

# SELWYN COLLEGE

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER—Winter 2013

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## WINTER GREETINGS



**The Torch of Life** burns brightly at Selwyn College as we settle into the second semester, having produced a pleasing set of first semester examination results. The College is in fine shape with many residents managing to find the balance between a full engagement with the rich traditional sporting, cultural and social activities of Selwyn whilst also taking advantage of the College's revitalised academic tutorial programme. Competition with Knox College is particularly fierce this year with Selwyn having won both the Cameron Shield and Nevill Cup for the past two years. At the time of writing this report we are slightly behind in the Shield and level pegging in the Cup. Selwyn has also taken the Principal's Cup in the Cultural Exchange with College House, Christchurch, as well as the Warden's Cup for the Sports Exchange which we hosted.

Dr Neil Rodgers, Warden

## COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

**A sharp Southerly** blast produced this winter dusting giving some of our students their first experience of snow. This may be the last photograph you see of Whitehead before the project to seismically strengthen and refurbish the building begins in November. This project will head the College's Development



Plan which will focus on preserving and enhancing the unique collegiate experience that Selwyn provides. The Whitehead Project will not only ensure that we keep pace with the renovations of the University owned colleges, but will also result in another fifteen rooms, including ten new dormer bedrooms built into the roof, being added to the building. Our much loved Brothers Dining Hall will also be strengthened and preserved. Our intention is to strike a balance between meeting increasing demand and maintaining our sense of a tight-knit traditional community.

Future stages of the Development Project will seek to provide our students with greater amenity whilst preserving the vision of a small traditional college of excellence gathered around the Quad. We're also seeking new ways of maintaining connection with and amongst our Alumni as we believe the strength of these connections form a vital part of the Selwyn tradition. I'd like to invite you to visit our new College website [www.selwyn.ac.nz](http://www.selwyn.ac.nz) and then to follow the link on the home page to the alumni section. Please update your details using the on-line questionnaire, and we'd love to hear from you if you have time to post a blog.



*Sketch of Whitehead from Quad showing new Dormer bedrooms*

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## FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

**As an independent college** we seek to preserve our traditions and culture and strive to prioritise this aim above that of financial expediency in order to continue our legacy of providing the same character-forming educational experience today as we have over the past century. This comes at a cost, but it is a cost well justified by the value that Selwynites from many generations contribute to society both in New Zealand and internationally. Our well-rounded young graduates, equipped with interpersonal skills and fine degrees, go on to make a disproportionate difference for good in the world, thereby both honouring Selwyn's traditional heritage and paving the way for its future.

For Stage One of the Selwyn Development Project we seek to raise \$1.5 million over the next three years. The remaining \$2 million dollars will be sourced from our own reserves and from secured loans. A separate charitable Trust has been established for the purposes of this fundraising campaign thus ensuring that all donations are earmarked for their intended purpose and are tax deductible. The College Operations Manager will have direct oversight of the Trust reporting to the Operations Committee of the Board of Governors.

We hope that we can call upon the commitment of our alumni and others who have a love of the College to contribute to our campaign to preserve Selwyn as a quality traditional college of excellence. We'll be in touch with all of our alumni to announce the formal launch of the fundraising campaign.

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## NEW FELLOWS

**The Board of Governors** has been delighted to announce the appointment of a number of new Life Fellows to the College. They are, in alphabetical order:

Dr Richard Acland  
Sir Mason Durie  
Danny Gowan  
Prof Sir Malcolm Grant CBE,  
Dr Hylton LeGrice CNZM, OBE  
John Nichol  
Archbishop Philip Richardson  
Prof Piri Sciascia ONZM  
Dr David Velvin  
Dr T. Shailer Weston OBE, VRD

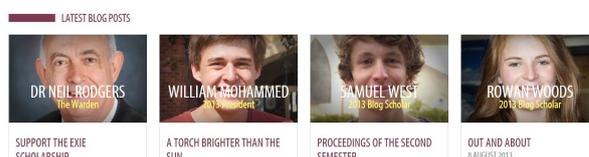
The College is delighted to have the opportunity to recognise some of its distinguished alumni in this way. A Fellows Honours Board has been erected in the CATS Common Room in the belief that our current residents will be inspired by the achievement of their senior alumni.

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## WEBPAGE

**The Selwyn College website** has recently been given a new lease on life. Three Blogs posted by current residents Will, Sam and Rowan are well worth a look and provide a great snapshot of life with the College. Some wonderful photos will no doubt trigger a few memories!

[www.selwyn.ac.nz](http://www.selwyn.ac.nz)



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## COLLEGE ROUND-UP

**The last few months** have really tested Selwyn's statute - to provide education in the classroom, on the sports field, under the lights of the stage, and when kicking back with a few mates.

We've had exams, Cameron Shield sporting events, Nevill Cup cultural events, the girls' Cocktail Night, completion of the Selwyn Ballet, ReO Week and the College House Sports Exchange.

Have we managed it all? Absolutely.



And as busy as it sounds, it's been twice as much fun!

Re-Orientation Week 2013 was a huge success. The Committee worked incredibly hard to pack the social calendar with as much great stuff as possible, and the College applauded it with universal acclaim. Selwyn's a pretty lonely place over the empty mid-winter break, and there's nothing greater than seeing the buildings filled with excitement after some well-earned time off.

The Cameron Shield and Nevill Cup are closer than ever, with Knox just ahead in the Shield and the two colleges tying in the Cup. In amongst this, we are thrilled to have hosted the College House Sports Exchange from the 9th - 11th of August. Both Colleges fought hard, and Selwyn was lucky enough to come out on top. It's great to see this fine exchange continuing in fantastic form year after year!

The spirit's brighter than ever here at Selwyn, and our residents are making life-long friendships and cherished memories. It's pretty special being a Selwynite - and no matter what happens, that's a title that sticks for life.

Will Mohammed — SCSA President

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## 2014 APPLICATIONS

At the time of writing, residential applications for the 2014 year are currently open. Similar to previous years, we expect three to four times more applications than rooms available, making the selection process a very tough one indeed.

With the additional rooms proposed for Whitehead, we plan to offer the 'Selwyn Experience' to a total of 189 residents comprising of 180 first and second year students and 9 senior Welfare Team members.

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## ALUMNI VIDEO INTERVIEWS

Check out these recently produced alumni videos on our webpage.

*Three successful alumni reflect on the value of their Selwyn College experience:*



**Simon Moore QC**  
Crown Prosecutor



**Sophie Hart**  
Multisport Champion



**Dave Insull**  
Owner, 90 Seconds TV