROLL CALL FOR THE CLASS OF 1959–63



IN APRIL 2013 THE COLLEGE WILL BE WELCOMING BACK ITS GRADUATION CLASS OF 1963, INCLUDING ALL OLD BOYS WHO STARTED AS 3RD FORMERS IN 1959.

Registrations are now open for this Class Reunion as forms were mailed or emailed out in June.

Thanks to those Old Boys who responded to our last request and have tracked down fellow class mates – we have made great progress but still need to get in touch with those listed below. If any reader has any information please email [development@stpats.school.nz](mailto:development@stpats.school.nz) or phone 04 939 5416 – it will be of great benefit to the 1959–1963 Class Year group.

Equally if any have passed away please advise and accept our sincere sympathy.

### ROLL CALL FOR:

AGAR John D; ALWARD Gerard D; ARMSTRONG Colin J; BARBER Brent P; BARNAO Christopher V; BEATON Ian W;

BOUZAID Wayne A; BURGESS Anthony K; CLAYTON Leslie J; COORY Kevin J; DONOGHUE Peter J; DONOVAN Daniel P; EVANS David J; FITZGERALD Robert J; GALLAGHER Michael B; GIBBS Angus D; HALL Mervyn H; HOGAN Thomas P; HUGHES Lindsay W; JONES Michael R; KIRWAN Ian; LAFFAN Michael D; LATTIE David J; LAWSON Allan K; LEAHY John F; McINDOE Terence R; McKENZIE Kevin J; McLAUGHLIN Paul D; McMULLAN Gerard H; McNAMARA John C; McPHEE Donald C; MOLONY Christopher P; MORRISEY Barry J; MURPHY Trevor D; MUSSON Michael A; NISZCZAK Paul E; NORRIS Terrence D; PRICE Anthony T; PRISTON Mark A; QUINN John C; REEDY Patrick; RICE John; RODGERS Allan D; ROSS Philip R; ROWLEY Philip C; SCOTT Ian B; SLOANE Stuart K; STOBBA Ian; STUART Bruce G; STUART Terrence B; WHITTAKER David M; WRIGHT Christopher.

## News in Brief

Watch out for Old Boy **Quentin Rew** (1998-2002) representing NZ at the Olympics. Quentin is competing in the 50 km walk in London, certainly an event that requires enormous discipline.



## In Memoriam



We remember ...

HURLEY, Michael J - 1959–62

HARDY, Jonathan - 1956–58

Please contact this office if you know of others who have passed away so we can add them in the next issue.



Head Boy Zared Wall-Manning delivering an impromptu speech – the topic picked out by Ginette McDonald.



Duo from Les Miserables with Tim Helbano and Oliver Witkowski.



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

St Patrick's College Wellington Foundation PO Box 14022, Wellington 6241  
Email: [development@stpats.school.nz](mailto:development@stpats.school.nz) DDI: 04 939-5416, Mobile: 027 466-3686

# GIFTING AND ADVICE OPTIONS

Please tick boxes where appropriate, then send form to:

**St Patrick's College Wellington Foundation**  
PO Box 14022, Wellington 6241



## THOMAS O'SHEA BEQUEST SOCIETY

Please send me further information on making a Bequest in my Will

## GIFTING

My/our gift to the Foundation is \$.....

I/We would like to make a gift of \$..... annually over a period of ..... years, commencing ..... (month/year)

I/We would like to visit the College and discuss our support of the Foundation

I/We request a Foundation representative phone to discuss our support

## HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR GIFT TO THE FOUNDATION APPLIED?

For the Foundation Board of Trustees to determine as per Foundation Deed

Foundation PROPERTY REDEVELOPMENT Fund

Foundation EDUCATION Fund

**All Foundation gift amounts remain confidential.**

Should you not wish your name to be published in any Foundation or College media please indicate below.

I/We wish my/our gift to remain anonymous.

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR GIFT

Cheque (payable to the St Patrick's College Wellington Foundation)

Internet Banking (please provide full reference details in the transaction)

Automatic payment (via your bank with full reference details)

Credit Card

## FOUNDATION BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

• **Account no: 06 0574 0236995 00**

• **Account name: The St Patrick's College Wellington Foundation**

## YOUR DETAILS:

Name:

Address:

City:  Postcode:

Email:

Phone:  Mobile:

Parent  Staff  Friend  Old Boy: Year/Form started (e.g. Year 9/3rd Form):

Years attended (e.g. 1978-1982):

## YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS(IF APPLICABLE):

Type of credit card:  Visa  Mastercard S/N (last 3 or 4 digits on signature panel):

Cardholder name:

Card number:  Expires: /

Signature:

**ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE**  
**FOUNDATION**

**St Patrick's College Wellington Foundation**

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