

## NEW 'N' OLD

Summer 2010

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## Alice Lang Awarded Rhodes Scholarship

New College is thrilled to announce that Alice Lang is the fourth New Collegian to become a Rhodes Scholar. Alice was stunned when she discovered that she had been named as one of only eight Australians this year to be awarded the prestigious, postgraduate scholarship. Rhodes Scholarships provide transformative opportunities and financial support for exceptional individuals, encouraging them to “fight the world’s fight” throughout their lives and contribute to their international understanding while they study at the University of Oxford.

Alice says she is very excited about heading to Oxford, where she will be studying economics. “My interest in economics has been developing over the last few years and I’m keen to have the chance to study that in greater detail, in an environment where you have to defend your ideas constantly, in small groups and tutorials. Of course, the joke is that the best thing about Oxford is Paris, and I’m looking forward to doing some more travel in Europe and the UK.” In particular Alice is glad to be studying a course that demands she make the connections between the social, technical, financial and moral aspects of communities and the world. “Some people get the wrong idea when I say “economics”, and imagine

it is all maths and formulae, whereas I see it very much as a social science to gain a better understanding of how societies are constructed (or how they emerge) and what makes things happen within them.”

Alice, came from Canberra to undertake a double major in Engineering (Photovoltaics and Solar Energy)/Arts. She achieved 1st Class Honours in Engineering and will complete the Arts degree in semester 1 before heading to Oxford in August. She has won numerous awards along the way and sustained a high distinction average.

Over her five years in residence at New (2006–2010) Alice has represented the college in Water Polo and running, danced in revues and the 2009 production of *Kiss Me Kate*, and produced the New College Revue in 2007. Her academic proclivity was evident from early in her studies at UNSW, earning her the New College Award in 2007. Alice was part of the J-Ride team who, in 2009, rode their bicycles from New College to Canberra to raise money for their ill friend and fellow-collegian, Jared Pritchard. Alice was an Academic Tutor at New College (2007) and a Resident Advisor (2009–2010). The RA role suited her fun and caring personality and endeared her to many collegians. **Continued on page 6**



Professor Trevor Cairney

## From the Master

As we prepare each edition of *New 'n' Old* we think carefully about the news we wish to share. There is always an embarrassment of riches in relation to achievements and good news stories. But sometimes we need to report sad stories as well, and that is the case in this issue. We lost a young member of the New College family in December, Jarred Pritchard, and in October one of our oldest members, Dr Lawrie Lyons. Both men provided inspiring examples for all who had the privilege of knowing them. We share a little of their stories in this edition.

One of the things that I've been reminded of in the last year is that at times the true strength of a community is shown by the way it copes with adversity and hardship. Jared's battle to defeat the effects of his third stroke was remarkable for many reasons. His determination was obvious, but his concern for others in spite of his own challenges was humbling. We will miss this cheeky, mischievous and talented young man.

Lawrie Lyons is probably known by fewer people who are still actively involved in the College community today, but he was a remarkable man who was still dreaming of new 'New Colleges' right up until the time of his death. It was the original vision of Lawrie, his wife Alison and other pioneers that has inspired me to expand what we do at New College. The NCV is directly linked to the vision and inspiration of Lawrie. We will all miss his wise counsel and godly example.

The pages that follow also chronicle a range of remarkable success stories. The achievement of Dr Sheau-Fang Ng in having a publication

accepted by the world's leading scientific publication, 'Nature', is probably a first for New College. She has set an inspiring example for other postgraduate students at the NCV. Likewise, Alice Lang's achievement in gaining a Rhodes Scholarship almost needs no commentary. As the 4th New Collegian to win a Rhodes Scholarship we are very proud of her.

There are also many wonderful stories of weddings and a baby to Sahm and Amy Nasser. And as usual, we have numerous stories concerning community life at New College and the NCV.

Could I also encourage you to read the inspiring story of Olivier Nsabimana and consider how you might be able to support the scholarship program at New College? This year we will probably have a number of applicants who won't be able to live at New College because they simply cannot afford to. In some cases, this is particularly disappointing because they are the type of applicants who need the support that only New College can give. Would you particularly consider the needs of Indigenous applicants who seem to be applying in increasing numbers but who almost always need some scholarship support?

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of *New 'n' Old*. I've enjoyed working on it with our new Public Relations Officer Jonathan Billingham who joined us in the middle of 2009 just after Mark Fairfull left.

Please keep in touch and send us an update on your life for a future edition of the magazine.

**Trevor Cairney**  
Master

**NEW 'N' OLD** is produced by New College at the University of New South Wales.

### About New

Founded in 1969, the original New College is an Anglican residential college for students at the University of New South Wales. New College actively contributes to the life of the wider University and its main campus is set within University grounds. New welcomes people of all faiths and none. The College celebrates, and is enriched by, the diversity of backgrounds of its staff and students. The College pursues academic excellence, collegiality and service to society founded upon Christian faith and values.

New College's main activities include:

- New College, the residential college for 248 undergraduate students at the University of New South Wales
- New College Village, the postgraduate residential village for 315 postgraduate students at the University of New South Wales.
- Centre for Apologetic Scholarship and Education, a specialist centre which carries out Christian apologetics—the activity of defending the Christian faith, engaging with other world views and attracting 'thinking' people to the message of the Christian faith.
- New College Lectures, in 1986 the College set up a Trust to conduct an annual series of public lectures. Lecturers address an important issue or aspect of contemporary society and comment on it from the standpoint of their Christian faith and professional expertise.

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# Introducing Ollie

Olivier Nsabimana is a remarkable young man. Ollie has recently completed his 2nd year of Electrical Engineering at The University of New South Wales. In 2009 and 2010, Ollie was the recipient of the Fred P Archer Access Scholarship, which covers half the cost of his college fees. In his first year of tertiary study, Ollie's consistently high academic achievements earned him a place on the Dean's First Class Honours List (Engineering UNSW). He was also awarded 1st place for *Best Design of a Wireless Car Calculator* in a university competition. Ollie says "I really enjoy what I am studying. I particularly like practical design tasks". Ollie now shares his passion for the practical side of engineering with other students by working as a tutor, mentor and lab demonstrator for UNSW.

Ollie tragically lost members of his family as a result of the Rwandan genocide of the early nineteen nineties. Shortly after arriving in Australia, in 2008, Ollie sat the NSW HSC examinations and achieved a UAI of 97.55, even though English is his 3rd language. Ollie does not take his educational opportunities for granted. He is hoping that, through his hard work, he will be able to financially support his family once he has completed his tertiary studies. But Ollie is also enjoying the fun life that comes with living at New. "One of the hardest things about being a New Collegian is juggling time. There is so much you can participate in", says Ollie. "You want to be involved and find time to hang out with friends but still get good grades."

Ollie's commitment to academic excellence has certainly not prevented him from contributing to the college and wider community. As a fresher, Ollie took to the stage as a chorus member of the New College musical *Kiss Me Kate*. In 2010, he played six-a-side soccer and was the Co-Head of DanceSoc, a sub-committee of the New College Student Association. In this role, Ollie organized the College Swing Party, Hip Hop and R&B classes, and *So You Think You Can Dance*, an intergroup social competition based on the reality TV show. "All the groups in college choreographed their own dance and we had ex-collegians Andrew Harris, Tommy Milthorpe and Daryl Tan come to judge the performances", says Ollie.

In the wider community Ollie is involved with Rotary International and the Light the Way charity. At UNSW, he is both a member of the African Student Association and BlueSat, UNSW. "Being a member of BlueSat (The UNSW Student Satellite Project) is such a wonderful opportunity", says Ollie with delight. "I am really looking forward to getting more involved in that project over the next couple of years. BlueSat is actually designing and making a Satellite to launch into space. It's the real thing not a student assignment".

**Continued on back cover**



Ollie Backstage during the 2010 Revue

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## A Message from the Public Relations Officer



I am very glad to have joined the New College staff as Public Relations Officer in August 2010. Among my responsibilities, I support and promote major events such as the New College Lectures, co-ordinate the College's fundraising efforts, and maintain the College websites and database. The best part of my job is keeping in touch with you, the alumni and friends of New College, through various publications, including *New 'n' Old*. I have taken

on the role as a former resident of New College (2006–2009). I studied a Bachelor of Music at UNSW (majoring in composition) and I continue my musical pursuits outside of my work at New. New is always keen to have content for the next *New 'n' Old* – 'Where are they now?', the latest weddings, engagements and births, and significant achievements. You can contact me with your suggestions on (02) 9381 1740 or by emailing me: [j.billingham@newcollege.unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.billingham@newcollege.unsw.edu.au)

**Jonathan Billingham**  
**Public Relations Officer** ▶

# In Memoriam

## Jared James Edwin Pritchard

2nd October 1985 – 1st December 2010



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It is with great sadness that New College has said farewell to a wonderful collegian and a very dear friend. Jared James Edwin Pritchard died early on the morning of the 1st December, 2010 aged 25. Jared was a New Collegian from 2006 until 2009. He was a determined, caring, fun-loving and well-loved young man. Jared's musical talent and digital media creations were of a quality well beyond his years. He was half way through an Honours program, studying a Bachelor of Digital Media at The College of Fine Arts, UNSW, when he suffered

**He was a determined, caring, fun-loving and well-loved young man. Jared's musical talent and digital media creations were of a quality well beyond his years.**

a major stroke at College in July 2009 resulting from an Arterio-Venous Malformation (AVM).

For almost 18 months, Jared battled the effects of the stroke. In this time he was hospitalized at The Prince of Wales Hospital and later at Frenchmans Lodge. Although Jared showed signs of improvement he also suffered many setbacks

while hospitalized and his condition gradually deteriorated. Nevertheless, his death was not anticipated and came as a shock to everyone.

The depth of affection New Collegians held for Jared was demonstrated last year by the massive efforts of the J-Rock benefit concert and the J-Ride from Sydney to Canberra, both organized to contribute to the cost of his operation and hospital care. The efforts of many led to \$75,000 being



(L-R) Alumni Matthew Hamlyn, Chris Goris and Jeremy Osborne with Jared after his first skydive



Jared with members of the 4th floor group of 2007

raised. Jared was an incredibly talented young man, who gave generously of himself to many. Even in the midst of his own illness he always found time to ask about any visitor's life and needs. We will all miss Jared a great deal.

Jared's funeral was an

opportunity for family and friends to grieve but also remember and celebrate with thankfulness the impact that he has had on many lives. It was held at St James King Street Anglican Church at 2:30pm Thursday, 9th December 2010. Nearly five hundred people attended the funeral including a large contingent of New Collegians and alumni of New College. This was followed by a gathering of family, collegians, staff and friends back at New College. A tribute to Jared, written and read at the funeral by Jonathan Billingham, can be found on the New College Website. *A montage of Jared Pritchard's creative life* can also be found on YouTube. To see the video go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74C xv-UfCu0> ▶

# In Memoriam

## Dr Lawrence Ernest (Lawrie) Lyons

26 May 1922 – 14 October 2010

New College is sad to note the passing of one of its founders, Dr Lawrence Ernest Lyons. The New College community encompasses far more than its current residents. The perpetual transience of the place sometimes averts new members of the community from fully understanding or appreciating the contributions of those who have gone before them. Indeed none of us may have been able to call New College “home” if it were not for Dr Lawrence Lyons who, as a member of the New University Colleges Council (NUCC), strove with his wife, Alison, and others to bring the community into existence. The task commenced in 1956 and was not completed until 1969.

Lawrie, as he was known, was a driving force in the formation of New University Colleges Council (NUCC) that was responsible for the development of New College at UNSW and Robert Menzies College at Macquarie University. He was often described by his colleagues as having been the “engine driver” and “ideas man” of the council. One early member commented that he dominated NUCC and forced the pace on every issue and continued his involvement until the end of 1963. It was Lawrie who gained permission from the former UNSW Vice-Chancellor, Sir Philip Baxter, to build an

Anglican college on the Kensington campus. Lawrie’s Christian faith emblazoned in him the conviction that Christianity had a place in Australia’s emerging university sector. This was expressed through his involvement in creating residential colleges like New. Lawrie was also respected nationally and internationally for his pioneering work on the electrical and photo-conductivity of organic materials and in the Christian community for his long-standing commitment to the dialogue between Science and Christianity from an evangelical point of view.

The College awarded Lawrie the highest honour in 2008, “Life Fellow”. The current Master, Prof Cairney flew to Brisbane in 2008 to preside at an official New College ceremony held at Emmanuel College on December 2008. At this event Lawrie was presented with his ‘Life Fellowship’ in the presence of family and friends. His life exemplified the ideals for which New College stands and he will be sadly missed. ■



(L-R) Prof Trevor Cairney, Mrs Alison Lyons and the late Dr Laurie Lyons at the conferral of his New College Life Fellowship in October 2008.

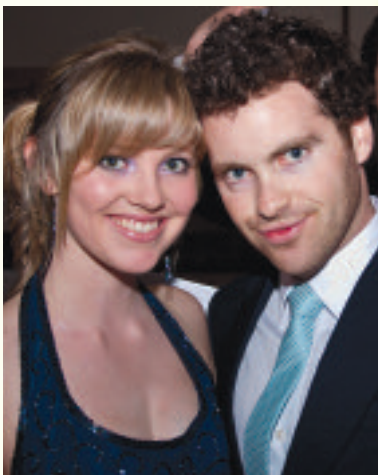
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## New College Valedictory Awards and Prizes



Zoe Stephenson (Collegian of the Year 2010) with James Tibbett (Collegian of the Year 2008)

Congratulations to all those New Collegians who have received recognition of their achievements and service to the community in 2010. Below is a list of the recipients of New College’s most prestigious awards and Prizes.

- Collegian of the Year – Zoe Stephenson
- New College Award (Academic) – Alex Rogan
- New College Award (Collegiality and Service) – Joshua Chakravarty
- Matt Giblin Award – Geff Keighley
- Mick Braund Service Award – Katie Lillyman
- Sportsman of the Year – Alex Rogan
- Sportswoman of the Year – Stephanie Armstrong
- Inspirational Sportsman of the Year – Nicholas Sykes
- Inspirational Sportswoman of the Year – Vera Newman

# Alice Lang

## Reflections of a New Rhodes Scholar



New College  
Female Resident  
Advisors of 2010  
(L-R) Alice Lang,  
Lauren McKnight,  
Katherine Butterworth,  
Sarah Scheuer and  
Edwina Whiteside.

When asked about her time at College Alice says, “New has been incredible—it has challenged me (hugely) and helped me (immeasurably). I feel privileged to have been here—it’s not always perfect, but the people, and the sense of community, and the friends I’ve made have been amazing.” Alice says she will not miss fire alarms but will definitely miss living with such an interesting group of people and having so many friends so close by. “New College has given me a great amount of respect for people who try hard to understand who they are, what they believe, and what they’re doing in the world. I hope it has made me more tolerant and compassionate.”

Given a chance to influence the world, Alice would like to encourage people to be more tolerant of one another and really investigate why they believe certain things, and how those beliefs can and should affect their relationships with other people. An avid debater and someone who has volunteered for numerous humanitarian organisations, Alice is frustrated and saddened

when people suffer violence and discrimination because of characteristics such as their gender, sexual orientation or religion.

Alice is hoping that after studying economics at Oxford she will be better equipped to influence the Australian debate on energy policy, which she thinks needs a lot more consistency than at present. “Investors, technicians, commercial operators and consumers need to be confident of what the commercial environment will be in the short, medium and long-term future”, says Alice. “We should invest in technologies that have been shown to work, and support Australian innovations through to commercial viability here in Australia.”

Alice doesn’t see herself as having all the answers to Australia’s current energy policy challenges, that’s why she wants to keep studying. However, surveying the situation Alice says “there should be a more serious and committed effort to do the relatively simple things that would assist with a more efficient use of energy within businesses and households. These might include a (hopefully more successful) reprisal of the home insulation initiative, better training programs about how to make houses more energy efficient and financial incentives to reduce energy use. I would have thought spending less on energy would be an incentive, but it doesn’t always seem to work like that”, says Alice. “Overall, it needs to be easy for people to do these things. With a change in energy technology, the consumer shouldn’t really notice any difference. It needs to be seen as something that is simple and obvious.”

For now, however, Alice’s mind is set on solving practical problems such as where she will live for the two years of her study at Oxford. “I’d like to be at a college that has a bit of that ‘Harry Potter’ air about it”, says Alice. Of the Colleges she is looking into, Balliol and Magdalen are possibilities but New College, Oxford is certainly on the list. In any case, the New College community in Australia wishes Alice every success, safety and unimaginable levels of Harry-Potter-style-fun as she embarks upon a road that few have travelled. ▀



Collegian	In Residence	Undergraduate Degree	Major Scholarship Recipients
Michael Kilborn	1981–84	Medicine	Rhodes Scholarship
Elizabeth Wall	1994–95	Mining Engineering	Rhodes Scholarship
David Winterton	2001–03	Science/Law	Rhodes Scholarship
Sam Wills	2003–05	Actuarial Studies	General Sir John Monash Fellowship
Alice Lang	2006-10	Engineering/Arts	Rhodes Scholarship

# NCV alumnus Dr Sheau-Fang Ng published by *Nature*



**N**CV alumnus, Dr Sheau-Fang Ng, has recently had a paper published in *Nature*. This is an immense honour for Sheau-Fang and recognition of the quality and significance of her work. The article in *Nature* was titled “Chronic high-fat diet in fathers programs  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction in female rat offspring”. Following the release of this publication, Sheau-Fang’s research attracted a lot of interest from the scientific community, as well as from the media around the world.

Sheau-Fang studied Medicine and Paediatrics at the National University of Malaysia (UKM) and later specialised in Endocrinology. She then worked at the endocrine unit in the UKM Medical Center in Malaysia, was actively involved in setting up a child obesity clinic together with other colleagues, and at the same time looking after children with diabetes and other hormonal diseases. Obesity is difficult to treat and seeing many conventional programs used in the clinic fail, was a catalyst for Sheau-Fang to want to undertake a PhD. “Life became routine working in the clinic and I wanted to do something different to help people with obesity but couldn’t investigate in humans,” says Sheau-Fang. “I chose to do my PhD at the University of New South Wales to be under the supervision of Professor Morris, whose laboratory had already carried out extensive research into maternal obesity programming. This seemed sensible as I was interested in expanding the research to paternal obesity programming.”

At the Malaysian clinic, Sheau-Fang had observed that many of her patients had two parents who were obese. It is well established that poor health of a mother during pregnancy can detrimentally affect the health of her child. However, Sheau-Fang began to question whether obese fathers also have a role in programming obesity and affecting health of their children.

Sheau-Fang is extraordinarily thankful to her supervisor and the other scientists in the team for this collaborative work.

“We set up a simple model using rats to investigate how a father’s health can affect their offspring”, explains Sheau-Fang. “Male rats were fed a high-fat diet and mated with healthy females to generate offspring. We then fed their female offspring a normal diet. To our surprise, these female offspring weren’t obese or fatter than the controls, but they had abnormal glucose handling. This is the first report showing that a father’s high fat diet alone can initiate progression to diabetes in his offspring.” Conducting her research at UNSW has been a wonderful experience for Sheau-Fang and she has particularly enjoyed being exposed to a lot of new laboratory technology.

**“We set up a simple model using rats to investigate how a father’s health can affect their offspring.”**

Sheau-Fang found out about NCV even before the building had been fully built and as a new arrival to Australia she watched its development keenly. In 2009, Sheau-Fang lived and worked as Residential Academic Tutor at NCV. In this role she provided pastoral care to residents living on the 1st floor and academic support to the wider NCV community. She was an active participant in NCV Research Seminars and College Services. Sheau-Fang says, “My time at NCV has been a highlight of living in Australia. I love how people at NCV encourage each other and some pray together. It was great being able to have friends over for dinner”. Barbequed pancakes for breakfast and residents gathering for pot-luck dinners are some of the memories of living at NCV that will stay with Sheau-Fang. “I have built friendships with people from different parts of the world and learnt a lot from living in the community”, she says with delight.

Looking back on the past few years Dr Sheau-Fang Ng says, “It has been such an honour, and I feel so privileged to be able to make some breakthroughs in research whilst living with such wonderful people.” The future for Sheau-Fang is full of bright possibilities as she moves towards completing her PhD. **▀**

# NCV Exhibition Early Science at UNSW



Members of the Milner-Davis Family following the opening of the exhibits

**The foyer in the NCV now has an exhibit that celebrates the contribution of scientists to UNSW. In particular it focuses on the work of C.J. Kit Milner- UNSW's Chair of Applied Physics (1952-1976) and the first Dean of Science.**

Staff from New College and UNSW, together with family and friends of Kit Milner attended a morning tea on 24 September 2010 to view the new Kit Milner Scientific Instruments Display. The informal gathering included three generations of Milners, UNSW Archives staff, past and present senior UNSW academics, including the current Dean of Science, Prof. Merlin Crossley.

There is a wall display covering the early history of UNSW and in particular science. There are also insights into some of the significant events Milner experienced while working as Head of the UNSW School of Physics, and first Dean of Science. Some of the artefacts have great significance, including the only remaining piece of the UNSW Solar Furnace (in use from 1961 to the early 1970's) that Dr Milner created, the second such facility in the world. In a separate display cabinet there are personal artefacts highlighting Milner's student life, work, literary interests and Christian faith, as well as historical scientific instruments. There are also other significant instruments located throughout the ground floor, including some from the very beginnings of the university in 1949.

There were several short speeches from the family members and the Master, Professor Trevor

Cairney outlined how the exhibit evolved over a couple of years with various people involved. The concept for an exhibit originated from the College's desire to acknowledge the Milner family's contributions to New College Village and recognise academics of UNSW's past whose work shaped the University as we know it today.

The exhibition has a parallel digital presence on the NCV website. Guests were given an introduction to web pages of the exhibit on a large screen. The website also includes additional material not in the exhibit. Following the speeches, guests wandered through the NCV foyer viewing the exhibit and scientific instruments. It was an enjoyable time for family and friends to catch up and reminisce. ▸





# NCV Formal Dinners

Three times each year NCV residents gather for a Formal Dinner. These events involve a three-course meal, a musical item (or two) and a speech on a topic of interest to a higher education community. The evenings typically go well into the night as residents enjoy coffee and conversation, not to mention a photograph or two! The guest speakers for the NCV formal dinners in 2010 were the former UNSW Deputy Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor Dr Jessica Milner-Davis, prominent Australian businessman, actuary and Rhodes Scholar Dr Ian Pollard and eminent physicist, Professor Michelle Simmons, from UNSW's School of Physics.

Dr Milner-Davis spoke at the June formal dinner about three remarkable English women who were pioneers in science and mathematics, one of whom was her paternal grandmother. She also traced the evolution of women completing science degrees over the last century, and how the various policies around women in universities had evolved for the better. Dr Kit Milner (discussed in relation to the Scientific Instruments Display on p.8) was Dr Milner's father and played a leading role in the development of science at UNSW.

Drawing from his broad background in corporate finance and advice, private equity investment and public company governance, Dr Pollard gave a fantastic address in September, which was full of advice for those starting out on careers in business. One piece of advice which was particularly memorable was to be aware of the difference between obtaining five years' experience and obtaining one years' experience five times over. Many of his ideas are outlined in his book *'Investing in your life—your biggest investment opportunities are not necessarily financial'*.

In October, Professor Michelle Simmons delivered the final NCV formal dinner address



for 2010. Professor Simmons' research involves the development of novel electronic devices at the atomic scale. Professor Simmons spoke of her research group's investigations into the development of quantum computing technology, with its promise of providing an exponential increase in processor speeds. The mixed audience of scientists and non-scientists could clearly appreciate the significance of Michelle's research and its implications in a wide variety of fields that depend on increasingly faster computers.

The NCV Formal Dinners in 2010 were wonderful occasions. The musical items were presented by residents Kevin Phang, Yvonne Chow, and Elina Yasumoto, all being entertaining and of a very high quality. ▀



# NCV Music Night



L-R: Sharon McGowan, Vivian Shek, Yvonne Chow, Jia Ni Wang, Theresa Crossing, Diane Wong, Serena Ma and Dr Premilla Chinnappa-Quinn



Dr Premilla Chinnappa-Quinn and Assistant Dean, Vivien Shek, play NCV's new piano

On the 27th August 2010, NCV hosted its Inaugural Music Night, which featured a range of different instrumental and vocal pieces performed by NCV residents. The evening was preceded by some drinks and nibbles in the main common room, after which residents settled in for an evening of fine music. To start the night, a choir of NCV residents sang the Jay Althouse and Sally Albrecht song "I am a small part of the world." This was followed by the woodwind and string ensemble of Vivian Shek, Serena Ma, Kay Chen and Diane Wong, who played pieces by Haydn and Mozart. They also played one of Serena's own compositions, "To Pop the Question", demonstrating that NCV residents can not only play, they can also compose!

The evening was a wonderful opportunity for residents to perform, regardless of their musical experience. Resident Elina Yasumoto, who is a graduate of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and University of Melbourne's Faculty of Music, played piano music by Rachmaninoff and also explained some of the history of her repertoire. At the other end of the spectrum, Kevin Phang is a completely home grown guitarist, having first picked up the instrument as a resident at NCV, and having been initially taught by another resident!

In all there were a dozen performances by groups and individuals with a diversity that stretched from Joseph Haydn to Brooke Fraser. To conclude the night Elina returned to play Liszt's Tarantella from "Venezia e Napoli". During the performance the Dean's six month old daughter was captivated by Elina's flying fingers. It was a fitting end to a fabulous evening, showcasing the incredible depth of talent of NCV residents.

NCV is fortunate to have a new baby grand piano. The Kawai GE20 is a beautiful instrument. Dr Premilla Quinn, who is the wife of NCV's Dean, Dr John Quinn, spent many hours researching pianos to find one appropriate for the space of the Main Common Room and intensive use by NCV residents. The purchase of the piano was made possible by a donation from a friend and supporter of New College. ▀



Roma Singhal performing at the NCV Music Night

# NCV African Night



The NCV community is culturally diverse, with 50 different nationalities represented. During 2010 there were residents from every continent (except Antarctica), as well as from a number of island nations such as Mauritius, American Samoa and Fiji. A number of our residents come from Africa, and in particular from Nigeria, Kenya, Mauritius, Uganda and Egypt.

On the 17th September, our African residents hosted the inaugural “NCV Africa Night”, which sought to showcase the art, culture, language, music and food of their continent.

To start the evening, residents were welcomed in the local languages of Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya and Mauritius. This was followed by an opportunity to enjoy some of the sumptuous food that had been prepared by the organising team. Lyz Murago and Wangari Muchiri, both from Kenya, introduced all the different dishes with some background on what they were made from and how to eat them.

Once residents were settled with their food, the African students performed a short drama based on a traditional African folktale about the origin of thunder. This was followed by a sing-along in Swahili, which was introduced to the attendees by Senior Academic Tutor Mark Dixon, who had formerly worked in Africa aboard one of the Mercy Ships. Patience Mbabazi, from Uganda, then explained some of the traditional jewellery of Africa. The night continued with poetry, African tea and coffee, music and dance. To conclude the

night, everyone joined in for an “African Shuffle”.

The evening was run off the back of a very successful Cultural Night, which was run earlier in the semester. The Cultural Night provided an opportunity for NCV Residents to taste food from a number of different countries, as well as hear music from all over the world. Countries represented included India, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Iran, Japan, Australia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Chile and Korea. ▀



# Noises Off

It is the time of the year when the lights burn late, when the words on the page become life on stage. Study is in snippets, meals are necessary intermissions, and attending class can help to counteract lack of sleep.

The Cast of  
*Noises Off*



**N**oises Off was the creation of the English playwright, Michael Frayn. In May 2010, it became the 20th college play to be produced by the New College Student Association. The directors, Ed Reeve and Sumer Dayal, chose this play for its comedic appeal. “It is one of the funniest scripts I’ve ever read”, says Ed, who is studying a Bachelor of Arts majoring in English and History. *Noises Off* is a farce about a group of dysfunctional actors, who are themselves, putting on a comedy. This makes *Noises Off* the fifth New College production, in just six years, to feature the device of play-within-a-play. The three acts of the

play correspond to three different performances of the play-within-a-play. On each occasion the “off-stage” grievances between the characters intensify, while on-stage attempts to cover up a series of mistakes only compounds the problems and draws attention to the bungling performance.

In recent years, New College productions have tended to be scripted for large casts, allowing greater on-stage inclusion. This was not the case for *Noises Off*. The cast of nine was Crystal Moran, Adam Teusner, Liz Stern, Amelia Hurley, Erin Smith, Samuel Trotman, George Davis and Nick Sykes. “All the characters are evenly spaced in terms of narrative focus”, says Ed. “So even though it was a small size cast for a college play, nine distinct characters operating in stage space simultaneously makes for very high energy. The level of exactitude that was required for actors to deliver lines and perform actions was extraordinary. For the slapstick to work, everything had to happen at exactly the right time and place”. Several hundred people attended the four performances of *Noises Off*, and they were not disappointed. “It really did look like a professional production”, says Ed, who lives and breathes theatre. “*Noises Off* is a production, which if done properly, looks absolutely incredible because nothing ever stops moving.” The Master of the College agreed with him, indicating that “... the cast and production team handled the technical difficulties with distinction and provided all of us with an hilarious night. It was wonderful!”

Despite the smaller cast, there was certainly not a decline in College participation. Over 100 New Collegians gave of their time and talent to ensure the music, artistic design, set design, props, set construction, costumes, make-up, front-of-house, publicity and tech was just as accomplished as the on-stage performance. This massive team was led by producers, Josh Chakravarty and Daniel Foong. ▸

# NC Art Exhibition

For several years, the New College Cultural Committee has staged wonderful Art Shows, featuring work by current collegians. The opening of the 2010 Art Show coincided with the New College Lecture Formal Dinner, held on the 13th of September. This year's exhibition included

## ► Collegian's Choice Award

Geff 'Chops' Keighly for 'Buzz Lightyear, Bumblebee & Optimus Prime'

## ► Judges' Award for Photography

Michael 'Gaston' Riordan for 'Catch and Kiss'

## ► Judges' Award for Technical Brilliance

Crystal 'Ice' Moran for "Oh, hello, I didn't see you there ..."

## ► Kid's Choice

Katherine Butterworth for 'Waterfalls'

drawings, paintings, photography and sculptures. The Master, Trevor Cairney, NC Dean, Ben Gooley and alumnus, Chao Qiao, were invited to judge the show and award prizes. The Kids' Choice Award was chosen by the youngest members of the New College community, the Gooley children.



Will the real Lucy Murrie please stand up?

## ► Portrait of a Collegian

Elisa 'Lilgate' Holgate for 'Lucy Sprocket Murrie'

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# NC Revue – The Basement



The cast of Revue 2010's main sequence, *The Basement*.

Scripting and staging a university revue is no small feat. New College is the only residential institution on campus at UNSW to produce an annual revue, and the entire production is the work of New Collegians. Every year the scripts are original, or at the very least clever send ups of existing material, with a main sequence plus a myriad of other sketches, dances, musical performances and movies, which are sometimes vaguely related to the title of the

Revue. The 2010 New College Revue was titled *The Basement*. Directed by Rex Cover and Sam Trotman, the main sequence was presented as if it were a reality TV show, in which five strangers are forced to live under meager circumstances in a dingy basement. New Collegians Felicity Fletcher, Patrick Hoy, Amy Pratten, James Tibbett and Tom Wright convincingly portrayed their dysfunctional caricature roles as the contestants in *The Basement*. The New College Revue Film, *Unlimited Adventure Ltd*, was directed by George Davis, Nathan Milham and Crystal Moran. The epic car (and college bus) chases, armed hold-ups, quasi mafia attacks and pleasant morning teas were acted with inestimable bravado by New Collegians Claire-Elise Green, Tom Lucena, Adam Teusner, Sam Trotman and Matthew Zaidan. ▀

# New College Poets

(L-R) New College Dean Ben Gooley with award winning poets Samuel Trotman and Angus Buchanan



In 2010 the inaugural New College Poetry Competition was held, with a large number of entries from current collegians. Interestingly, there were more men than women who submitted poems. From the many entries, a 'shortlist' was created that went on display for the Second Session Commencement Formal Dinner. During the dinner the winner was announced. Fresher, Sam "Jockers" Trotman won first place, with his poem, *It's Still Life*, which was read during the dinner. A Dean's Award was also given to another Fresher, Angus "Basil" Buchanan, for his poem, *The Pianist*. ▀

## **It's Still Life** *By Samuel Trotman (Printed with the author's permission)*

Morning

When the smoke slithers skywards  
flicking forked-tongues to taste  
the pink underbelly  
of sunrise.

The city still sleeps. Dreams swell and sigh  
and slip away. And the day  
drips like Dali's clocks,  
and clocks drip steady seconds.

Tick and drip slowly,  
secreting oblivion.

Then cross-legged kids  
sip from the bowl,  
fresh and wet-combed, and bathed  
in neon.

The sticky columns of cars  
stutter to work.  
Eyes vacant with the vapor of vapid apathy.

The whole world roaring in their ears.  
Chewing at their fingernails.  
Scraping across the glass.

And in the afternoon

the sun stitches shadows to our toes  
and they stalk us as silently  
as silhouettes.

An empty imitation.

Wandering past parks  
where the branches shatter sunlight into shards  
across the grass. But the concrete  
creeps closer.  
Clawing at the dirt with its footpath fingers.

They walk

past one hundred bodies  
but can't remember a face.

The evening

sees the sun recede and bleed  
through the cracks in the  
clouds,  
soaking them in crimson.  
And the traffic lights match.

Car radios wheeze, cackle and cough.

And at night

our Babels light up  
and prod the sky, pointing  
towards the stars.

And technology's cold blue glow  
throbs through curtains.

Mouthfuls mumble in ad breaks.

And the red eye flies through the night sky  
as our eyes close.

And our thoughts and memories seep through  
our subconscious.

And we dream and the day drips like Dali's clocks  
and clocks drip steady seconds.

And lips drip drool  
and we slip away

And get ready to start it all again.

# New College Lecture Series 2010

## Music, Modernity and God



The New College Lecture Series 2010 was presented over three nights (Sept 14–16) by Professor Jeremy Begbie at the John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW. The series had the theme ‘Music, Modernity and God’ and addressed three sub themes—‘Creativity’, ‘Freedom’ and ‘Language’. Prof Begbie is a research Professor in Theology at Duke Divinity School, North Carolina and an Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge. He teaches systematic theology and specializes in the interface between theology and the arts; in particular the interplay between music and theology. He is author of a number of books, including *Resounding Truth: Christian Wisdom in the World of Music*.

In 2010 the lectures were a little different, as Prof Begbie is not only a leading theologian but also an outstanding musician. Prof Begbie complemented his lectures with recitals and demonstrations from the piano. He also elucidated theological concepts by playing recorded examples, as diverse as Bach, Schumann, U2, and the National Anthem of the Republic of South Africa.

New College students, staff, alumni and Board members had the first opportunity to hear Prof Begbie speak and perform, at a formal dinner held on Monday 13th, September in anticipation of the free public lectures. Prof Begbie, who travelled to Australia exclusively to give the New College Lectures, was appreciated by the audience for his engaging and stimulating lectures. Question time,

which preceded the formal dinner and each lecture, elicited such a wealth of knowledge from Begbie, whose impromptu answers were as enlightening as his prepared material. Prof Begbie suggested that music can help us to ‘read’ the story of our culture with the eyes of Christian faith, responding in fresh ways to some of the deepest dilemmas and truths of our time. The lectures were attended by approximately 500 people. In the audience were university students and lecturers from UNSW, professional musicians, scholars from other universities, theologians, New Collegians, residents of NCV, Alumni and members of the public.

This was a memorable Lecture series. Video excerpts of the talks will be available on the New College and CASE websites. If you would like to read some of Jeremy Begbie’s work, the recent article he wrote for CASE is a great place to start—‘Polyphony of life: Dietrich Bonhoeffer’. The whole issue of *Case #23* is devoted to the theme ‘Music and Theology’. This can be purchased by contacting New College. For more information, visit the CASE Blog (<http://andjustincase.blogspot.com/2010/12/seeing-is-not-believing.html>) for links to resources and discussion about the lectures. You can also listen to the second lecture in the series by going to the resources page of the CASE website: [www.case.edu.au](http://www.case.edu.au) ▀

# Marriage of Sara Wilson and Jonathan Lee

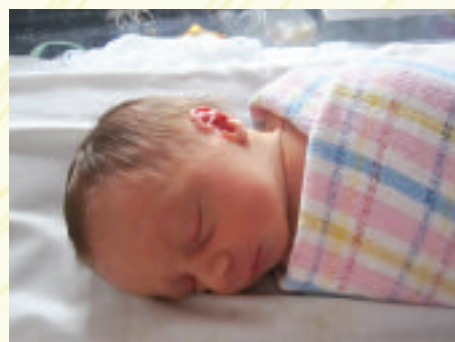


At 3pm, on the 23rd October 2010, Sara Wilson (New Collegian 2005–2008) married Jonathan Lee at Kupyer Christian School, near the quiet town of Kurrajong where Sara grew up. Many alumni of New College attended the wedding, including Laura Allen, who was Sara's maid of honour. The reception was held in a marquee on the school grounds and included a Chinese

Tea Ceremony, as Jono and his family are Chinese. The reception was a lovely time being surrounded by so many who are dear to Sara and Jono. This was especially nice for them as they moved away from Sydney to Medowie, for Jono's current RAAF placement, straight after the wedding. Jono and Sara will be heading to Perth for the same reason early this year.



# Sahm and Amy Nasserri have a baby



Amy and Sahm Nasserri are very happy to have welcomed their first child into the world. Daniel Boaz made it just in time to be a 2010 baby, arriving on the 29th of December 2010 at the Randwick Royal Hospital for Women. After 31 hours of labour (which started at 3am) Amy finally gave birth to Daniel at 10:16am the next day. It was a

breach birth with Daniel weighing in at 3.02kg. It was the first planned breach delivery for a first time mum at the hospital. Amy and Daniel are both doing well. They hope, however, that in future Daniel uses more of his head when making critical decisions. ■



# 2010 Alumni Graduand Awards



Dr Rebecca Barnes with UNSW Alumni Association President and Former New College Dean, Dr Ian Walker

**New College Alumna Dr Rebecca Barnes, BE (Hons) Env '05, PhD '09 was recently awarded one of only three UNSW Alumni Graduand Awards in recognition of her exceptional contribution to the campus community as well as the Bruce Hawkins Prize for her contribution to the wider local and international community.**

The Alumni Graduand awards are made annually by the Alumni Board of Governors to recognise exceptional achievements by final year students in enhancing the quality of communal life, either within or outside the University, through original modes of service in promoting cross-cultural links, in outreach to those in need or in other services.

In the final year of her environmental engineering undergraduate degree (2004), Rebecca volunteered for development work in India, and became one of two engineers designing the water

supply, distribution and disposal system for the Shanti Bhavan Hospital. 'It was an honour to work for the Indian doctors and pastors' she recalled, 'They knew the meaning of sacrifice.' Rebecca was a Collegian for the duration of her undergraduate degree (2001–2004) and received the New College Award (2002), Mick Braund Award (2004), and became a University Medalist in 2004.

In 2006, Rebecca came back to UNSW to undertake her PhD in planning for sustainable water and sanitation projects in rural, developing countries. In 2007, she also returned to live at New College, as the recipient of the Stuart Barton Babbage Postgraduate Scholarship. Somehow, Rebecca found time to lead a team of first year undergraduates to win the Engineers without Borders Challenge for sustainable development design. She did this amid the multitude of college activities she was involved in during her second stay in college (2007–2008).

As her Alumni Award citation noted, Rebecca has consistently exhibited an outstanding level of contribution to communal life, both on and off campus, during the course of her undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Her extensive voluntary work has included participation and leadership in service and fundraising activities, advising and mentoring of other students and advocacy for Community Development locally and overseas, especially in developing countries. She has undertaken volunteer work in a remote Indian village, with underprivileged families in the ghettos of Washington DC, and in the Philippines, and advised and supported similar work for Vanuatu. Dr Barnes has recently launched her PhD website as a resource for water and sanitation development workers. The website can be visited at <http://water.unsw.edu.au/site/waterunsw/community-outreach-projects/watsan/>

Dr Barnes has recently launched her PhD website as a resource for water and sanitation development workers.



(L-R) Rev Ben Gooley (New College Dean), Dr Angela Barratt (NCSA Life Member), Dr Rebecca Barnes and her father Howard Barnes

# What's New? News briefs

## ● Farewell Jacqui Hughes



After 11 years of dedicated service to New College, Jacqui Hughes has left us to work in the Sutherland Shire for MIG Associates closer to home and in a part time capacity. Jacqui saw many residents and staff members come and go since joining the College staff in 1999. As the College Secretary and Conference and Casual Accommodation Administrator, Jacqui played an important part in presenting New College to the wider community. She always did this with excellence and also developed a good rapport with many residents, particularly those in their upper years of study. Jacqui will be missed at New College but we wish her all the very best in the next phase of her life with her husband Marty, and their baby Nikita.

## ● Farewell Katarina Spurling

Katarina Spurling came from Perth to work with New College in September 2009. It has been lovely to have her working in the office as the Case Administrator and assisting with the co-ordination of Conference and Casual Accommodation. But recently Katarina has made the move to her dream job, as an Events Co-ordinator with the Hillsong Church. We wish Katarina all the best in her new position.

## ● Farewell Jennifer Andrew

Jennifer Andrew was the New College receptionist from May to December of 2010. Jennifer has had to leave this role and will be taking on the responsibility of full-time carer for her ill and aging father. We thank Jennifer for her short but faithful period of work at New College. The New College community will miss her caring and fun-loving presence.

## ● Freshers in the Office

Having said farewell to a number of staff in late 2009 and 2010, the office has a number of new faces. Anthea Mellick is now the Admissions Officer for both NCV and New College and Sue Cheng has stepped into managing accounts. Dani Scarratt (New College Alumnus 1990–91) has become Associate Editor of *Case* Magazine and Jonathan Billingham (New College Alumnus 2006–09) has joined the staff as the Public Relations Officer.

## ● Upgrades to the Pollard Room

Following renovations to the catering facilities at New College, which included a new cafe and common area, re-development of the ground floor continues. The most recent improvement has been the expansion of the Pollard Room. The Pollard Room, which was formerly known as the Pollard Library, is named in honour of Rev Noel Pollard



who was New College's first Master. The room has been expanded out towards the Anzac Parade boundary and into the colonnade overhang below the upper-floors. This was a previously unutilised space. The natural light that streams in through a new wall of clear windows provides a good environment for New College students to meet for group and individual study. The larger room now functions (by booking) as a rehearsal space for New College muso's. The Pollard Room also retains a remnant of the previous library and continues to be used as a study room for residents. ■

# Ollie and the Fred P Archer Trust



Continued from page 3

Ollie's friendly personality has helped him become well loved and respected by fellow New Collegians, irrespective of his academic and community achievements. However, Ollie would be unable to live and study at New College without the bursary assistance that he currently receives for the duration of his College residence.

This support is on top of a full Scholarship award offered by the School Of Electrical and Telecommunication Engineering at UNSW, which pays for his university tuition fees. "It's hard to imagine what my life would have been like if I had not received the scholarships to live and study here", says Ollie. "I love living with friendly people in such a supportive, lively environment. I am looking forward to coming back in 2011."

New College is committed to being a home-away from home for the brightest students who come to study and research at the University of New South Wales. The college aims to strengthen its scholarship program as we move into a new decade. With the generous support of alumni, and the backing of donors like the Fred P Archer Trust, New College can help provide talented students, like Ollie, the opportunities they deserve.

Please consider supporting the New College Scholarship Program. ▀

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