

Sisterhood

Baradene girls on the international stage

How alumnae stay connected to the next generation

2023 NZSS Football Champions

Game-changing new gymnasium underway

Baradene

HEART





BARADENE HEART is published twice yearly.
Read all issues of *Heart* online at [baradene.school.nz/
baradene-heart-magazine-issues](http://baradene.school.nz/baradene-heart-magazine-issues)

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Above: As we went to print, our 1st XI Football Team had just become New Zealand Secondary Schools Football Champions. Read more on page 17.

Additional photography: Charlotte Clech, White Door

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BARADENE HEART

ISSUE 15: OCTOBER 2023

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A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



A word from Gill Chappell, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

As this issue of *Heart Magazine* profiles a number of students who have travelled overseas on exchanges and educational trips, I have been reflecting on my own year on a student exchange in Central America. Well before the days of the internet, instant information and communication, my parents entrusted me to the care of an unknown family on the other side of the world, who did not speak the same language and could not locate New Zealand on a map. Knowing equally little about their country other than what could be gleaned from a paragraph in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, it was a leap of faith for my parents, me, and the family who “adopted” me for a year. It may have been the most formative year of my life.

Janet Erskine Stuart RSCJ, in referring to the wonders of the everyday, also expressed some of the sentiments of a student exchange when she said:

“We are then the discoverers of our own lives. Our world is new every day. Either we are sailing towards new shores, daring mariners in search of the unknown and day by day the horizon dips lower and our stars rise higher, or we are explorers by land, and new wonders reveal themselves on each day’s march.”

Even in an era of instant global communication, an exchange requires a student to fully step outside the comfort of their world into a new, unknown world. It challenges and redefines their “everyday” by providing insight into someone else’s day-to-day experiences. Even discovering something as simple as the fact that not everyone eats the same sort of food or that a school runs differently are observations that may teach enhanced tolerance and compassion. Partaking in an exchange requires a desire to explore and be open to new environments that are not entirely in a student’s control. The “new wonders” of those experiences can be significant and long-lasting.

The exchange programmes available to Baradene students offer valuable opportunities to learn about other countries, schools and cultures. They are supported and encouraged by the Board as one strand of the College’s strategic goal to prepare students for life after school as global citizens. We wish all of our students who have the chance to participate in exchanges the opportunity to make new connections, build community within the Sacred Heart network and make lifelong memories.

Ko te pae tawhiti, whāia kia tata. Ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tina – “Seek out distant horizons and cherish those you attain.”



Sisterhood



from our three Australian sister schools in Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne; and from sister schools in Madrid, Spain, and Princeton, Boston, and Greenwich in the USA. It is heartening to think that our sister schools would all have been celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart at the same time, in many different countries around the world.



Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass with exchange students from our sister schools. Read more about our exchange programmes on page 4.

Principal Sandy Pasley celebrates the deep bonds of sisterhood embodied by our students, alumnae, RSCJ Sisters, and the wider Baradene community.

I often reflect on the special bond students and alumnae I share. This issue, with its theme of “Sisterhood”, really brings those special connections to the fore. Not only does Baradene have many students attending with sisters from the same family, but our students often share sister-like bonds which extend throughout their lives as alumnae of Baradene. The idea of sisterhood also celebrates our RSCJ Sisters, who established Baradene over 110 years ago and founded sister schools in 41 countries around the world, with whom we share the common goal of educating in the tradition of our foundress, Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ.

Accordingly, it was fitting that in the week we celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart, we were joined by students

The opportunities for exchange with our sister schools adds a special dimension to the educational experience offered at Baradene, allowing students to gain a global perspective, form close bonds with students from RSCJ schools in other countries, and learn firsthand about different cultures. During the Feast of the Sacred Heart, these bonds were further developed when we raised funds for the RSCJ Sisters’ charity SHIFT, which works with communities in the Philippines. The desire to come together to help others is something we work hard to foster, and we are thankful for the support our community gave to this worthy cause.

“Our students often share sister-like bonds which extend throughout their lives as alumnae of Baradene.”

Encouraging body positivity

In June, together with the Senior Leadership team, I attended the Asia Pacific Summit on Girls' Education. We were greatly interested in the keynote speech of Taryn Brumfitt, the 2023 Australian of the Year. Taryn spoke about the importance of building positive body images for girls in the school setting. We encourage parents and students to watch Taryn's documentaries *Embrace* for adults and *Embrace Kids* for students. *Embrace Kids* has been proven to help students accept themselves as they are and, in the age of social media, this is more important than ever.

Baradene in the media

Baradene has been identified as one of New Zealand's top schools in recent media reports. Baradene was ranked in the top 10 by the private tutoring company Crimson Education in its list of schools that give students the best opportunity for getting into well-regarded universities overseas. The same article noted that Baradene received 50 scholarship awards in 2021 and a 53% NCEA excellence rate – which was tied for highest in the country. You can read the article at bit.ly/3L5brnw

Metro also recently reported that in 2021, Baradene received first place in NCEA subject results in English, Social Sciences, Science, Mathematics, and Technology, and also charted our high UE pass rate.

Update on NCEA Level 1

There has been much discussion in the media about changes to NCEA Level 1 in 2024. Our Senior Leadership team and teachers considered what is best for our students and consulted with parents, and ultimately we decided that next year our students will not sit the new Level 1 NCEA Achievement Standards. We are concerned that these new standards do not adequately prepare students for the more challenging courses in Level 2, particularly advanced Mathematics and Science courses. In addition, many courses currently available for our students wishing to pursue specific studies in Accounting, Economics, Media Studies, Computer Science, and Food Innovation have been removed. In essence, the new standards do not offer the depth and breadth needed for the current Level 2 Achievement Standards that this cohort of students will sit in 2025. It will also be beneficial for this cohort to have more time at school at the end of Year 11 to better prepare them for NCEA Level 2 in Year 12. Find out more information on this decision at bit.ly/3suj9AZ

Accolades for our athletes

We have had some outstanding sporting success this year. Baradene was named Top Secondary Girls School at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships, and Top Girls School at the North Island Secondary Schools Road Cycling Championships.

At the New Zealand Secondary Schools Swimming Competition, our Senior Medley team broke not only the NZSS record, but also the NZ Open record, which was an incredible achievement by this young team. Additionally, Amelia Bray (Year 12) has had excellent results at the Trinbago 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games held in Trinidad and Tobago, winning New Zealand's first medal of the games with Silver in the 50m butterfly, and also achieving Bronze in the 100m butterfly. Read more about our sports achievements starting on page 12.

New gymnasium project

The construction of our new gym is underway and running on schedule to finish in the middle of 2024. The gymnasium and cafeteria will be of enormous benefit to our students in the coming years. Our Development Office have recently run an online fundraising campaign to help fit out the new gym and the school is grateful for the support received from parents, alumnae and other members of our community. Find out more on page 35. If you would like to support the gym fit out, contact development@baradene.school.nz



Architectural renders of the new gym complex.

A busy year for the PTA

Thank you to the PTA Committee for running the successful and popular Father/Daughter Breakfasts and Art Show. Thank you also to all the parents who volunteered to assist at these community events. We are aware that it has become more difficult for parents to volunteer at school with the time constraints that many families are under. However, it is possible to help at the Art Show without formally joining the PTA. You can choose your level of involvement and it is an excellent way to meet other parents and feel part of the school community so I would encourage all parents, especially those new to the school, to get involved. Read more about the Art Show on page 23.

Putting New Zealand on the map

Finally, I would like to congratulate Baradene alumna Jane Patterson MNZM (Class of 1985), who spoke at our prizegiving last year. Jane is Chief Operating Officer for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, an amazing tournament which boosted interest in women's football around the world. It was so exciting to watch New Zealand make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, both on the field and in the stadiums. We look forward to seeing more Baradene alumnae taking part in professional sports in future.



ON EXCHANGE

As a member of the worldwide Sacred Heart Schools network, Baradene students have the unique opportunity to engage in exchanges with our sister schools, providing invaluable experiences.

Baradene College is part of an international network of more than 140 Sacred Heart Schools worldwide. Each school is connected by the vision of the Society's foundress Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ. Our motto is "Cor Unum – One Heart and One Mind in the Heart of Jesus Christ". The network aims to help nurture a sense of community among Sacred Heart schools worldwide and ensure that every Sacred Heart school feels the strength of belonging to a larger whole, of sharing principles and values, broad issues, hopes and ambitions.

We currently participate in Sacred Heart Schools exchanges with the USA (Louisiana, Connecticut, California, Massachusetts, Missouri, Washington, and Maryland), Spain, France, Austria, and Australia, as well as a virtual exchange programme with Australia, Japan, and Taiwan.

The aim for each student participating in the International Exchange Programme is to extend their education beyond the classroom and to further personal growth, independence, initiative, leadership, self-discipline, and community spirit in line with the Society of the Sacred Heart Goals. The hope is for them to make lifelong friendships, open long-lasting opportunities, and create unforgettable memories on the way.

Students in Years 9 -10 participate in exchanges with our Australian sister schools, while those in Years 11-13 travel further afield. Places are offered at Sacred Heart schools, depending on availability and suitability. Senior overseas students typically visit between March and September for two to four weeks, and our students visit after NCEA exams in the December/January holidays. Families are responsible for airfares, insurance, and other related travel costs. Students are hosted by the exchange family and then reciprocate when the student visits New Zealand. This year, 10 Baradene students participated in Senior Exchanges in France, Spain, and the USA.

Virtual Exchange Programme

The Virtual Exchange Programme was initiated when COVID-19 hit, and enabled Year 9 and 10 students from Sacred Heart schools in Australia, Japan, and Taiwan to connect online and investigate and discuss global issues. We continue this programme each year as it allows students from each country to lead and inform the discussions, and share challenges and cultural perspectives on various topics.



Head of the Languages Faculty Charlotte Clech tells us more about the French Exchange Programme.

Baradene is lucky to be part of an international network of Sacred Heart Schools. It helps create wonderful opportunities for students to practise the language they are learning. Our French exchange with Le Sacré-Coeur La Perverie in Nantes, France, was established in 2008 with two girls participating. The programme has grown over the years, and we are now able to have four students involved in this reciprocal exchange.



“I loved my time in France; it was an unforgettable experience.”

France Exchange: Rachel Green (Year 13)

Over the 2022 summer holidays, I went on a seven-week exchange to our sister school, La Perverie, in Nantes, France, with three other students. Everyday school life is very different at La Perverie compared to Baradene. They begin class at 8am with no homeroom and finish at 5pm most days. While at La Perverie, I took five subjects, with some classes being two hours long. Lunchtime was 1.5 hours, and we could either bring our own food, get a click-and-collect lunch, eat at the cafeteria, or go out of school. Over the Christmas break, I spent a week in Paris with my host family, and we visited the Louvre, Eiffel Tower, Montmartre, Champs Elysée, Versailles, and many other cool places. The final of the Football World Cup was also on while I was in Paris, and with France in the final, there were people everywhere watching the match. We also spent a few days in the Loire Valley and the West Coast. In the Loire Valley, we took a tour of Château d'Amboise and visited Château de Luc Closé, where Leonardo da Vinci lived. On the West Coast, we went to the beautiful beach of La Baule. I also spent a fun day at Disneyland Paris. Overall, I loved my time in France; it was an unforgettable experience. Not only was I able to improve and use my French more, but I also made new friends and had many new and different experiences.



“Being on an exchange and out of our comfort zone taught us many new skills of adaptability and resilience.”

Madrid Exchange: Kate Parish (Year 13)

During the December 2022 holidays, I was lucky to make the first exchange trip to one of our sister schools, Sagrado Corazón Rosales, in Madrid, Spain, alongside two other Baradene students. Living in Spain for a month gave us insight into a new life and culture. We learned a lot of the language and tried many unique customs and food, such as tortillas, churros, and paella. We attended Rosales, a Sacred Heart School based in the centre of Madrid. The school is co-ed and caters to ages five to 18, with no compulsory uniform in the last two years. Despite some differences, our schools had many similarities, such as logos, statues, and photos of Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ and Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne RSCJ. Being on an exchange and out of our comfort zone taught us many new skills of adaptability and resilience. We enjoyed our time there and made many new friends and memories.

USA EXCHANGES

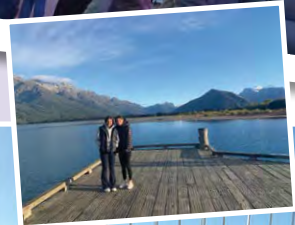
Boston Exchange: Mary Hunter (Year 13)

In December 2022, I participated in an exchange at the Newton Country Day School in Boston, Massachusetts, for four weeks alongside two of my Baradene classmates. I stayed with the Wagner family while experiencing life at a sister school in the USA.

I had many fun, exciting, and different experiences on my trip. These included attending a semi-formal school dance and taking a trip to New York City, where I visited the Empire State Building, saw the Rockettes, and did many other tourist activities. We also celebrated Thanksgiving during my stay, which was a lot of fun. I formed close relationships with my exchange sister and her family, and made friendships with many girls at the school.

When my exchange sister Charlotte Wagner came to New Zealand, we enjoyed showing her around Baradene and sharing our beautiful country highlights, including bungee jumping in Queenstown, and going to Whangamata.

“I formed close relationships with my exchange sister and her family, and made friendships with many girls at the school.”



Louisiana Exchange: Jade Varney (Year 13)

The International School Exchange Programme allows our students to experience life at one of our international sister schools, show another Sacred Heart girl our unique school, share our traditions, and show off our beautiful country.

After years of being locked down, Jade Varney travelled to Louisiana, USA, and attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart. Jade says,

“I was so grateful and fortunate for the opportunity to travel overseas, see how another school expresses our same school goals and most of all, make a life-long connection with the most amazing exchange sister.”

She goes on to say, “I could not have asked for a better experience, exploring a state I wouldn’t have naturally considered touring and making memories I will forever hold as some of the best.”

ANZNET EXCHANGES

It was very exciting to see the ANZNET Exchange programme return in 2023 for our Year 9 and Year 10 students. They had the opportunity to visit Sacred Heart schools in Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne. The students experienced life in the classroom and were hosted by a Sacred Heart family or, in some cases, enjoyed the unique experience of a boarding school. Our students then reciprocated the hospitality when the Australian students visited New Zealand for a week.



“I loved immersing myself in the Stuartholme community for a week and meeting new people.”

Brisbane Exchange: Grace Buxton (Year 10)

The ANZNET exchange trip to Stuartholme School in Brisbane was an unforgettable experience that left me with many wonderful memories. When I arrived at Brisbane Airport, my exchange sister Catherine and her mother welcomed me with bright smiles. The first day was filled with excitement as they drove me around Brisbane, showing me all the beautiful places, including the school.

One of the trip's highlights was “Mad Soph Day”, celebrated on Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ's feast day.

There was a wonderful school Mass where they presented blue and green ribbons to students, and a super fun carnival. Near the end of the day, there was a house singing competition where they performed country-themed songs. As an exchange student, I watched the event alongside other exchange students in the stands. I loved immersing myself in the Stuartholme community for a week and meeting new people.

Catherine later came to Auckland to visit Baradene and stay with my family and me. I showed her around some of my favourite places in Auckland, and even took her to Eden Park (she's a huge rugby fan). Overall, I loved being a part of the ANZNET exchange with Catherine. I had so much fun at Stuartholme in Brisbane and with her at Baradene. I hope to revisit Catherine and her family and make many more memories.



Introducing our Year 7 & 8 Deans

LISA JENKINS, Year 7 Dean

Lisa Jenkins has a great love for Cor Unum and is passionate about sharing it with our Year 7 students.

I am originally from Wales and was raised in a traditional Celtic home with poetry, singing, and laughter. My father was in business management and often worked from home (unheard of in the 1980s!) and my mother worked six days a week in sales. Their ambition, life goals, and passion for education meant I was expected to go to university. I had the most wonderful teachers at high school who loved me and gifted me with a thirst for adventure and learning, especially my Religious Education teacher, Mrs Hughes.

At age 16 I decided I wanted to be a teacher, and I applied to Cardiff University to study Theology and Religious Studies. After gaining my teaching qualification, I taught in Wales for 10 years in roles such as Religious Education teacher, Head of Year, and Head of Religious Studies. I then immigrated to New Zealand with my husband James in 2011, and taught Theology and Philosophy at St Peter's College, Grafton, for 10 years before joining Baradene in 2021 as Assistant Head of RE.

It is a passion of mine to steer our young girls in the right direction in life, and navigate the journey of social media, screen time, friendships, and high expectations of women in the 21st century. As a mother of two young daughters,

“It is a great honour to be able to remind students that they are loved and worthy through Jesus’s sacrifice and love.”

I am well aware of how difficult it is to “do everything”, and it is my aim to walk alongside the youngest members of our school community in their transition to college and, with Cor Unum, teach them how to be. My advice is to be themselves, not look at what others have or others are achieving. Not everyone comes to college at the same age or stage, and so if we compare ourselves, it may make us feel unworthy. Each of us is unique and made in the image and likeness of God; we have gifts and talents that are ours alone and must celebrate them.

I encourage parents to get involved in their daughter’s life at Baradene, through coaching or joining the PTA, as these provide amazing opportunities to be with your children and see them grow. I also recommend not being afraid to ask questions about their child’s learning so that students come to Baradene with the best possible picture of their learning needs, and they can feel confident in the knowledge that nothing is holding them back.



I believe you have to be firm but fair. You have to be solution-based and transparent. Students respect you when they know you are talking to them as a person and not undermining their views or opinions. I hope the students know I care and would help and support them navigate any issue, especially ones they have to learn from – mistakes are often how we learn best, but we have to acknowledge that we reflect, learn, and move on.



One of the most important aspects of Baradene is the spirit of Cor Unum and the combination of heart and mind in Jesus Christ. For me, it is a great honour to be able to remind students that they are loved and worthy through Jesus’s sacrifice and love. The trailblazing women of the Society of the Sacred Heart were and are amazing; they provide our young people with empowerment, self-worth, and religious respect, and this model is one which our young women will utilise for their whole lives.



“I see the value in helping our younger students develop the social, emotional, and academic foundations that will stand them in good stead through their senior years.”



Sarah Whitehead (Class of 1985) is a Baradene alumna who brings her love of teaching and genuine connection with students to her role as Year 8 Dean.

After a History and Education Degree, I completed a Graduate Diploma in Design Studies and worked in the graphic design and publishing industry for 20 years. I always thought teaching would be a pathway I would pursue, and retrained around 10 years ago. I immediately loved the career change and still love the connection, variety, and community that teaching provides.

I specialised in the Social Sciences, with History and Social Studies, also teaching in the Religious Education, Commerce and Technology Faculties. I also completed a Postgraduate Diploma and further study with a focus on technology in education. My role has recently expanded to include leading the Year 7 to 10 Humanities programme as we implement the new curriculum changes and integrate Aotearoa New Zealand Histories.

From teaching across so many year levels at Baradene, I see the value in helping our younger students develop the social, emotional, and academic foundations that will stand them in good stead through their senior years. They are at an age where they're forming opinions, exploring their interests, and trying to figure out who they are.

The role of the Year 8 Dean allows a unique focus

on the specific needs and concerns of this age group. It is so rewarding to see the progress that many students in this year group make over the course of the year. The intermediate years are a time of significant change in so many ways, and it's natural for students to feel a mix of excitement and uncertainty.

A significant aspect of my role is communication and working as part of a team. As a Dean, I have the opportunity to advocate for students and ensure their needs are met. I work closely with teachers, parents, and other staff members to identify and address any challenges students might be facing, whether academically, socially, or emotionally. Listening carefully, keeping an open mind, and engaging with all available supports are vital in creating a safe and secure environment where students are in the best position to learn. Our strong pastoral team helps to create a nurturing and inclusive environment where students can explore their interests, build friendships, and develop a sense of identity.

These years at Baradene are special because our students benefit from a close-knit intermediate environment with weekly level assemblies and homeroom groups which sit alongside the high-level specialist classroom teaching of an excellent secondary school. The Year 7 and 8 cohorts can draw on the experiences of, and form relationships with, the senior students, which eases their transition into Year 9 schooling and offers peer support.

The foundation of faith and connection to Baradene's Sacred Heart Focus Goals help to develop spiritual, social, and emotional competencies, allowing our students to achieve to the best of their abilities.



“The culture, food, and history in both Vietnam and Cambodia made for an incredibly rich educational experience.”

Man’s tomb was a highlight, along with a day trip to the Demilitarised Zone, which marked the border between North and South Vietnam, and the Vinh Moc tunnels, where North Vietnamese lived underground to escape US bombing. In the town of Hoi An, students enjoyed wandering the streets of the historic old town and shopping. A day trip to the My Lai massacre site, where 500 unarmed civilians, mostly women and children, were murdered by US forces in March 1968, refocused the students back on history. At this site, they were privileged to hear from a veteran Viet Cong Colonel about his experiences at the time.

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) was their last destination in Vietnam, where students visited the South Vietnam Presidential Palace and Vietnam War Museum, which gave them a different understanding of this time in history with its graphic photography exhibitions and prison cell replicas, along with its focus on Agent Orange. At the Cu Chi Tunnels just outside the city, students got to learn about the Viet Cong fighting techniques, and tour through some of the tunnels used to hide from the American soldiers during the Second Indochina War.

In the July school holidays, Year 12 and 13 History students travelled to Vietnam and Cambodia.

History students at Baradene College study the two Indochina Wars, focusing on the fight against French colonialism, the development of Vietnamese nationalism, and New Zealand’s involvement in the Second Indochina War in Vietnam. In the July school holidays, 25 Year 12 and 13 History Students were lucky enough to embark on an educational adventure to Vietnam and Cambodia alongside Mr Coutts, Mr Johnston, and Ms Whitehead. The two-week History trip was an incredible experience, exploring the rich history and culture of Vietnam and Cambodia. It was hot, in the mid-30°C, and students had to adjust, as the northern hemisphere heatwave extended to Asia this year.

In Hà Nội, the capital of Vietnam, students were immersed in the hustle and bustle of the city, a tour in US army jeeps through the city streets being a highlight. In the former imperial capital city of Hue, Emperor Ming





Cambodia was poignant for many. In Phnom Penh, students visited the Killing Fields and the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, which showed the brutality Cambodians faced from the Khmer Rouge regime. In Siem Reap, students were fortunate to explore Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom. The overgrown temple complex of Ta Phrom (famous from the movie *Tomb Raider*) and the intricately carved temple of Banteay Srei were outstanding. These ancient Khmer civilisation historical ruins were a stark contrast to that country’s more recent brutal history. From the loud and buzzing cities to its peaceful countryside and beautiful beaches, the culture, food, and history in both Vietnam and Cambodia made for an incredibly rich educational experience.



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Baradene students made a pilgrimage to Our Lady of La Vang Shrine in Vietnam.



Students on the History trip were privileged to make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of La Vang, north of the city of Hue in Vietnam. This is the place where the Virgin Mary appeared in 1798. Catholics come here on pilgrimages from all over the world. Our students held a liturgy at the shrine, emphasising peace and reconciliation.

In 1798, the Vietnamese Emperor restricted the practice of Catholicism. The persecution of Catholics was very violent, and many fled into the forest at La Vang. In the forest, they gathered on the grass at the foot of a banyan tree and prayed. The Virgin Mary appeared to them, holding the infant Jesus in her arms. She descended to the grass near the banyan tree and lovingly consoled the Catholic believers. She told them, “Be confident, consent to suffering. I have answered your prayers. From now on, when you come before me in this place, I will grant all the graces you ask for.” She appeared at La Vang a number of other times to people.

“It was a moving experience for our students, with another Vietnamese group rhythmically chanting prayers for peace in the background as our students held their own liturgy.”

On 19 June 1998, Pope John Paul II publicly recognised the importance of Our Lady of La Vang and expressed a desire to rebuild the La Vang Basilica in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the first vision. The vast new Basilica stands behind the original ruined church, which was damaged during the war and left as a monument.

Catholics come to La Vang on pilgrimages to pray and ask for grace. The Virgin Mary has kept her promise to those who have made the journey. Baradene students prayed at the shrine’s statue that marks the place where she appeared. It was a moving experience for our students, with another Vietnamese group rhythmically chanting prayers for peace in the background as our students held their own liturgy.

The liturgy referenced St Paul’s letter to the Galatians: “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” While honouring Mary and those persecuted early Christians, the liturgy focused on peace and reconciliation – people’s capacity to embrace inclusion and peace.

New Zealand Sports Representatives

This year Baradene has a record number of international sporting representatives! Here they each share a glimpse into their training schedules, what they love about their sports, some good advice they've received, competition highlights, and what's so special about being involved in high-level sports at Baradene.

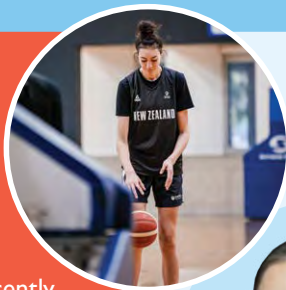
BASKETBALL



**RITORYA
TAMILO**

NZ Tall Ferns Basketball Team. Recently competed in Serbia and in the FIBA Asia Cup where her team placed fourth, qualifying them for the Olympic qualifiers in 2024.

"The best sporting advice I've ever received was from Valerie Adams, who told me to be comfortable being uncomfortable."



RIAAN BRYANT
WATER POLO

NZ U17 Water Polo Team. Competed at the 2023 Australian U17 Nationals State Championships.

"A highlight is winning Bronze at the 2022 nationals with the Baradene Premier team!"

FOOTBALL

PENNY BRILL



NZSS Football team. Competed in the 2023 Dallas International Football Cup.

"Winning the Kate Sheppard Cup in 2022 was a highlight for me, as was competing in Dallas, Texas."



ARCHERY
AUDREY ROSSOLATOS

NZ U18 and NZ Oceania Archery Team. Competed in the 2023 Trans-Tasman Tournament in Australia.

"At Baradene, archery is not just a sport, we've become a family in which everyone is learning and helping each other."

"The best sporting advice I've received is from my coach, who always says to just have fun with what you're doing in your sport, and enjoy it."

NZ Swimming Youth Team. Competed at the Trinbago 2023 Youth Commonwealth Games & Tri-Series vs Australian States.

SWIMMING



**AMELIA
BRAY**



SOFTBALL

**ELLAZAY
UTANGA-FLETCHER**

Junior White Sox Team. Competed at the U18 Women's Oceania Qualifying tournament in the USA.

"Hitting my first-ever home run in the USA while wearing my NZ uniform was a real highlight!"



GEORGIA LINDROOS

ORIENTEERING

NZSS Orienteering Team. Competed in the 2023 Australian Championships in Perth.



ISABELLE O'CONNELL

INDOOR CRICKET

NZ U17 Indoor Cricket Team. Competed in the 2023 U17 World Cup in Dubai (subject to recovering from injury).

"It's such a fun, fast-moving sport so you never get bored and you meet new people!"

ISABELLE MCDONNELL

NZSS Orienteering Team. Competed in the 2023 Australian Championships in Perth.



ORIENTEERING



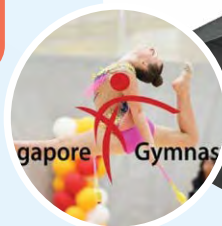
RUBY NATHAN

NZ U19 Football Team. Competed in the 2023 OFC U19 Women's Champs in Fiji.

"There's never been a better time to start playing football, off the back of the FIFA Women's World Cup and the opportunities to make it a career have improved immensely."



FOOTBALL



SOPHIA ZABLOTSKAYA - RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



NZ Rhythmic Gymnastics Team. Competed in the 2023 Singapore Open.



TAYLOR FISHER

NZ U17 Water Polo Team. Due to injury Taylor was unable to compete in the Australian U17 Nationals State Champs, but she travelled to support her team.

"Never cut off sports too early. I'm in Year 12 and still doing as many sports as I can because I enjoy them."

WATER POLO

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



LUCY MULLANY

NZ Rhythmic Gymnastics Team. Competed in the 2023 Singapore Open.

ARCHERY



JAEDA ALA'ALATOA-DALE

NZ U18 and NZ Oceania Archery Team. Competed in the Trans-Tasman Tournament in Australia. A highlight for Jaeda was her first international appearance and winning a Gold medal match with her archery partner.

ALICIA MCGIVERN



NZSS Orienteering Team. Competed in the 2023 Australian Championships in Perth.



ORIENTEERING



KELLEY EASTON

CHEERLEADING

All Star Royalty Cheerleading Team. Competed in the 2022 Australasian Majors Championships.

"I've gained confidence and life skills from this sport, and made lifelong friendships."



NIAMH HOARE

ORIENTEERING

NZSS Orienteering Team. Competed in the 2023 Australian Championships in Perth and the ISF UI5 World Games in Brazil.

HANNAH MCCALL – ULTIMATE FRISBEE



NZ U20 Ultimate Frisbee. Competed in the 2023 Trans-Tasman Ultimate Series in Sydney, Australia.



ISABELLE GIBSON

NZ Swimming Juniors Team. Competed in the Junior World Swimming Championships in Israel.

"One of my biggest highlights was competing in the 2022 Junior Pan Pacific Games in Hawaii. It was a great learning experience being able to represent New Zealand and race against other swimmers from around the world."



SWIMMING



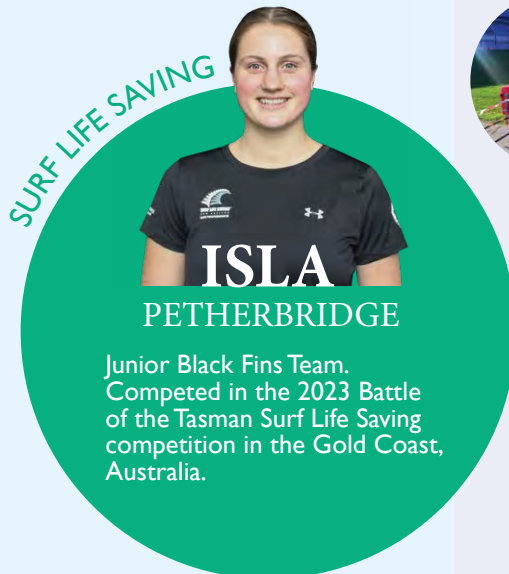
JEMMA CRONIN

NZ Artistic Gymnastics Team. Competed in the 2023 Gymnastics in Paradise and Aloha Gymfest in Hawaii.

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS

ISLA PETHERBRIDGE

Junior Black Fins Team. Competed in the 2023 Battle of the Tasman Surf Life Saving competition in the Gold Coast, Australia.



ANNABELLE HOLDCROFT

NZSS Orienteering Team. Competed in the 2023 Australian Championships in Perth and the ISF UI5 World Games in Brazil.

ORIENTEERING

CYCLING



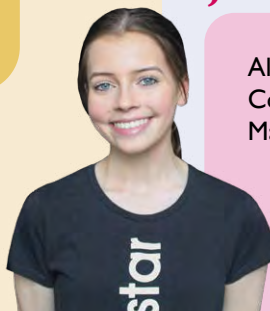
“Cycling is a rewarding sport, and it’s a fun way to stay fit and healthy.”



BONNIE RATTRAY

NZ Junior Road Champs Team. Competed at the UCL World Junior Champs in Glasgow, August 2023.

JESSICA STEVENS



All Star Royalty Cheerleading Team. Competed in the 2022 Australasian Majors Championships.

“I believe it’s important to train hard, don’t give up and, most importantly, have fun.”

CHEERLEADING

“A highlight for me was competing in Texas at the 2022 Youth World Champs.”



Dixie competed in the Australian Youth Champs in May and in the World Youth Champs in Seoul in August.



DIXIE WHITING

SPORT CLIMBING



ISLA PARSONS

ARCHERY

NZ U18 Archery Team. Competed in the 2023 Trans-Tasman Archery Tournament in Australia.



KATIE BRUGH



FOOTBALL

NZSS Football team. Competed in the 2023 Dallas International Football Cup in Dallas, Texas.

“The best sporting advice I’ve ever received is from my coach, who said, ‘Hard work beats talent.’”



Lanihei is a member of the Cook Islands Swimming Team, and recently competed at the Tringago 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games in August. Lanihei encourages students to take up a sport as it provides a lot of learning opportunities.

“My favourite place to compete was at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. Another highlight was swimming a FINA B qualifying time in the 100m breaststroke at the World Short-Course Championships in Melbourne in 2022.”



LANIHEI CONNOLLY

SWIMMING

WATER POLO & FOOTBALL

HOLLY ROBERTS

2023 NZSS Football Champs. NZ U20 Water Polo team. Competed for Football in the Dallas International Football Cup, and the U20 World Champs in Portugal for Water Polo, 2023.

“Taking up sports allows you to connect in a team environment, make incredible friends, and grow as a person.”



RUNNING IN RIO

Baradene students recently journeyed to the World Schools Orienteering Championships in Brazil.

In August, 12 Year 9 and 10 students were selected to represent Baradene and New Zealand in Orienteering at the ISF U15 Gymnasiade 2023 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This multi-sport competition is organised by the International Schools Sports Federation (ISF) and runs like a mini-Olympics. With over 2,000 young athletes aged 13 to 15 from 44 countries around the globe competing in 18 sports disciplines, our students immersed themselves in an unforgettable experience, getting a taste of grand international sporting events.

The group was away for 10 days and had an incredibly full schedule, with three orienteering races, training days, opening and closing ceremonies, and cultural activities. The New Zealand team included boys from Mt Albert Grammar School, and on Nations Night, they performed a haka to a worldwide audience.

Highlights for our students included racing in a different environment, winning Gold in the Overall Teams event and three individual podium places, negotiating shirt swaps with other nations, and experiencing other cultures. They also enjoyed visiting the iconic Christ the Redeemer statue, Sugar Loaf Mountain via cable car (made famous by the James Bond movie *Moonraker*), and Copacabana Beach. The hotel had an amazing pool and was directly opposite the beach, which was well received during downtime between training days and competitions.

Overall, New Zealand ended up in eleventh place on the medal table (even though they only competed in one sport at the event!), and our students had a great time meeting athletes from all over the world.

Thank you to the wonderful supporters who travelled with the team – Rachel Buyck, Llew McGivern, Clodagh Hoare, Zac Moaveni, and Katherine Fippard.

PODIUM RESULTS

Middle Event:
Gold – Niamh Hoare
Bronze – Annabelle Holdcroft

Sprint Event:
Silver – Stella Valerio

Overall Teams Event: Gold – NZ Y10 Team (Emily Fippard-Peacock, Niamh Hoare, Orla Hoare, Annabelle Holdcroft, Saffron Moaveni, Dora Slavich)



WINTER TOURNAMENT

Our sporting students and teams recently participated in an exciting Winter Tournament week. Thanks to all the dedicated coaches, managers, and supporters who provided this opportunity for our athletes.

2023 NZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS!

The 1st XI Footballers came into the NZSS Championships seeded third this year. With a roller coaster of a season in results and injuries, they adapted and found their feet when it mattered most.

The NZSS tournament is gruelling, with teams having to play two 60-minute games per day at the start of the week, then one 80-minute game in the last three days. This year, the team had seven players who hadn't previously experienced NZSS. Captained by Lucy Hunt (Year 13), the team improved with every game, digging deep when needed.

The vital quarter-final against St Andrews College was a must-win to have a chance to progress. The team played as a complete unit, winning 2-1, then met Mt Albert Grammar School in the semi-final. Baradene took the advantage by scoring in the first 30 seconds of the game. Not long after, a superb corner from Anija Irvine (Year 13) found the net, and the team was 2-0 up going into halftime. In the second half, while Baradene's defence line was solid, MAGS scored, making the game 2-1 in a nerve-racking last few minutes. Fortunately, Baradene stayed calm and composed to secure the win and a spot in the Grand Final against St Kentigern College.

The last game of a tournament is always challenging, but the Baradene team wouldn't let St Kent's dominate. Nearing



the end of the first half, Baradene had an opportunity to score with a corner kick. Penny Brill (Year 12) struck the ball perfectly, and it sailed into the corner of the net. 1-0 up and confident, the girls defended with heart and became the NZSS Champions – coach Ryan Shiffman's third title with Baradene! Manager Gina Brugh's and Jacqui Foote's organisation and support of the girls were outstanding throughout the season. Many thanks to all three for giving up their time to make dreams happen.



UPPER NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT – NETBALL

In August, the Premier Netball team travelled to Hamilton for the 2023 UNISS Netball tournament, taking the court for two full games per day during the five-day event. Despite the mental and physical challenges this brought, the team kept their positive mentality, had a lot of fun, and prospered to take 10th place – an excellent achievement for a young team with only three players having experienced UNISS before. Thanks to coach Janelle Owen, manager for the week Pru Fisher, and Danielle Reynolds for their support all week.

AA PREMIERSHIPS ZONE I – BASKETBALL

Our Premier Basketball team competed in the AA Secondary Schools Basketball Premierhips, kicking off the first game with a win against Manurewa High School and winning four out of five games within our pool. After a loss to Takapuna Grammar School, we then played a must-win game against Northcote College. Our senior girls led the team through a challenging game, securing the win. We finished sixth, reaching our goal of qualifying for Nationals. Thanks to our coaches, Andrew Parke and Candice Marsh, and manager, Megan Parke.



QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS

NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS – EQUESTRIAN

Third overall, with every rider in the top 10 in at least one of the five disciplines – what a magic finish to a fantastic week for the Baradene Equestrian team, who competed at the National Equestrian Centre in Taupo over four days. Officials congratulated our team for their enthusiastic participation and sportsmanship.

While each rider has a specialty discipline, they competed in every event. The Baradene team placed fourth in the CTR, an endurance event where the heartbeat and fitness of the horse are monitored over 10km, and an undisclosed optimum time must be met.

Ella Reichenbach (Year 13) placed second in the Evo Entries Best Performed Rider Years 11-13 – a fantastic achievement. She also placed third and fourth in Show Jumping, and placed in the top 10 in each of the three Dressage competitions. Lucia Sullivan (Year 9) placed second in Show Hunter. And Lilli Lara-Cowell (Year 12) placed third in Dressage.

Many thanks to Judi Delbridge for her support all week!



3RD OVERALL



NZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS – SPORT CLIMBING



2ND & 3RD PLACINGS

Hannah McCall (Year 13) represented Baradene at the recent NZSS Climbing Cup, taking on the challenge and making Baradene proud. After the tough two-day event, she came away with podium finishes in both categories, placing second in Senior Girls Speed and third in Senior Girls Bouldering/Lead.



FEDERATION CUP/MARIE FRY TOURNAMENT – HOCKEY

Our 1st XI Hockey team spent a week in Christchurch competing at the Federation Cup/Marie Fry Tournament. It was a tough tournament for the team; however, the girls played hard and held their heads high after every game, growing a lot as a team and having fun. Thanks to coaches Lydia and Zac Woods for an amazing week, and to manager Shona Burrows for her support. The final result for the tournament was 28th place.

GLOBAL SISTERS

*International Student Leaders Realle Chua (Deputy),
Joy Park (Leader), and Xuan An (Deputy).*

International Student Manager Kate Meredith talks about Baradene's International Big Sister, Little Sister programme and how it helps our international students gain a feeling of belonging.

Starting at a new school as a new international student in a foreign country, speaking a different language, and without your friends and family can often feel overwhelming, disorienting, and stressful. At Baradene, we feel strongly that making the transition to our school as smooth, enjoyable, and stress-free as possible positively impacts our students' ability to settle into their studies and new environment. We also believe that a smooth transition contributes favourably to academic performance, participation in extra-curricular activities, making friends with Kiwi students, and an overall sense of belonging to the Baradene community. We know that students who feel settled and happy from the beginning are more likely to be confident and capable of pursuing a wide range of school activities, making the most of what we have to offer, whether it be sport, music, volunteering, academic competitions, productions, dance, or drama.

Our three Year 13 International Student Leaders are the heart of the international student community at Baradene. These leaders play a vital role in creating a safe, fun, welcoming place for our new students. On Wednesday mornings, all international students meet with the International Dean, International Student Manager, and Homestay Co-ordinator. Every new international student is paired with an existing international student who speaks their language and is already familiar with the school. We believe this is important because it allows our new students to ask questions and share concerns in their own language.

During the weekly meetings, the International Council share school notices, say prayers, and play games. The International Council also organises social activities and outings during lunchtime and after school when students can socialise and have fun. This year, these have included FiaFia Cultural Night, Lunar New Year celebrations, a stall at La Fête, creative crafting in the Makerspace, movie Kahoots, and shared lunches.

"It is so good seeing a familiar face and speaking in a familiar language."

~ Sasa Syaifudin (Year 11)



"It is really good getting to know other Korean students from other year levels."

~ Joy Park (Year 13)

"It is so exciting when you meet someone from your home region when you are so far from home."

~ Kitty Yang (Year 13)

Our new international students are also buddied up with a Kiwi student in their homerooms to help support them in the classroom and find their way around the school. Other ways in which we try to ensure a smooth transition to Baradene for international students is by providing translated versions of our orientation booklets, ensuring that each student is placed in the correct year group for their level of English, and ensuring the students know that the International Dean and Mandarin-speaking International Counsellor are available for support at all times.

Our international student community has a strong sense of sisterhood, which we will endeavour to maintain and support in this way through the coming years.



SCHOOL BALL 2023

Lights, camera, dance! Hollywood glamour met Baradene tradition at the Baradene School Ball, held at the Ellerslie Event Centre in April. The atmosphere was alive with anticipation and the lights were low as our Year 13 students strode down the red carpet to be met with a cheering crowd of teachers and a gorgeously decorated venue. Inside, swaying dresses skimmed the floor as guests mingled and danced the night away. At every Hollywood awards evening, winners must be crowned, and we awarded Ball King and Queen, Two Peas in a Pod, Cutest Couple, Best Dancer, and Best Dressed Teacher. No one wanted this magical evening to end!







PTA UPDATE

Simon Laphorne, the new Chair of the Baradene Parent Teacher Association, reflects on his first six months in the role and shares what's to come.



Since moving to New Zealand in 2012, I have wanted my daughters to go to Baradene. Principal Sandy Pasley and her team have created an inspiring learning environment, and the college has a strong and extremely talented parent community.

On behalf of the PTA, I want to acknowledge the contribution of my predecessor, Derek Pereira. Derek has stepped down as Chair after six years of dedicated service to the school community, but remains a key member of the PTA.

While it's fair to say I didn't expect to be appointed Chair when I attended my first PTA meeting earlier this year, it is a privilege to lead the Parent Teacher Association. I appreciate the significant trust that has been placed in me. In my first six months in the role, I have loved meeting teachers, other parents, and stakeholders. I am still learning about the job's responsibilities, and I am grateful to Derek for his time, support, and ongoing guidance.

The PTA has an important role in supporting the college, fostering community, and leading fundraising initiatives. This year's focus is the new gym, and the PTA will work closely with The Baradene College Foundation (known as Growing Heart) to coordinate fundraising activities.

We have already held two community events this year, and I am grateful to Peter Elbourne and the fantastic team that organised the Father/Daughter Breakfasts. The Art Show was also a great success, and I am incredibly proud



of what Kirsten Copley and the Art Show Committee achieved in a very short period. The Art Show is in its 34th year, and Kirsten and her amazing team of volunteers demonstrated the power of community. As well as showcasing more than 130 artists, the event highlighted the talent and diverse skills in the Baradene parent community.



My oldest daughter, Ella, started at Baradene this year, and I have two other daughters at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Ellerslie (in Years 2 and 4). I hope they will both attend Baradene in the future, and that this year is the start of a long association with the college for me and my whānau. I have made some great friends through St Mary's, and I look forward to making further friendships at Baradene. Please join our PTA community – visit baradene.school.nz/our-community/pta to find out more.





HEART OF ART

The Baradene Art Show has been at the heart of the PTA’s fundraising efforts every year for the past 34 years, and this year was another stunning event.

The Baradene Art Show had another successful year, with over 135 artists exhibiting their work. One of the core objectives of this event is to provide an opportunity for the school and artist communities to come together, creating a mutually beneficial event that all can enjoy. This year was the Art Show’s 34th consecutive year. The event kicked off with the Gala Opening Night on 18 August, and was open over the weekend with free admission.

At the Gala event, ticket holders enjoyed delicious food provided by Gatting’s Events & Catering, along with a glass of wine, and took advantage of the Art Show’s first buying opportunity. Over the weekend, we had more visitors than ever, braving wet and windy conditions to view art that had been expertly curated by two of our Baradene parents, and enjoying food and coffee provided by school families.

This year, proceeds from the Art Show will go towards the fit out of the new gymnasium. We were thrilled to raise over \$70,000 for this important project.

Every year, a dedicated group of parents volunteer their time and expertise to ensure the Art Show is a success. This year was no exception. A relatively small team has taken care of sponsorship, liaising with artists, communications, operations, sourcing raffle prizes, developing the catalogue, organising the Art Show café and shop, to name just a few of their many tasks. The Art Show Committee was also fortunate to recruit the services of digital agency, Bunker Media, who helped create an e-catalogue and some impressive digital advertising for our sponsors. The Art Show Committee is always looking for new people to join the team, so if this sounds like something you would like to contribute to, please reach out to the team via email at admin@baradeneartshow.co.nz

Every year, the PTA donates a piece of art from the Art Show to Baradene College. The piece chosen this year is *State of Leisure* by Tanya Blong (pictured above right), a fabulous painting that the school will enjoy for years to come.



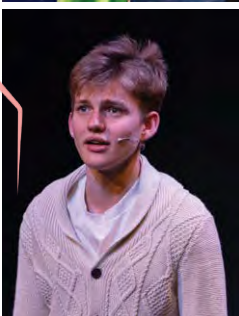


CHANGING MINDS

Baradene's school musical production of *Changing Minds* wowed crowds at the Sacred Heart College theatre in May.

This year, we staged the musical *Changing Minds* for our biennial school production, and what an absolute blast it was! Our audience was captivated from the beginning to the end as we took them on a wild, supernatural journey through high school. Around 50 talented Baradene and Sacred Heart College students rocked onstage and were absolute superstars backstage. Students gave it their all in the three months of rehearsals leading up to five fantastic performances – they should be immensely proud of their work. *Changing Minds* was an unforgettable, toe-tapping theatre experience.







NOTES OF SUCCESS

As we eagerly await the new musical season, we are grateful for what we have achieved and excited for what lies ahead, says Head of Music Nino Sloser.

As we look back on another year of musical talent on display at Baradene, it warms our hearts to reflect on the numerous accomplishments of our gifted students. The unwavering dedication and support from our music staff, parents, and school leadership have also been extraordinary.

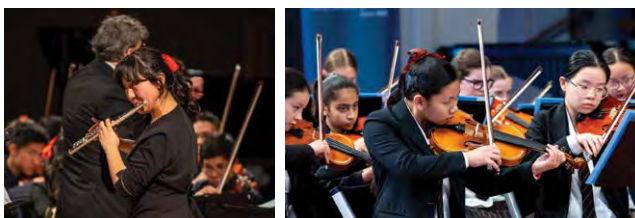
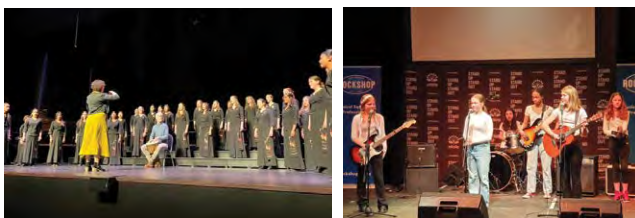
The St Peter's and Baradene Gala Concert in August was a triumph! Performances ranged from jazz to symphonic sounds and left a lasting impact on everyone in attendance. Several senior students highlighted their talents with masterful solos, including Baradene's Alina Chen on flute and St Peter's Archie Lamont-Bowden on violin in a piece written for the Combined Symphony Orchestra by New Zealand composer Chris Artley. The students should be very proud of their performances at this wonderful community event.

At the 2023 KBB Music Festival, the Combined St Peter's and Baradene Symphony Orchestra and our Concert Band received Gold Awards, showcasing their exceptional talent. The Symphonic Band also received recognition with a Highly Commended Award. The Duchesne Orchestra delivered a performance in a non-competitive category, demonstrating their passion for music. Let's not forget to celebrate the Combined St Peter's and Baradene Jazz Band, who received a deserved Bronze Award. It is worth highlighting that our Concert Band stood out as the only all-girls ensemble to receive a Gold Award.

Additionally, the Combined St Peter's and Baradene Jazz Band made a significant impact by securing a Silver Award at the Auckland Jazz Competition. We applaud Nathan Allen, the Musical Director, and the entire Jazz Band for this impressive achievement.

Attending the National New Zealand Concert Bands Association Competition for the first time since 2019, our Concert Band made a remarkable comeback and secured a Silver Award. Alina Chen, a Year 13 flautist, not only received the Highly Commended Soloist award but was also the sole secondary school student to be recognised.

“Our achievements highlight not only the skill but also the passion and commitment that every student, teacher, and supporter brings to Baradene College.”



Alina also teamed up with the St Peter's and Baradene Quatuor and achieved an impressive second place at the National Chamber Music Competition finals. Additionally, she excelled at the South Auckland Performing Arts Competition, where she won the Senior Instrumental Solo Championship and was nominated for the National Young Performer Award finals in October. Furthermore, she has reached the Australian Flute Festival finals as one of the four best performers, where she will be competing in October.

The annual Stand Up Stand Out competition provided a platform for showcasing our contemporary music groups. Amy Mason excelled in the vocal heats and advanced to the semi-finals. The vocal group SAS and the bands Half A Dozen and Fleur have genuinely impressed us with their performances. Our senior choir, Schola, participated in Cadenza, the Northern Regional Finals of The Big Sing Choir Competition in Rotorua, returning with a Wharauoa (Bronze) Award. A great deal of credit is due to Schola's dedicated Choir Director, Mrs Rachel Young. Here's to countless more beautiful tunes, harmonies, and successes!



MUSICAL JOURNEY

Our Schola choir members took their singing voices on a musical tour of Christchurch.

At the end of May, members of our senior choir, Schola, travelled to Christchurch for a weekend of singing and sightseeing. They sang in various locations, including to the students at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, in the Christchurch Art Gallery, and even busked outside the Christchurch Arts Centre!

One of the trip's highlights was visiting Villa Maria College, where Schola performed for the school and listened to Villa Maria's senior choirs. The students from both schools then attended a workshop with Sue Densem, the director of the New Zealand Secondary Students' Choir, joining forces afterward to lead the Pentecost Vigil at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral and perform in a joint concert. It was wonderful to see the students making new friends and enjoying singing for each other and as a combined choir.

There was also time to explore Christchurch! The group had a great time visiting the International Antarctic Centre and the Riverside Markets, and enjoyed seeing the city's changing face. Their confidence grew throughout the weekend and resulted in some fantastic performances. Thank you to Nino Sloser and Rachel Young for their organisation and musical direction and to Penny Christiansen, Schola's accompanist.

“

“It was an amazing trip. I made so many memories and so many new friends. I strongly encourage everyone to join a music group and experience the amazing opportunities that open up when you become a part of the world of Baradene music.”
~ India Lynch-McEwan (Year 9)

“Not only did we sing at the Pentecost Vigil and Villa Maria and Baradene Concert, but we also sang in the buses, while walking on the streets, and even went busking! We got to know each other on a more personal level and made some strong connections and friendships.” ~ Christa Thomas (Year 11)

“This trip was so much fun, and I enjoyed getting to know some of the choir members better. I feel like I learned a lot, and we all grew as performers thanks to a special choral workshop and doing pop-up performances across the city, which definitely required a lot of courage.” ~ India Coleman (Year 9)

“I had an amazing time in Christchurch. I grew so much as a person and as a singer, and I loved every second of it. Thank you to everyone who was involved in helping this become what it was to all of us in the choir.” ~ Piper Hale (Year 9)

“I loved getting to know other people and my friends in the choir better. It was so cool to sing our songs for other people, and to sing with and in front of another choir.” ~ Fran Harris (Year 9)

”



MUSIC ACADEMY

Introducing Baradene's new Music Academy, which began in May this year and is already making a positive difference for our musicians.

The Music Academy was established in May 2023 to improve the music literacy of our aspiring young musicians. The Academy is aimed at students in Years 9 to 13, and after its first month, had 18 enthusiastic participants. Taught by Baradene's Director of Choirs and music teacher, Rachel Young, the group comes together weekly to work on music theory, listening and reading skills, and music analysis. The content of the classes is adapted to suit the students' levels, with the group working together to collaborate on and improve their own goals; for example, songwriting, music reading, sight reading, and ensemble playing.

Music literacy involves reading and analysing music; this skill can open up a greater understanding when listening to and playing music. As well as improving and developing skills as a musician, students can find their reading skills improving and, in turn, the satisfaction they experience when playing in a group and learning with an instrumental teacher helps with their confidence in any subject.



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SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

The third annual Spring Music Festival took place in August in the Baradene College Auditorium, filling the air with melodies and captivating performances.

Over 300 talented students graced the stage, showcasing the skills developed and honed throughout the year. Kicking off the Festival was a performance by the rock band Half A Dozen, followed by the Junior Music Programme, which highlighted the talents of our Year 7 and 8 students.

The Chamber Music segment was equally exciting, featuring renditions such as the Year 7 String Quartet's captivating performance of "Bobby Shaftoe". The Bassoon Trio, Clarinet Ensemble, and Briar Coleman's moving French horn solo were a few of the acts that left the audience in awe.

A standout feature of this year's Festival was the School of Rock programme, which has made progress since its inception last year. Other contemporary acts, like Imogen Howie's award-winning "Fireflies", showcased Baradene's pool of talent, and our guest MC, Sara-Jane Elika, and her daughter, Micayla-Jane Elika (Year 9), surprised our audience with a serenade of Alicia



Keys' hit song "I Ain't Got You". The grand finale was a dazzling performance by the jazz talents of the Combined St Peter's and Baradene Jazz Band under the guidance of Nino Sloser.

The raffles and refreshments organised by the Baradene Friends of Music were a hit. Thank you to the generous sponsors, and MCs Sara-Jane Elika and Kirstin Skeet (Year 12). The Spring Music Festival would not have been possible without the dedication of our music staff, Friends of Music Committee, school leadership, sponsors, and our incredible audience.



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GRACE & STRENGTH

Baradene's talented Kapa Haka group performed in Polyfest back in April, just as the last issue of *Baradene Heart* was going to print. We're so proud of their hard work and dedication.

On Tuesday 4 April, Baradene's Kapa Haka group took to the Polyfest stage for the 21st time in the school's history. First on stage for Division 2 at the Due Drop Events Centre in Manukau, the group performed a bracket of seven waiata. It was the culmination of weeks of hard work and rehearsals. The girls performed well and sang with strength and passion, and their actions were fluid and graceful.

Ngā mihi nui to the girls and their Kaea, Jasmine Sanderson and Atamai Harriman, for all their hard work and dedication. Ngā mihi also to the amazing Baradene kapa haka whānau for their ongoing tautoko and āwhina.



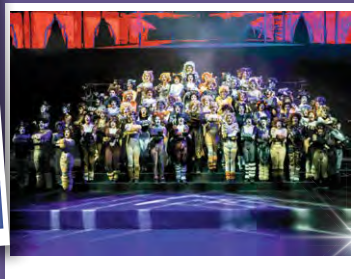
Photos by BC Photography.

Stars of the Stage

The talents of our students extend beyond school productions and performances to various out-of-school opportunities.

Cats Production, June 2023

In June, 12 of our students were cast in the National Youth Theatre production of *Cats*, which was performed at the Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre. It was a great show, and we're very proud of our students. Five students were in named roles: Amelie Snell (Year 11) – Munkustrap, Simone Corballis (Year 10) – Tantomile, Odette Ala'alatoa-Dale (Year 7) – Team Yellow Dance Leader/Cockroach, Vesta Rowe (Year 9) – Quaxo, and Erin Cortez (Year 8) – Jemima. The ensemble cast featured Charlotte Galloway, Anika Cruz, Caitlin-Lily Wadge, Zaira Mondala, Rosemary Ryan (Year 8), Katherine Larsen (Year 9), and Olivia Burrett (Year 10).



High School Musical 2 Jr, July 2023

10 of our students were cast in *High School Musical 2 Jr* with Geronimo Musicals. Geronimo is a Performing Arts school, and they produce musicals as an extension of their Musical Theatre Classes. Baradene had the highest involvement rate in this show, and it was inspiring to see 10 of our students shine on stage: Sophie Berrill and Grace Wessels (Year 7), Layla Gollings and Zoe Sekula (Year 8), Ruby Lonergan (Year 10), Bella Fogarty, Kiera Martin, Amalia Mazzaschi, Taylor Wessels (Year 11), and Emma Blackie (Year 12).

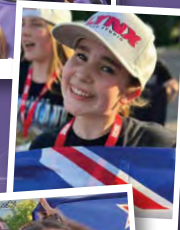
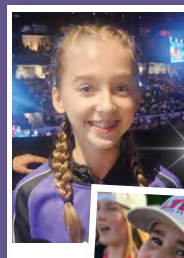
World of Dance Competition, April 2023

Jessica Kendrick-Jones, Samara Saunders, Sofia Bray (Year 11), and Gabrielle Copley (Year 12) represented Aotearoa at the World of Dance Competition in Orlando, Florida. Preparations were intense and included six months of daily rehearsals, but it was worth it as the girls achieved very high results. They danced in all five troupes, consisting of three jazz and two lyrical troupes, competing against 40 other countries to make it to the finals. They placed second in the world in their two jazz dances missing first place (against Team USA) by only 0.1! They placed sixth for their other three dances, and brought home three Nations Cups.



The Music Man in Concert, October 2023

Two of our Senior Drama students, Amélia Rojas (Year 13) and Gabrielle Copley (Year 12), successfully auditioned and were cast in the role of Zaneeta in *The Music Man in Concert* showing at the Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre. Featuring 24 big band songs, including the hit "Seventy-six Trombones", *The Music Man* is produced by the Amici Trust and G&T Productions.



Hip Hop International World Championships, August 2023

Over 300 hip-hop crews comprising over 3,000 competitors attended the Hip Hop International World Championships in Phoenix, Arizona. Kaley Prossler (Year 7) and her Junior Crew, Junior ID from IDCO, were the only Kiwis to make the finals, finishing sixth. Matilda Meredith (Year 8) and her Junior Crew, LYNX from RGD Studio, made it to the semi-finals and tied with two other crews for ninth place, officially placing 11th. These Junior Crew placings were out of 42 of the best Junior Crews in the world! Mary Meredith (Year 10) and her Adult Megacrew, Republic, made it to the semi-finals, placing 15th out of 46 Megacrews!

Alumnae Giving Back

We're fortunate to have many dedicated alumnae volunteering their time to help out with events and students' extra-curricular activities. Here, five alumnae reflect on why it's important to them to give back to Baradene.



“Coaching is an opportunity to teach kids to be good human beings!”

***Kerry Lancaster* (Class of 1989), Netball Coach**

I was involved in a range of sports while I was a Baradene student, including netball, basketball, tennis, and squash. Sports provided me with many skills which benefited my post-college career. As a member of the Police, I worked with sporting organisations around youth participation, and I also started coaching netball. After a break and a change of careers, I resumed coaching Baradene's 8A netball team this year, and absolutely love it. Giving back is a no-brainer in sports – without this philosophy, sports would simply not be “for all”. My daughter is in Year 8 and cannot wait to start coaching a junior team next year; she has already started umpiring, and part of the development of our athletes includes teaching them the importance of giving back to the sports that provide so much to them. Involvement in sports creates a sense of belonging, helps manage anxiety and stress, and plays a role in ensuring our girls have balance in their lives. Coaching is an opportunity to teach kids to be good human beings! Some of the biggest wins are not on the scoreboard, but what comes after the final whistle, and my focus is not just on netball but on ensuring the students all have a positive sporting experience which flows on to aspirations to give back to the next generation.



“Being able to come back and be a part of other girls' memories is so special.”

***Prue Catton* (Class of 2021), Football Coach**

During my time at Baradene, I played various sports ranging from touch to frisbee, but ultimately my passions were cricket and football, in which I represented the school from Years 7 to 13. I am now in my second year coaching the Year 7/8 AIMS football team. Playing sports for Baradene holds some of my fondest memories, so being able to come back and be a part of other girls' memories is so special. Since I started at Baradene in Year 7, the school has gained a hockey turf, and a new gym is underway; as a cricketer and a footballer, I had to leave school grounds to train, so the benefits from having these new facilities for the girls coming through will be amazing. Coming back to coach has taught me a lot about myself. I am more patient than I thought I was, and I still have the desire and the energy to see Baradene succeed. At Baradene I was a part of some extraordinary teams, where I made great friends with whom I am still close today. I have played for many teams in my life, but the Baradene teams have always felt different; the team pride and sisterhood are very special.



“Giving back allows me to show my gratitude and appreciation for the sport at Baradene.”

***Sarah Simpson* (Class of 2020), Rowing Coach**

Being involved in rowing at Baradene was one of my best decisions, helping me grow by building my confidence, encouraging me to push myself outside my comfort zone, and offering me many opportunities. I loved being part of the Baradene rowing community and enjoyed helping teach the Year 9 students each season at “Learn to Row” while I was at school. Giving back allows me to show my gratitude and appreciation for the sport at Baradene. It's very rewarding to see the girls grow and improve on and off the water, and I feel a massive sense of pride and fulfilment. Reflecting on my school rowing, I am thankful for my coaches and the connection and support they offered me, so I feel fortunate to be able to offer the same to the girls I now coach. The girls have taught me the importance of resilience; no matter their challenges, they stay positive and want to find ways to keep improving. They have also taught me how essential it is to be adaptable and patient, as things don't always go as planned, and I have learned to quickly adapt and be flexible, both on and off the water.

**“You never really leave Baradene,
and Baradene never really leaves you.”**



***Emerald Jackson* (Class of 2018),
Dance Tutor**

While at Baradene, I was a competitive dancer in tap, jazz, and ballet, taking part in national and international dance competitions. Through passing on my knowledge and experience, I hope to be a role model for students. I enjoy seeing the students progress and gain confidence throughout their sessions. It is very different coming back to Baradene being on the teaching side of things. However, as a student not too long ago, I feel I understand the students and can relate to them well. The dance and drama opportunities at Baradene have grown, and the standard has improved significantly. Dance brings people together, whether you have a natural talent or not. It teaches confidence, teamwork, and time management – all things that I believe Baradene girls learn, leave with, and pass along. The girls have taught me that it is important as a teacher to relate to them and understand their perspectives, rather than having a strict one-way view. I really enjoy teaching the girls and witnessing their growth and improvement.

“I enjoy seeing the students progress and gain confidence throughout their sessions.”



***Jessikah Bell* (Class of 2022),
Dance Tutor**

“The ‘sisterhood’ at Baradene that comes from these activities is lasting.”

From the day I started Year 7 at Baradene in 2016, I was always involved with performing arts. It began with Theatresports and ended with establishing the Baradene Dance Academy in my final year. I love sharing my work with students at Baradene, and when I was asked to come back and teach again this year, I was delighted. Baradene will always be a home to me, and I now have the privilege to come back and share my knowledge. It also helps the girls see that when they leave, they always have a chance to give back to Baradene and come back home. As a student, when I taught dances and ran rehearsals, I knew most of the girls pretty well. However, when I came back to teach, I got to work with some fresh faces, and they taught me how to be comfortable in class and have more confidence in my role, particularly when working with year levels and dance classes I’m unfamiliar with. When you get involved with your passion at Baradene, you make long-lasting friendships, some unexpected. The “sisterhood” at Baradene that comes from these activities is lasting. Being involved in something you love sets you up to find other like-minded people who share the same ideas and passions.

SHARING CAREER EXPERIENCES

The Careers Evening is always a highlight in the Baradene calendar, and this year we welcomed over 50 presenters to the event, nearly all of whom were alumnae! They represented a wide range of industries including technology, healthcare, science, business, media/communications, law, social work, design and the creative arts. If you’re keen to take part in our Careers Evening next year, contact careers@baradene.school.nz

From left: Alumnae presenters Karin Adelinger-Smith, Belinda Cannon, Kath Gola, and Tupe Solomon-Tanoa’i at the 2023 Careers Evening.





GYM PROJECT UPDATE

Senior Physics students visit the new gym construction site.

The Board of Baradene College Ltd update us on the progress of the new gymnasium construction project.

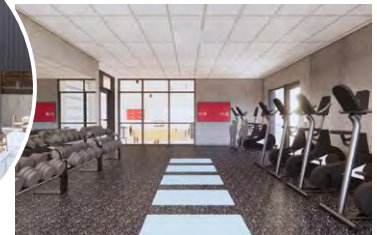
Over the past few months, significant progress has been made on the new gymnasium complex. So far, the old gym has been demolished, the site stripped and excavated, and ground beams have been laid. At present, around 65% of the precast panels have been installed, waterproofing is being precast, in-ground services are being installed, and preparations are being made for the ground floor slab.



The new gymnasium complex is an exciting project for Baradene. It will provide students with opportunities to experience the positive impact of physical activity on their physical and mental health and performance in all aspects of school life. It will also encourage them to pursue and achieve sporting excellence.

Importantly, having modern indoor facilities for PE, fitness, sports trainings, and inter-school competitions will remove many of the barriers to students participating in school sport, such as time, transport, cost, or inclement weather.

The new gym complex, with its indoor courts, fitness centre, and café will become a vibrant hub of physical activity and social interaction for the entire Baradene community to enjoy.



STUDENT GYM SITE VISIT

22 Year 12 and 13 Physics students and teachers visited the gym construction site. Head of Physics Allison Barrett reports.

After dressing up in safety gear, we were guided around the site by two of the architects, an engineer, and the project manager, who explained how this large project was designed and engineered. It was amazing to see the scale of the building as we stood in the middle of what will become the gym floor, with the walls now appearing above the foundations. Using a 3D app to view the design, it was possible for us to imagine how the facility will look when it is finished. We hope to be able to make further visits to the site as construction progresses.

GROWING HEART NEWS

Richard James, Chair of Growing Heart (the Baradene College Foundation)*, discusses the fundraising necessary to fit out our new gymnasium complex.



We are very excited to see Baradene's new gymnasium complex rising out of the ground. In addition to providing a modern sporting complex appropriate for a college of our size, it will also include a fitness centre, new teaching spaces, and a student café.

The project has been planned for many years and is led and funded by the Proprietor (Baradene College Limited or BCL). When combined with the hockey turf (completed in 2019), the finished gym complex will equip Baradene with sporting facilities of the highest standard, catering to our students' diverse sporting needs and going quite some way towards realising a focus in Baradene's strategic plan of "growing participation and the pursuit of excellence in sport".

Our goal is for every student to have the desire and means to access sporting opportunities – whether to become active, to take up a new sport or physical activity, to reach her sporting potential, or to pursue sporting excellence. To reach our goal we need the help of the Baradene community, present and past, to fund the fit out of the new building to the high standards we aspire to.

“Our goal is for every student to have the desire and means to access sporting opportunities.”

While BCL funds and manages the construction of the complex, the College takes financial responsibility for the fit out; the on-court gear and equipment required for a multitude of sports, specialist fitness centre equipment, audio visual technology and electronics, spectator bleachers, and the fit out of the café and surrounding areas. The total cost of the fit out has been budgeted and costed at just over \$1 million and the College is seeking to raise the funds required through a number of channels. One of the most important fundraising avenues is through our Foundation, Growing Heart. Growing Heart has recently run our second annual Baradene Giving Week, an online campaign which aimed to raise a significant sum towards the goal. We were so pleased to see donations come in from the wider Baradene community – parents, grandparents, alumnae and friends of Baradene, and we thank each and every one of those generous donors for supporting this campaign.

Given the large sum required, fundraising for the fit out will be ongoing. If you wish to contribute to the fit out, please contact development@baradene.school.nz

** Richard has a unique perspective on the new gymnasium complex. In addition to his role as Chair of Growing Heart, he is on both the Board of Trustees and BCL and is a member of the Gym Control Project Group.*



Thank you!

We acknowledge and thank our generous community for supporting the 2023 Baradene Giving Week.



Our community continues to enjoy film screenings of *With the Heart of an Educator*.

In June this year, in the Baradene Parlour, we hosted a special morning tea screening of the film *With the Heart of an Educator: Stories from the Religious of the Sacred Heart, Baradene Convent*.

The sun was shining, and it was a lovely morning with our alumnae guests, convent staff, Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ, Growing Heart Trustee Gavin Rennie, and Principal Sandy Pasley. We were so pleased to see a great group of Erskine alumnae along with Baradene alumnae. After the film, there was time to chat and reminisce over a delicious morning tea.

With the Heart of an Educator is uplifting, touching and inspiring. This screening was especially poignant as we sadly lost Sister Dorothea Hewlett RSCJ a few days earlier. We are so grateful to Baradene College Limited for commissioning this film to keep the wonderful stories of our beloved RSCJ Sisters alive.

We are delighted to be able to host another screening of the film for all alumnae including Erskine and our other sister schools on the evening of 22 November 2023 at Baradene in the Conservatoire de Musique. Please see the “save the date” information below.



Above from left: Erskine alumnae Sarah Gordon, Sally Gill, Carroll du Chateau, Angela Ward, Helen Beckwith, Gail Morrison, Jane Gray, and Growing Heart Trustee Gavin Rennie



Save the Date

Save the date for the next screening of

‘With the Heart of an Educator: Stories from the Religious of the Sacred Heart’

Wednesday 22 November 2023

6pm - 8pm

Conservatoire de Musique
Baradene College



HFC Group Engineering Scholarship

We are delighted to announce that for a second year, HFC Group is offering the HFC Group Engineering Scholarship. This scholarship will provide a 2023 Year 13 student with an interest in structural engineering \$5,000 towards the cost of studying for an engineering degree at a New Zealand university in 2024. Our thanks to HFC Group for their continued support.



A gift from your heart to ours – making a bequest for Baradene’s future

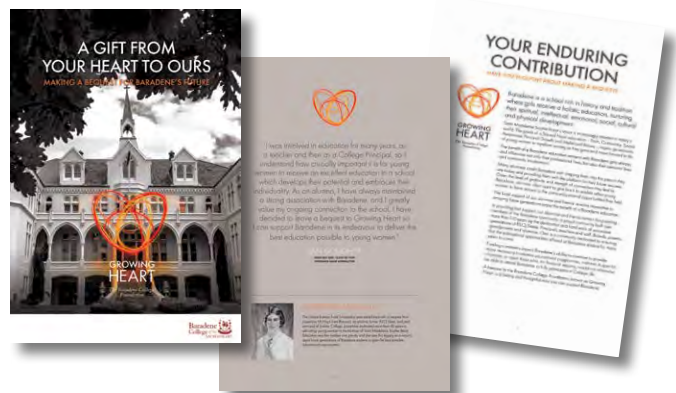
For many alumnae, their years at Baradene and its sister schools left an indelible mark on their life, shaping them as a person and providing them with the platform for their future success. Many would like to give back to Baradene to enable other young women to have access to the same educational opportunities they had.

A bequest to Growing Heart is a very meaningful and personal way to support Baradene, making a lasting impact that supports scholarships and enhances facilities, sustaining the exceptional education that defines Baradene for future generations, and fostering the growth and development of future leaders.

We are very grateful to the alumnae who have made or indicated that they will make a bequest in their will to Growing Heart for the benefit of Baradene. Thanks to the generous bequests of alumnae, the Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship and the Deirdre McKay Piano Award are helping the student recipients to fulfil their potential.

We would like to be in a position to offer more scholarships to deserving students. Please consider making a bequest to Growing Heart to support Baradene, inspire future generations and become a part of Baradene’s history.

Please contact us for more information about how to make a bequest or to request a bequest brochure.




Thank you for your support

Thank you for your continued support for Growing Heart. It is most appreciated.

Growing Heart contact details:


Anna Stone (Class of 1978)
 email: development@baradene.school.nz
 phone: 09 524 6019 ext 865



GROWING HEART
The Baradene College Foundation

How to donate

If you are looking for a way to give back to Baradene, it is now very easy to donate to Growing Heart, simply visit baradene.school.nz/our-community/growing-heart and donate online! Growing Heart supports Baradene by raising funds for the Student Scholarship and Support Fund, the Staff Support Fund, the College Facilities Fund, and through a Trustees Discretionary Fund to maintain Baradene’s special character.





RSCJ NEWS

Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ updates us on the latest news about our beloved Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart.

In August, Baradene received visits from the leadership teams of the RSCJ Provinces of Japan and Korea/Chinese, as part of our preparation to become one new Province together with these countries. They met with Baradene's Principal, Sandy Pasley, and enjoyed a tour of the College. Their warmth and joyful openness gladdened many hearts, and we look forward to living our international *Cor Unum* in new and interesting ways. Our visitors were able and – generously – willing to speak English, so our inability to master the Japanese, Korean, or Chinese languages won't stand in the way.



Above from left, our Korean visitors: Sister Kim Yul-Ok RSCJ, Sister Kim Eun-Jeong RSCJ, Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ, Sister Choi Hae Young RSCJ, Sister Lee Hyun-Ok RSCJ, and Sister Kim Ji-Sun RSCJ. At right: The Sisters with Baradene students in the library during their tour of the school.

REST IN PEACE

Sister Christine Dorothea Hewlett RSCJ passed away in June 2023 at the age of 93.



In her eulogy, Sister Dot was described as a "*civis mundi*, a citizen of the world, a master of the English language, fluent in French, competent in Italian and Spanish, with a reading knowledge of Latin and Greek. She also taught herself Croatian and te reo Māori." Born in Malta in 1930, she grew up in the United Kingdom.

Her father died when she was very young, and Dorothea and her mother moved many times.

She first came into contact with the Society of the Sacred Heart when she attended Craiglockhart in Edinburgh. On leaving school, Dorothea moved to Sydney with her mother, arriving by flying boat shortly after her 17th birthday. Dorothea began studying at the University of Sydney. One night she attended a midnight mass at the

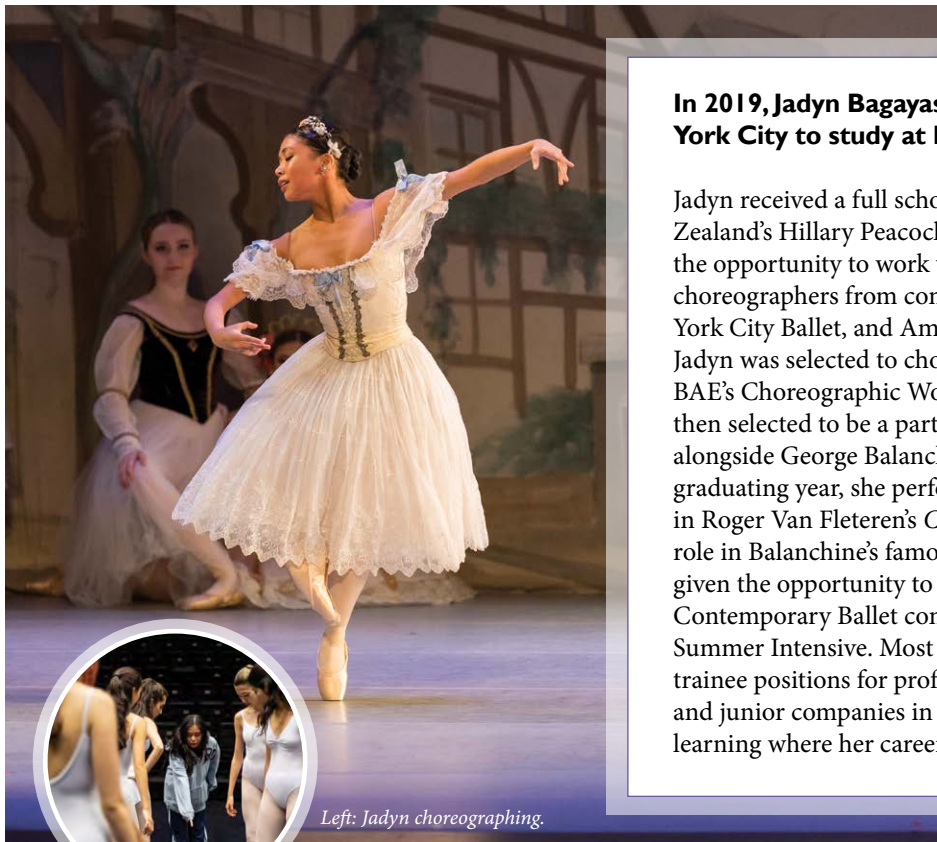
Rose Bay Convent, during which she experienced a strong sense of calling. In 1950, Dorothea began her Noviceship at Rose Bay and made her vows in August 1952. Professed in 1958, Sister Dorothea became a teacher at Stuartholme in Brisbane. After two years she went to Duchesne College to complete her Bachelor of Arts degree, becoming fluent in a number of European languages, and returned there a few years later to complete her Diploma in Education. Sister Dorothea then taught at Kincoppal and Rose Bay, Sydney and Sacré Coeur, Melbourne.

Due to her knowledge of languages, Sister Dorothea twice spent periods of time at the Society's Mother House in Rome doing translation. She moved to Baradene in 1997 to become the Society's Archivist. For many years, Sister Dorothea was one of a small community in the cottage in the grounds of Baradene, and her cat was always a valued member of her community. She retired to the convent at Baradene but continued to read widely. Sister Dorothea was a cherished member of the Sacred Heart Sisters in Australia and New Zealand.

Sister Act

These Baradene alumnae sisters are lighting up the stage and screen with their talented performances.

ALUMNAE



Left: Jadyn choreographing.

In 2019, Jadyn Bagayas (Class of 2020) moved to New York City to study at Ballet Academy East (BAE).

Jadyn received a full scholarship to BAE, supported by New Zealand's Hillary Peacocke Dance Trust. She has since had the opportunity to work with many renowned dancers and choreographers from companies such as Boston Ballet, New York City Ballet, and American Ballet Theatre. In 2022, Jadyn was selected to choreograph an original ballet for BAE's Choreographic Workshop. Her piece, *providence*, was then selected to be a part of BAE's 2023 Winter Performance alongside George Balanchine's *La Source*. In Jadyn's graduating year, she performed the lead role of "Swanhilda" in Roger Van Fleteren's *Coppelia* as well as a demi-soloist role in Balanchine's famous ballet *Serenade*. Jadyn was also given the opportunity to dance with Philadelphia's Premier Contemporary Ballet company BalletX during their 2023 Summer Intensive. Most recently, Jadyn has been offered trainee positions for professional companies in America and junior companies in Europe, and we look forward to learning where her career will take her next.

Chloe Bagayas (Class of 2017) graduated from The University of Auckland with a BA in Screen Production and Drama.

Chloe works in the film and theatre industry. Her training and experience make her very versatile, and she switches between acting, directing, and stage management with ease. She is keen to try everything, and has recently taken up vocal coaching. This "portfolio style" career is the norm in the creative industry, and is one of the reasons Chloe loves her work so much. In the last few years, Chloe has worked with Proudly Asian Theatre, Massive Theatre, Seed Theatre Company, and is a member of the 2023 Auckland Theatre Youth Company. Her screen credits include "Tivoli" in the pilot episode of *Asian 8*, produced as part of the Pan-Asian Screen Collective's *Episode One* programme. She recently performed in *Daddy Ubu* with the Auckland Theatre Youth Company, and is currently rehearsing for their double-bill production of *The Trials* and *Future Tense* this November at Basement Theatre (tickets from atc.co.nz). Baradene is fortunate to employ Chloe in a part-time role as our Performing Arts Administrator.



Chloe acting in the short film *Three Dots* by Alyssa Medel.



ALUMNAE NEWS

Class of 2018 5-year reunion.

Alumnae Association President Karla Brennan (Class of 1992) shares an update on this year's events.

Originating in the 1920s, the Baradene Alumnae Association remains resolute in its commitment to perpetuate a legacy among alumnae that lays the groundwork for the future. One of the cornerstones of our mission is facilitating opportunities for connection. On 29 June, we joyously hosted the five-year reunion for the Class of 2018, with approximately 50 former students and staff in attendance.

From the very moment they stepped through those familiar school gates, a nostalgic enchantment seemed to sweep over the alumnae, transporting them back to their days as students. The exhilaration of reuniting with old friends, sharing cherished memories, and engaging in heartfelt conversations imbued this event with success. It stood as a poignant testament to the enduring bonds forged during their formative years at Baradene College.

The Alumnae Committee takes immense pleasure in hosting such occasions at Baradene, the institution where these exceptional young women absorbed the spirit of Cor Unum. Our heartfelt gratitude extends to all who participated, and we hope that these connections continue to flourish into the future. Baradene Connect, our online alumnae community, offers a splendid avenue to nurture these connections, and we encourage all alumnae to explore this resource.

We are continually uplifted by the news of reunions, both formal and informal, as they serve to keep us abreast of the diverse journeys undertaken by our alumnae while showcasing the unwavering support they offer one another. Take a glance



Alumnae from the Class of 2003 celebrate their 20-year reunion.

at the group (below left) captured during the recent informal 20-year reunion of the Class of 2003 held in early August.

Another pinnacle in the Alumnae Association calendar is our High Tea and Meritae Award event. The Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award celebrates an alumna who embodies the philosophy of the Sacred Heart in her daily life. This award is for an alumna who has made an outstanding contribution in their chosen field and to the community, and embraced the philosophy of the Sacred Heart in their everyday life.

We take immense pride in announcing that the recipient for 2023 is Dame Helene Quilter (see page 42). We eagerly anticipate celebrating this occasion with her and other alumnae in October.

THE
BARADENE ALUMNAE
warmly invites you to

*Annual High Tea
&
Meritae Award*

Sunday {29th} October,
2:00pm to 4:00pm
Baradene College Atrium

Tickets \$35 per person
Purchase online: www.baradene.school.nz/alumnae/events
or email: alumnae@baradene.school.nz
or call Karla: 027 664 7758 to reserve your table/seat

Come and reminisce, catch up with old school friends,
enjoy a beautiful afternoon tea and hear from our
2023 Meritae Award winner
Dame Helene Quilter

CLASS OF 2018

FIVE-YEAR REUNION

ALUMNAE



CALLING THE CLASS OF 1974

A milestone year is approaching for the Class of 1974 as 2024 will mark 50 years since your graduation.

Now is a great time to start thinking about reconnecting to celebrate. If you are on Baradene Connect, we have created a "Class of 1974" group as a place to keep in touch. So far there are a handful of 1974 alumnae registered on the platform, so please join and encourage others so the group can grow! Register at baradeneconnect.co.nz

If you would like assistance with a reunion or finding fellow alumnae, please contact us at alumnae@baradene.school.nz

DAME HELENE QUILTER DNZM QSO

“I am committed to achieving diversity in our workplaces and organisations and particularly ensuring women are represented at every leadership level. I’ve worked hard to provide and shape opportunities for women to succeed.”



Our 2023 Alumnae Meritae Award Winner Dame Helene Quilter (née Syben, Class of 1971) has truly lived the values and passions instilled at Baradene.

The Meritae Award pays tribute to an alumna who has embraced the philosophy of the Sacred Heart in their everyday life, and Dame Helene is delighted and honoured to receive this year’s award. “It means so much to me. Baradene had a profound influence on me, and that experience set me on my path for a career in public service.”

Helene attended Baradene as a boarder from 1966 until 1971. She was especially inspired by her former principal, Sister Anne O’Rourke RSCJ, who believed in educating women to a high standard and impressed upon them the importance of having a profession. At Baradene, Helene was taught to care for people, be compassionate, have empathy, be courageous, and strive for excellence. These values remained with Helene and were instrumental in her entering public service.

Baradene was also formative in developing her love of New Zealand contemporary art. Helene collected art from her early 20s, and established the Quilter Collection (1998-2014) at Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre in New Plymouth. She has since sold most of that collection, and her focus is now on collecting old and contemporary religious art.

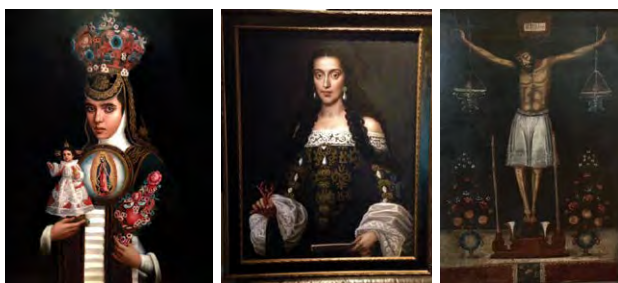


The Class of 1971. Dame Helene is second from right in the second row.

Dame Helene served in the public service for 45 years. She commenced her career in the Department of Social Welfare, rising to senior leadership levels including National Director Income Support Programmes and Services, and Chief Negotiator Bi-Lateral Social Security Agreements. Later she was appointed Deputy Chief Executive at the Ministry of Social Development, holding roles in national operations and in corporate and governance. During this time she completed her Masters in Strategic Studies at Victoria University in Wellington. Dame Helene continued her career with the State Services Commission, working with chief executives in the Justice and National Security sectors.

In 2012, Dame Helene was appointed as Secretary and Chief Executive of Defence, the first woman to hold this significant role. In 2019, she was appointed by the Prime Minister as the Statutory Deputy Public Service Commissioner, one of the most important roles in the public service.

Dame Helene was also a long-standing member of the Board of Diversity Works New Zealand, championing workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace, and working on gender pay gap issues. Throughout her career, Dame Helene was committed to achieving greater diversity and gender balance throughout workplaces and in chief executive positions.



Artworks from Dame Helene’s current collection of religious-themed art.

Dame Helene’s advice to young career women is to do lots of different things, in various roles and organisations, to broaden their experience. Echoing her Baradene values, she says it is important to care about people, be ambitious for change, and build collaborative, strong, engaged cultures.

Aside from her commitment to public service, Dame Helene has remained passionate not only about the visual arts, but also performance art. She is currently Deputy Chair of the Board of the New Zealand School of Dance.

In the King’s Birthday and Coronation Honours 2023, Dame Helene was made a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the public service and the arts. In 2019, Helene was appointed a Companion of the Queen’s Service Order for services to the State, and she also won the 2019 Wellingtonian of the Year Award in the public service category.

Dame Helene will be presented with the 2023 Meritae Award at the Alumnae Association Annual High Tea on Sunday, 29 October. Alumnae are invited to attend to hear Dame Helene speak about her most interesting life. To purchase tickets visit baradene.school.nz/alumnae/events



LUCY BURRELL

Lucy Burrell (Class of 2020) has had an amazing rowing season overseas.

In 2021, Lucy left Auckland for California after winning a full scholarship to attend Stanford University as part of the Women's Rowing Team. Lucy has just finished her sophomore year and is going into her junior year at Stanford majoring in a Science, Technology and Society degree.

Lucy rowed in five seat for the Stanford 1st Varsity Crew. In May, Lucy's crew ended the Varsity season in style, winning the Division 1 final at the NCAA Rowing Championships in Pennsauken, New Jersey, beating all other crews and thus becoming National Champions.

This was a huge win, and eagle-eyed viewers may have seen the piece on Lucy being presented with her award alongside her Stanford crew members on TVNZ's *1News*. You can read an article about Lucy and other Kiwi women rowers who had success in this competition at bit.ly/3P1fmmw

The win by the 1st Varsity rowing eight helped Stanford claim the points trophy for the regatta for just the second time in its history. The excitement didn't end there, as Stanford also won the Director's Cup, the trophy for the best sports college across America. It's the 26th time Stanford has won the Cup, which has been presented since 1994.

However, Lucy's season was not quite finished, as in June she took part as a USA-based New Zealand athlete in the NZ U23 trial in California, the first ever U23 trial for USA-based athletes.

Then in July, having made the team, she traveled to Plovdiv, Bulgaria to take part in the 2023 World Rowing Under 23 Championships. Lucy rowed as part of the Women's Coxed Four which won the Silver medal, New Zealand's first medal at the Championships. They finished just a second behind Australia, the defending world champions, and beat the USA, who received Bronze.



Left: Lucy on the water with her Stanford rowing team.

Right: Lucy and her Rowing NZ teammates with their Silver medal at the World Rowing U23 Championships. (Photo: Art of Rowing)



This was another incredible result, and one which saw Lucy smash a short-term goal she set for herself when she left Baradene – to make a NZ U23 team.

We wish Lucy well with her long-term goal to represent New Zealand in the elite team at the Olympics. Lucy's Baradene community is behind her all the way!

Lucy's younger sister Harriet Burrell (Year 13) is also making waves with rowing. This year, Harriet rowed in several Baradene crews, including the U18 Coxed Eight and the Coxless Pair, with both crews winning first place at the Head of the Harbour Regatta and third in the North Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships. Harriet is also in the New Zealand Under 19 Development Junior Squad and is an Auckland Rowing representative with the Open Blues team.

We'll be keeping an eye out for these sisters as they row their way to national and international success.



Nicola and Courtney at HomeGround.

SISTERS ON A MISSION

Alumnae sisters Nicola Bowden (Class of 2011) and Courtney Bowden (Class of 2014) work with people in greatest need across our city through their roles at Auckland City Mission.

The Auckland City Mission – Te Tāpui Atawhai, stands with Aucklanders in greatest need, advocating for suitable homes, nutritious food, and accessible healthcare to enable long term wellbeing. The Mission has been operating for over 100 years, and its services have evolved along with the city’s needs. At the beginning of 2022, the Mission opened a new building, HomeGround, which brings together permanent housing, expanded health and social services, addiction withdrawal facilities, and community programmes.

Baradene alumnae and sisters Nicola and Courtney Bowden work at the Mission, responding with care and compassion in their roles.

Nicola has a Degree in Psychology and Criminology from the University of Auckland. She has been working at the Mission for five years, and has been Supportive Services Manager for HomeGround Apartments for 18 months. When Nicola first started work at the Mission, she was part of the Outreach service, working directly on the streets with people experiencing homelessness.

Nicola says, “With the establishment of HomeGround, we have 80 apartments which provide permanent housing to people from diverse backgrounds, some of whom have experienced chronic homelessness, poverty, and trauma. We offer a 24/7 wraparound support service that is person-centered and prioritises culture, connection, and hauora (wellness). The community development is also a really valuable aspect of the mahi which fosters a space of belonging and empowerment.

“One of the best things about HomeGround Apartments is the intensive level of support that we offer, because it has real value for the people living here in supporting them to sustain their tenancy. In my previous roles at the Mission, the people I worked alongside were cycling through the broken system for years and generations. Some of those same people are now living and thriving in the HomeGround Apartments,

“Gaining people’s trust and hearing their stories is a privilege.”

connecting with whānau and community, accessing life-saving healthcare, returning to mahi or study – the list goes on.”

Nicola is particularly passionate about working with our rangatahi experiencing homelessness. Nicola has previously held the rangatahi portfolio and works closely with Manaaki Rangatahi, a collective of agencies working together to end youth homelessness in Aotearoa.

Like her sister before her, Courtney’s role as Outreach Key Worker involves providing services to assist individuals and families move from homelessness, housing instability, or emergency housing to more permanent accommodation. This is challenging work assisting those living with the effects of trauma, abuse, addiction, violence, mental health, and poverty issues. Courtney’s role is to address and improve their mental, physical, and spiritual wellbeing by connecting them with services that will provide a more stable life and, when possible, to reconnect them with whānau.

Courtney has worked with the Mission for three-and-a-half years, and is part of a diverse team of social service, health, and peer support practitioners who do street outreach, advocacy, case management, housing, and tenancy support. This includes working with people who are living on the street, finding and assisting those who need help. Sometimes solutions are found quickly, but often it can take many years of dedicated support, which can continue even after a person is housed.

Courtney says, “Being out on community outreach daily, I get to connect with new and old faces, and building these relationships is what brings me to mahi every day. Gaining people’s trust and hearing their stories is a privilege that enables me to provide appropriate and necessary support.”

Both Nicola and Courtney feel privileged to be able to do work so closely aligned with their personal values, helping the team at the Mission have a positive impact on the lives of some of the most marginalised people in our community. The work can be challenging, heartbreaking, and difficult, but some of the outcomes are incredibly uplifting and rewarding.

Alumnae Milestones

Celebrating the achievements of Baradene alumnae, both in their professional and personal lives.

Congratulations to **Hannah Lane-Gould (Class of 2022)**, **Emily Shaw (Class of 2022)**, **Lucy Parker (Class of 2020)**, and **Kelly McGregor (Class of 2021)** on being awarded their Duke Of Edinburgh Gold Awards in May, and **Ella O'Brien (Class of 2021)** in August this year. Hannah says, *"It was a surreal moment receiving my Duke Of Edinburgh Gold award in early May after working towards it for nearly four years. The award itself was challenging, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, I am so grateful for all the fond memories I have gained."*



Left: Hannah with Dame Cindy Kiro, New Zealand's Governor General. Right: Hannah, Lauren, Kelly, and Emily with their Gold Awards.



In May, **Nikita Woolnough (Class of 2019)** graduated with a Bachelor of Design Innovation, majoring in Social Innovation, from Victoria University of Wellington – Te Herenga Waka. Nikita's passion for community-centred design and how

design can enact change led to her being selected to give the closing address at her graduation ceremony.



Nadia Tolich (Class of 1999) has been appointed the Managing Director of Stuff Digital, and is responsible for leading stuff.co.nz, Neighbourly, and the organization's rapidly growing audio division. Congratulations, Nadia, on this career milestone.

Gabrielle Lawler (Class of 2005) married Grant Jackson (a Sacred Heart College old boy) on 20 May 2023 at St Joseph's Church, Orakei. Gabrielle is pictured below right with her mother **Adrienne (née Downey, Class of 1979)**, and her bridesmaids and sisters **Virginia (Class of 2004)** and **Bernadette (Class of 2008)**, all of whom are Baradene alumnae. In a touching tribute, Gabrielle wore her mother's wedding dress from the 1980s. Gabrielle's family have had a long connection to Baradene. As well as the many alumnae links, Gabrielle's father Edmund has served on many of Baradene's boards over the years and is currently the Chair of Baradene College Limited.



Crissy Sanders (Class of 2020) backpacked solo through East Africa over the summer of 2022-23 for three months, travelling and volunteering. She spent several weeks helping as a teacher at the grassroots school Kyosei Foundation, and lived in the village of Mapumbazuko with a local family. After backpacking around Zanzibar, she headed to Kenya, then helped and lived at a shelter and safehouse for victims of family and sexual violence in a village near Naivasha, teaching classes in exercise and hygiene, and digging and planting on the permaculture farm. She loved the rich vibrancy of life of East Africa and the incredible people she met.



Makaira Calder (née Oyagawa, Class of 2012) recently married Kane Calder in Fiji. Makaira is Art Director for fashion label Ruby, so it is no surprise that her wedding was incredibly chic, mixing inspiration from traditional and modern fashion. Wanting to give her guests a true taste of her “island home”, Makaira carried palm tree, frangipani, and seashell motifs across everything from the invitations to the beautifully decorated ceremony and reception venues. To make the day even more special for Makaira and Kane, they were surrounded by family, friends, a large wedding party featuring their young son Issey, and five bridesmaids who were Baradene alumnae! Makaira’s wedding dress was inspired by Chanel and made by her talented mother Jeannie, who also made all the bridesmaids’ dresses, which were based on Ruby designs.



From left: Bridesmaids Jess Thomson, Georgia O’Connell (Class of 2012), Laken Oyagawa (Makaira’s sister, Class of 2015), Mollie James (Class of 2012), Nina Turnbull (Class of 2012), and Kate Smit (Class of 2012)

Zosia Herlihy-O’Brien (Class of 2018) was one of only six violinists handpicked for the 2023 Michael Hill Violin Fellowship Programme. This programme encourages and supports emerging New Zealand violinists who are studying at a high performance level to make violin performance their full-time career.



Supermodels! Musician **Molly Payton (Class of 2018)** modelling for Kate Sylvester and **Paris Parker (Class of 2020)** modelling for Ruby.



Left: Molly. Right: Paris (centre).

As seen on TV!

Louise Hilsz (Class of 2002), featured in Issue 14 of *Baradene Heart*, appeared on *Seven Sharp* on 8 May chatting about stylish sunglasses.

Jacqueline Taylor (née Henry, Class of 1993) is the owner of beautiful Te Mata House in Hawke’s Bay, which was featured in *Lap of Luxury* on TVNZ 1 on 20 May.

In July **Perlina Lau (Class of 2007)** returned as star and co-creator of Season 2 of the Kiwi dystopian series *Creamerie*, which has become a big hit overseas as well as in NZ. Perlina was featured in Issue 11 of *Baradene Heart*. *Creamerie* is available to view on TVNZ+. Perlina is now presenter and producer of *Culture 101* on RNZ from 12-4pm on Sundays.

Robbie Bell (née Ryan, Class of 1982) has recently been a contestant on *The Traitors NZ*. The show is based on a Russian parlour game and stars Paul Henry as host. *The Traitors NZ* is available to view on ThreeNow.



Perlina Lau second from left with her Creamerie cast mates.



Louise Hilsz on Seven Sharp

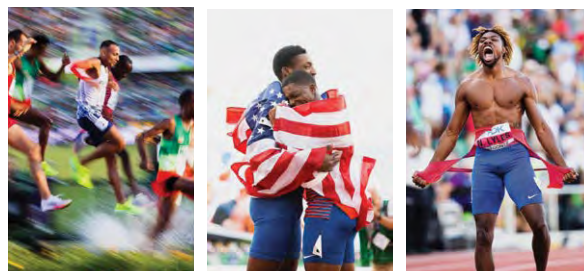


Jacqueline Taylor’s Te Mata House



Robbie Bell - The Traitors NZ

In May **Alisha Lovrich (Class of 2011)** was named one of *Trophy Journal’s* Photographers of the Year. In June Alisha was a finalist in the Athletes category of the World Sports Photography Award with two images taken from the World Athletics Championships in Oregon in 2022.



Left: Alisha’s Trophy Journal photograph. Right: Images from Oregon.

Congratulations to the following alumnae on their amazing sporting achievements!

Marie Green (Class of 2022) was selected in the New Zealand U19 Football team to compete in the OFC U19 Women's Championship – the qualification competition for the FIFA U20 Women's World Cup.

After a successful 2023 netball season, **Catherine Hall (Class of 2021)** will return for the 2024 season with the MG Mystics Netball Squad.

Scarlett Goldsworthy (Class of 2022) was named in the NZ U20 Water Polo team to compete in September at the U20 World Championships in Portugal.

Penelope Salmon (Class of 2021) was selected for the New Zealand U20 Junior World Orienteering team. The World Championships were held in Romania at the beginning of July and Penelope became the third NZ woman to make a JWOC podium, finishing sixth.

In June **Molly Penfold (Class of 2019)** and **Fran Jonas (Class of 2021)** were named in the White Ferns ODI and T20 Squads for the tour of Sri Lanka. The White Ferns won the T20 Series. In July, Fran was signed to represent the Trinbago Knight Riders in the Capital Cricket Premier League held in August and September.

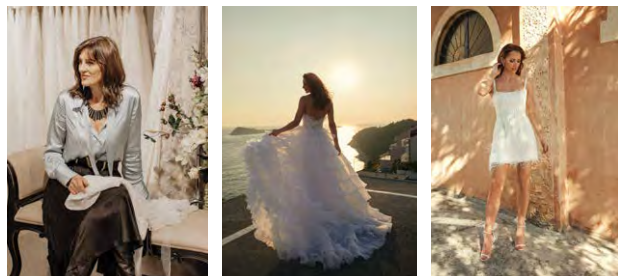
Also in June, **Havana Hopman (Class of 2021)** won Gold in the Oceania Championships in Manila, Philippines. In July, she was once more crowned New Zealand Rhythmic Gymnastics National Champion. In August, Havana represented New Zealand at the Rhythmic Gymnasts World Championships in Valencia, Spain.

Recently two Baradene alumnae made a splash in Viva with their elegant bridal couture.

London-based designer **Emilia Wickstead (Class of 2001)** has successfully run her global fashion business for 15 years, and has recently reopened her refreshed flagship store on Sloane Street. Emilia has made a name for herself designing timeless dresses for Catherine, Princess of Wales, Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh, Princess Beatrice, Renée Zellweger, Florence Pugh, Emma Thompson, Malala Yousafzai, and Michelle Obama, to name a few. *Viva's* article "Trad & True" celebrates Emilia's return to designing a dedicated bridal collection and refers to her attending Baradene as "another experience that helped shape her early teens."



Anita Turner (née Lucas, Class of 1982) was recently featured in *Viva's* article "Anita Turner, Where'd You Get That White Dress?" which details her design heritage, typical working day, and the "glamour and grind" of the industry. The daughter of the late Vinka Lucas MZNM, who established the business in 1959, Anita has been Creative Director of Vinka Design since 2009, and the business flourishes to this day. Anita and her small, expert team design and lovingly handcraft bespoke bridalwear from her stylish Auckland atelier. The family tradition continues with daughter **Helena (Class of 2013)** managing marketing and communications for Vinka Design.



Left: Anita in her atelier. Right: Vinka Brides photo shoot in Croatia.

In Memoriam

We remember the alumnae and members of the Baradene community who have recently passed.

Robin Rive (née Allen, Class of 1956) died on 11 May 2023. Robin was much loved by her family, her husband Bryan, her children and grandchildren, who adored her "quirky sense of humour, creative talent, and inimitable style." Robin attended Baradene with her sister **Gabrielle Wilkin (née Allen, Class of 1954)** and remembered her Baradene years fondly. She became a qualified physiotherapist, and in 1973 she started a business creating large hand puppets, and kiwi and sheep soft toys. She was best known for the award-winning Robin Rive Teddy Bears, which she handcrafted for 35 years and exported worldwide. These bears have become collectors' items, and one was even called Sister Madeleine, in honour of Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ. It is believed that Robin made bears for Baradene for some years, beginning the tradition of our Year 13 students receiving a bear when they leave school, which continues to this day.





2023

FAREWELL FROM OUR STUDENT LEADERS

Elizabeth van Wijk **Deputy Head Girl 2023**

I will take away from Baradene:

Baradene has given me the extraordinary gift not only of an education but also of the chance to learn from my peers and friends. Throughout my years here, I have developed a deeper awareness of those around me and a greater appreciation for their thoughts and feelings. I've learned to see great value in listening to ideas contributed by others, and I'll take this knowledge with me.

The future:

I plan to start university next September at Thomas Aquinas College in California. I visited the campus last year and was enchanted with its lush, sunny setting and the Socratic discussion method used in the classroom. Hopefully, 2024 sees me reading Homer while tanning in the Spanish-style dorm courtyards!

A funny moment:

In Year 10 Drama, we put on a production of *Cinderella* and had two similarly shaped props – a gravestone and a fireplace. One of my friends accidentally brought the fireplace prop onstage instead of the gravestone. Her expression of horror when she realised, coupled with my other friend having to pretend to grieve with heartfelt solemnity in front of a fireplace, makes this a hilarious school memory.

Rochelle O'Connor **Head Girl 2023**

I will take away from Baradene:

Baradene has shaped my character and mindset to work hard, treat people with kindness, and believe in my potential to achieve anything. I have been guided by the wisdom of my teachers and feel incredibly inspired by the diverse talents of my friends and classmates. I plan to take away these values and approach my next chapter with an open heart and mind.

The future:

I'm excited to embrace all university offers and pursue a conjoint degree in Global Studies and Engineering. I aspire to work in an industry where I can apply this interdisciplinary knowledge to drive positive change and innovation for the wider community. Finally, I wish to travel to every continent, improve my heritage language skills, and perhaps establish a feminist literature club!

A funny moment:

One day, my friends and I spontaneously started busting out some dance moves while looking at our reflection in the dark Barat classroom windows by the pool. Unbeknownst to us, an entire class was inside, watching and giggling at our every move. I was so embarrassed when we found out and hurried away, but it made us all laugh for ages.

Eva Perese-Wood **Deputy Head Girl 2023**

I will take away from Baradene:

I will be forever grateful for the many opportunities I've had throughout my last seven years at Baradene. Such experiences have pushed me out of my comfort zone and emphasised the importance of being open-minded and perceptive in the face of new challenges – I hope both skills will guide me in my new journey beyond college.

The future:

Next year I plan to pursue a Bachelor of Communications majoring in Journalism. Having taken media studies throughout my senior years at Baradene, I am excited by the opportunities this pathway holds. I hope to explore my interest in this subject further while preparing for a career in the exciting and ever-changing media industry.

A funny moment:

Earlier this year, I competed in an Ultimate Frisbee tournament. I overestimated my frisbee-catching skills when a disc flew into my face during our first game. I'm still not sure if that was the most embarrassing part or if it was the fact that I ended up with a black eye that was quite noticeable during school photos the following week!



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Baradene students enjoy playing on a jungle gym in the 1960s.

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