

Issue 16: May 2024

# Weave the people together

*Whiria te tāngata*

Baradene  
College of the  
SACRED HEART



35 years of the  
Baradene Art Show

Basketball sensation  
Ritorya Tamilo

Making music in  
Taiwan and Japan

Baradene

# HEART





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*Above: Patikitiki 2019 by Annabelle Buick was purchased by the Baradene PTA from the 2019 Baradene Art Show and gifted to the College. Annabelle's work is based on the fundamental design elements and principles of raranga (weaving) – a traditional Māori art form. This issue's theme, "Weave the people together / Whiria te tāngata" reflects the connections forged between the RSCJ Sisters, our students, alumnae, and our wider Sacred Heart whānau. Each individual, a vital strand, contributes to the strength of our community.*

Additional photography: Charlotte Clech, BC Photography



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# BARADENE HEART

ISSUE 16: MAY 2024

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## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



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

Welcome to the first issue of *Baradene Heart* for 2024, where we celebrate “community” as part of our focus goal for this year: “The Building of Community as a Christian Value”.

### **State-of-the-art gymnasium takes shape**

We are very excited about the mid-year opening of the new gymnasium complex, which will be a game-changer for our students. With its flexible teaching spaces, improved changing facilities, and a purpose-built cafeteria with covered outdoor seating, the new facility isn't just about physical fitness. Whether during sports events, PE classes, fitness training, or casual conversations in the cafeteria, students, staff, and parents will have opportunities to come together. Again, we extend our sincere gratitude to the property committee of Baradene College Limited, who have worked tirelessly to kickstart this significant project. While we eagerly await the gymnasium's completion, we appreciate the community's patience, especially our students and staff who have weathered the disruptions associated with new construction.

### **Celebrating academic excellence**

We are very proud of Baradene's 2023 academic results, which included 97.8% of our students achieving university entrance, and the awarding of 49 Scholarships. Importantly, success is reflected across the board, with the majority of students excelling in NCEA by endorsing with either Excellence or Merit at all levels. These results are a credit to the students and the staff, who are committed to enabling our students to achieve at high levels. It is impressive that our students balance these achievements with active participation in a diverse range of extra-curricular activities. It is unsurprising that a recently published Australian study confirms links between long-term participation in sport and increased academic performance, reduced absenteeism, and the likelihood of attending university.

### **35 years of the Baradene Art Show**

This year, Baradene College will host its 35th annual Art Show, which has become a highlight of our calendar. The Art Show showcases the incredible talent of New Zealand artists. It is always well-attended and provides an opportunity to foster connections between our wider community and the College. The board appreciates the dedication of a team of volunteers who work extremely hard to make this event such a success.

2024 promises to be an exciting year, and we look forward to the opportunities ahead for welcoming our community to the school.



Our banner representing the 2024 focus goal "The Building of Community as a Christian Value".

**“When students come to Baradene College, they become a member of our school family, and beyond that, we all form part of the great family of the Church.”**

**Baradene College Principal Sandy Pasley welcomes us back for another busy, purposeful school year.**

Our students returned after the summer holidays full of purpose, and we hope new students and their families have enjoyed their first term as members of the Baradene community.

Reflecting on highlights from Term 1, in February, we celebrated the start of the new school year at our beautiful Opening Mass, and students enjoyed taking part in sporting competition at our Swimming Sports and Athletics Day. Students across all year levels had enormous fun gathering to compete in the annual House Parades, which always provide a colourful, joyous, and entertaining start to the year.



**Focus goal**

The Sacred Heart focus goal for this year is “The Building of Community as a Christian Value”. At Baradene it is our sense of community that makes our school a special place for all. We are a school of the Sacred Heart, and part of a global network of Sacred Heart schools around Australasia and the world. Closer to home we greatly value our school community of fellow staff and students, the RSCJ Sisters who live on site in the Baradene Convent, and the school community of parents, caregivers, and families.

This Issue of *Baradene Heart* magazine has the theme “Whiria te tāngata,” a Maori proverb meaning to “Weave the people together,” which reflects this year’s focus goal. At Baradene we aim to “weave” people together to make

a co-operative school community which ensures Baradene students continue to flourish year on year.

Another related proverb is “Nāu te rourou nāku te rourou ka ora ai te iwi” – “With your basket and my basket the people will thrive.” This proverb reiterates how important it is for us all to be part of the community, to bring our skills to the table, and share our resources and knowledge for the betterment of all. Many of our parents and caregivers take an active interest in the school by volunteering to be on our Boards, the PTA, to assist with fundraising events such as the annual Baradene Art show, or to coach sports teams and cultural groups. We also foster a strong connection with our alumnae, many of whom retain a strong association with Baradene throughout their lives, and who are an inspiration to current students. We are truly blessed to have this supportive network, as it enriches the educational experience enjoyed by our students, and we encourage you all to become involved in the Baradene community.

The “basket” or “kete” metaphor can be extended further to describe the importance of our extended Christian community in the context of our identity as a Sacred Heart school. At Baradene we draw from the wisdom of three kete which inform all we do:

- 1. **Scripture and the life of Jesus.**
- 2. **Heritage and charism of the Society of the Sacred Heart.**
- 3. **The lived tradition of the Church.**

When students come to Baradene College, they become a member of our school family, and beyond that, we all form part of the great family of the Church.

Not only do we value and build community within Baradene, we also ensure our students use their faith to build community outside of the school gates. As part of their Religious Education studies, our girls learn to place themselves in the wider community; by learning about

social justice and thinking of the plight of others, supporting charities in New Zealand and overseas, and volunteering to assist those in need. The sense of being an active part of the wider community, and the reward and responsibility that brings, is reinforced in Year 11 when students take part in our Social Awareness Programme.

**Academic success**

Our interim 2023 NCEA results were outstanding, with 99.5% passing NCEA Level 1, 98.9% passing NCEA Level 2, and 98.9% passing NCEA Level 3. On average, over the three levels of NCEA, 99.1% of students passed their respective NCEA level, over 52% of students had their NCEA certificates endorsed with Excellence, and 87% of students had their NCEA certificates endorsed with Excellence or Merit. Many students received multiple Excellence Subject Endorsements, including a number who received Excellence Subject Endorsements in all their subjects. Additionally, 97.8% of students gained University Entrance.

Scholarship numbers were also high. Baradene received 49 Scholarships, with five of those being Outstanding Scholarships. Five Scholarships were received by Year 11 students and 17 were received by Year 12 students. Two Baradene students received a Scholarship Award for receiving three or more Scholarships each, and one of our students, Jorgia Roberts, received an Outstanding Scholar Award, achieving four Scholarships, with two of those being Outstanding Scholarships.

As a cohort, our students continue to achieve at the highest level, and this is due to the commitment our students give to their studies and the dedication and support provided by their teachers, parents, and caregivers. The *NZ Herald* recently released an article on school performance based on



2022 NCEA results showing Baradene as the top girls' school with the highest number of NCEA Level 3 (or above) passes at 95.1%, and the highest University Entrance pass rate at 92.6%. It is pleasing that our 2023 results are even better.

**NCEA update**

Recently there have been a number of media stories about schools choosing to offer alternative methods of assessment to their students, other than NCEA. Although we are introducing our own Baradene Year 11 Certificate this year instead of offering NCEA Level 1, we will reassess our Year 11 course as new resources for NCEA Level 1 are developed by the Ministry of Education.

Overall, Baradene remains committed to NCEA, as it is aligned to New Zealand's National Curriculum, and we believe it is important for our students to leave school with a New Zealand qualification. NCEA has served us very well in the past, with our students receiving a high rate of acceptance into competitive courses such as Law, Medicine, and Engineering at New Zealand universities, and being accepted at overseas universities including Harvard and Oxford. At present, we believe our students continue to be well catered for by NCEA.

**Continued participation in sport is important**

Baradene students have a high rate of participation in sport across all years, over many codes, and accommodating differing levels of ability. As our BOT Chair, Gill Chappell, has mentioned, the importance of encouraging students to play sport was highlighted in a recent study by the University of Sydney. The study found that students who are long-term participants in sport have increased academic performance, better attention and memory, less absenteeism, and are more likely to attend university, with these links being particularly true for those who participate in team sports.

**Requiescat in pace**

The school community, especially the students in her year, were greatly saddened by the loss of Sara Hepple, a Year 9 student in 2023, who passed away over the summer holidays. In early February, we held a liturgy for our Year 10 students to remember Sara, and we continue to pray for Sara, and for her family and friends.

In February, we were also very sad to lose Sister Margaret D'Ath RSCJ, who passed away at 99 years of age. Sister D'Ath was a well-respected teacher at Baradene and several other Sacred Heart schools for many years, a past Principal of Loreto Hall, and a much loved and long-standing member of the Baradene Convent.

**New gymnasium project**

Excitement is growing as we get closer to the completion of our new gymnasium complex. The gymnasium and cafeteria will be an incredible resource for our students to enjoy as part of Baradene's campus. We need to raise funds to complete the fit out of this wonderful new facility and our Giving Week this year will be held in June for this purpose. Read more about the progress of the gymnasium complex on page 30 and Giving Week on page 38.





*Student Leaders*

**This year's student leaders are a motivated, inspiring group of students who exemplify the Cor Unum spirit.**

We are proud to provide our students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills. Through initiatives such as Student Leadership, Big Sister/Little Sister, Class Captains, Cor Unum Representatives, Homeroom and BOT Representatives, our students become well-rounded and compassionate leaders who leave Baradene College ready to add value to the world.

### 2024 Student Leaders

#### Head Girl

Talia Uluinayau

#### Deputy Head Girls

Maddy Meredith  
Amy Mason

#### Special Character

Amy Mason (Leader)  
Mihi Whittington (Deputy)  
Hannah Fewtrell (Deputy)

#### Academic

Maddy Meredith (Leader)  
Olivia Zhu (Deputy)  
Jade Carran (Deputy)

#### Arts & Publicity

Isabel Doyle (Leader)  
Morgan Lloyd (Deputy)  
Emma Blackie (Deputy)

#### Cultural

Isabelle Ekanayake (Leader)  
Jana Taakitao (Deputy)  
Kara French (Deputy)

#### International

Katy Cussins (Leader)  
Amber Ong (Deputy)  
Chloe Cheng (Deputy)

#### Performing Arts

Kirstin Skeet (Leader)  
Alex Clarke (Deputy)  
Giselle Ford (Deputy)

#### Social Services

Nikita Nobre (Leader)  
Isla Petherbridge (Deputy)  
Quyn McGrory (Deputy)

#### Sports Council

Eve Meachen (Leader)  
Rianna Hall (Deputy)  
Taylor Fisher (Deputy)

#### Student Wellbeing

Grace Pratt (Leader)  
Alice Sasso (Deputy)  
Gabrielle Copley (Deputy)

#### Sustainability

Angelin Austin (Leader)  
Caitlin Murphy (Deputy)  
Hannah Brinker (Deputy)

#### Amiens House

Ruby Hannan (Leader)  
Ruby Saunders (Deputy)  
Emma Gerrand (Deputy)

#### Barat House

Penny Brill (Leader)  
Hannah McKenzie (Deputy)  
Violeta Zalazar (Deputy)



*Student Leaders and Deputies*

#### Erskine House

Lucia Gordon (Leader)  
Zara Pinfeld (Deputy)  
Riaan Bryant (Deputy)

#### Loreto House

Sophia Urlich (Leader)  
Sarah McKechnie (Deputy)  
Charlie McKeown (Deputy)

#### Philippine House

Emily Burrows (Leader)  
Coco Lorenzon (Deputy)  
Victoria Butler (Deputy)

#### Stuart House

Annie Krietich (Leader)  
Alicia McGivern (Deputy)  
Georgia Lindroos (Deputy)

# HEAD GIRL 2024

**Talia Uluinayau, Head Girl 2024, shares her vision for the year ahead.**

*Kia ora tātou katoa,  
I te taha o tōku Mama  
Ko Whangatauatia te Maunga  
Ko Karirikura te Moana  
Ko Te Ohaki te Whare Tupuna  
Ko Te Rarawa, me Ngāi Tahu ngā iwi  
I te taha o tōku Papa  
Ko Salia te iwi  
Nō Nayau, Fiji ahau  
Ko Talia Ramari Uluinayau tōku ingoa*

My pepeha identifies my whakapapa on my mother's side to Ahipara at the start of the 90 Mile Beach in the Far North, and to Nayau, Fiji, on my father's side.

It is my absolute privilege and honour to be Head Girl for 2024. While this new role excites me for the year ahead, it is a task I do not take lightly, and I will give everything I can alongside my deputies, Amy and Maddy. For me, being Head Girl is not about position or title; rather, it is about actions and examples, which have more potential to make a difference. I stand here as a leader not just to lead, but also to work alongside our students and staff in collaboration to serve and achieve the best for our school.

I promise to work hard with devotion and determination. I'll try my best and work relentlessly for the excellence of our school. This year will no doubt be challenging, but I will try to play my part in helping and leading the school in a positive direction, and I am at ease knowing that I am not alone in this quest. The Year 13 students are a unique and outstanding group whom I know will form the best leadership team this year.

Talia as a Year 7 student.



Opening Mass 2024



**“I encourage you to get involved and push yourself outside your comfort zone. Only through hard work will you realise your true potential.”**

I am excited to see what this year holds for everyone. I look forward to seeing all the extra-curricular activities grow, and I encourage you to get involved and push yourself outside your comfort zone. Only through hard work will you realise your true potential.

Be kind to others... As well as yourselves! Have the confidence to share your ideas and the courage to make tough decisions. But, most importantly, have the compassion to listen to the needs of others.

Finally, I encourage you to go and represent the college with passion and pride in everything you do, whether you are on the sports field, in the water, on the stage, or in the classroom; act humbly in your successes and always be of service to each other. Nga mihi maioha.

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

**Congratulations to Baradene's Top Scholars and Scholarship winners in 2023.**

## Achievement Highlights

**49**

Scholarships\*



of which were Outstanding\*\*

**97.8%**

gained University Entrance

**99.1%**

of our students passed NCEA in Years 11, 12, and 13

**87%**

on average received Merit or Excellence Endorsement in Years 11, 12, and 13

Based on 2023 NZ Academic Results

\* A Scholarship is awarded to the top 3% (approximately) of students who sit the subject.

\*\* An Outstanding Scholarship is awarded to the top 0.3% (40 to 60 candidates) of the number of students sitting the subject.

## Our 2023 Top Scholars

*Achieved the top overall academic results in their cohort for the year.*

### Year 11

Emily Choi  
Hiranya Fernando  
Jihyeong Jessica Lee  
Ella Nie  
Nicole Nobre  
Kate Robinson  
Joahn Sung

### Year 12

Angelin Austin  
Solana Bayne  
Chloe Cheng  
Kerryn Gray  
Maddy Meredith  
Sienna Mobbs  
Amber Ong  
Kirstin Skeet  
Olivia Zhu

### Year 13

Julie Bladinières  
Isabelle McDonnell  
Rose McGuire  
Rochelle O'Connor  
Sofia Olan  
Jorgia Roberts  
Amelia Scrymgeour  
Elizabeth van Wijk

## 2023 NZQA Scholarships

### Year 11

**Emily Choi** Religious Studies  
**Hiranya Fernando** Religious Studies  
**Jihyeong Jessica Lee** Calculus  
**Nicole Nobre** Religious Studies  
**Josephine Stickley** Religious Studies

### Year 12

**Angelin Austin** Religious Studies (Outstanding) ★  
**Solana Bayne** Accounting, Religious Studies  
**Bridget Candy** Media Studies  
**Chloe Cheng** Religious Studies  
**Mila Conway** Geography  
**Hannah Fewtrell** Religious Studies  
**Giselle Ford** Drama  
**Kerryn Gray** Media Studies  
**Maddy Meredith** Religious Studies  
**Sienna Mobbs** English  
**Nikita Nobre** Accounting  
**Coco Shale** Religious Studies  
**Kirstin Skeet** Religious Studies  
**Mihi Whittington** Classical Studies  
**Olivia Zhu** Media Studies, History

### Year 13

**Julie Bladinières** Technology (Outstanding) ★  
**Alina Chen** Music  
**Ciara Hoare** Accounting  
**Mary Hunter** Accounting  
**Sofia Hutchinson** Painting  
**Hannah McCall** Chemistry  
**Isabelle McDonnell** English  
**Rose McGuire** Religious Studies, Classical Studies, Media Studies  
**Estee McPherson** Biology  
**Rochelle O'Connor** English, Religious Studies  
**Sofia Olan** Spanish, French  
**Jorgia Roberts** Media Studies (Outstanding) ★  
Religious Studies (Outstanding) ★, Chemistry, English  
**Amelia Scrymgeour** History, Religious Studies (Outstanding) ★, Biology, Statistics  
**Elizabeth van Wijk** Classical Studies, English  
**Evie Vuletich** Biology  
**Serena Zhang** Design and Visual Communication

## The University of Auckland

### Top Achievers Scholarship

Poppy Cavanagh-Briggs • Realle Chua • Liana Carran • Hannah McCall • Rochelle O'Connor • Sofia Olan • Amelia Scrymgeour

### Academic Potential Scholarship

Lydia De Montalk-Allen • Jorja Gantley • Ciara Hoare  
Jessica Stevens • Mischa Mardanus-Budiono

### Maori Academic Excellence Scholarship

Grace Carston

### Waka Moana Scholarship

Ava McCort • Jasmine Sanderson

### Faculty of Business and Economics

#### Entry Level Undergraduate Scholarship

Isabelle McDonnell

## Auckland University of Technology

### AUT Find Your Greatness Scholarship:

#### Academic Excellence

Julie Bladinières • Realle Chua • Angelica Eri • Ruby Nathan  
Eva Perese-Wood • Zoe Thomas • Elizabeth van Wijk

## University of Waikato

### Te Paewai o te Rangi Scholarship

#### for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Realle Chua

### Ko Te Tangata School Leaver Scholarship

Georgia Watene

### D.V. Bryant Trust Residential Scholarship

Anna-Lisa Kakino

## Victoria University of Wellington

### Victoria Tangiwai Scholarship

#### (School Leaver Scholarship for Excellence)

Julie Bladinières • Sophia Booth • Poppy Cavanagh-Briggs  
Realle Chua • Kate Dryden • Anija Irvine • Alicia Montenegro  
Raubo • Rochelle O'Connor • Elizabeth Portass • Natalie Salmon  
Jessica Russell • Zoe Thomas • Elizabeth van Wijk

## University of Canterbury

### University of Canterbury Hiranga Scholarship

Mia Bryant • Olivia Cavanagh • Realle Chua • Bria Cotton  
Phenix Durrant • Maggie Flexman • Zoe Hannan  
Aliana Henderson • Mary Hunter • Anija Irvine  
Alexandra Maher • Isabelle McDonnell • Alicia Montenegro  
Raubo • Matisse Platt • Bonnie Rattray • Jorgia Roberts  
Emma Ross • Emili Snowdon • Jade Varney • Kayley Wilson

## University of Canterbury Horomata Scholarship

Jorgia Roberts

## Go Waitaha Canterbury Scholarship

Pieta Campbell • Eden Clark • Celia Galvin • Aliana Henderson  
Stella Seselj • Emili Snowdon • Kate Wrigley

## Helen Macmillan Brown Bursary

Jorgia Roberts

## University of Canterbury Engineering

### Top Achievers Scholarship

Jorgia Roberts

## Tait Foundation Women in Engineering Scholarship

Maggie Flexman • Emili Snowdon

## University of Otago

### Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarship

Hannah McCall

### University of Otago Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship

Yunxuan An • Matisse Platt • Vanessa Toh

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship

Mia Bryant • Grace Cline • Jorja Gantley • Ciara Hoare  
Mary Hunter • Anija Irvine • Bonnie Rattray • Ava Robertson  
Jade Varney

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship High Credit

Molly Culpán • Maggie Flexman • Jessica Stevens

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship Distinction

Ruby Whetter

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship

#### High Distinction

Realle Chua • Lucy Mullany • Sofia Olan

### University of Otago 150<sup>th</sup> Entrance Scholarship

Keira Roberts

### University of Otago Pacific Peoples'

#### Entrance Scholarship

Angelica Eri

### University of Otago Maori Entrance Scholarship

Jessica Gooding • Atamai Harriman • Ella Rewi

### New Frontiers Excellence Entrance Scholarship

Pieta Campbell • Bria Cotton • Celia Galvin • Rachel Green  
Zoe Hannan • Emma Ross • Natalie Saunders • Grace Watson

## Massey University

### Massey University Undergraduate First Year Scholarship

Realle Chua • Evie Vuletic

**Lincoln University**  
**Maori Accommodation Scholarship**  
Ella Rewi

.....

**Te Rarawa**  
**Te Rarawa Iwi Scholarship**  
Anna-Lisa Kakino

.....

**Southeast Arkansas College**  
**Softball Scholarship**  
Ellazay Utanga-Fletcher

.....

**University of California, San Diego**  
**Water Polo Scholarship**  
Holly Roberts

.....

**World Aquatics Scholarship to Bond University**  
**Swimming Scholarship**  
Lanihei Connolly

.....

**San Diego State University, San Diego**  
**Swimming Scholarship**  
Lanihei Connolly

.....

## Other Scholarships

**Growing Heart**  
**Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship**  
Keira Roberts

.....

**Growing Heart**  
**HFC Group Engineering Scholarship**  
Jorgia Roberts

.....

**Catholic Diocese of Auckland**  
**Robert Ned Covich Scholarship**  
Emili Snowdon

.....

**Prime Minister's Vocational Excellence Award**  
Jazmin Leith



## 2023 Excellence Course Endorsements

**Congratulations to our students who received Excellence or Merit Endorsements on their NCEA certificates by achieving a set number of credits at Excellence or Merit.**

In addition to overall Endorsements on their NCEA certificates, students can also be rewarded for academic excellence by achieving Excellence Course Endorsements in each subject. To achieve an Excellence Course Endorsement, students must achieve a set number at Excellence, with at least three of those credits achieved from externally assessed standards.

### Level I Excellence Endorsement in five or more courses

**Hiranya Fernando (7)**  
Biological Science, Economics, English, History, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Physical Science, Religious Education

**Ella Nie (7)**  
Design and Visual Communication, English, French, Geography, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Physical Science, Religious Education

**Orla O'Carroll (7)**  
Biological Science, English, History, Physical Education, Physical Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Kate Robinson (7)**  
Accounting, Biological Science, English, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Physical Education, Physical Science, Religious Education

**Joahn Sung (7)**  
Biological Science, English, Geography, History, Spanish, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Religious Education

**Emily Choi (6)**  
Biological Science, Economics, English, History, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Physical Science

**Harriet Johnston (6)**  
Accounting, Biological Science, History, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus, Physical Science, Religious Education

**Jessica Lee (6)**

Year 12 Biology, Computer Science, English,  
Year 12 Mathematics towards Statistics, Physical Science,  
Religious Education

**Sia Okach (6)**

Design Photography Introduction, Year 12 Mathematics towards  
Calculus, Music, Physical Science, Religious Education, Spanish

**Samantha Rowe (6)**

Accounting, Biological Science, English, French,  
Physical Science, Religious Education

**Nia Turner Montes (6)**

Art, Biological Science, English, History, Physical Science,  
Religious Education

**Zara Zazulak-Baker (6)**

Accounting, Dance, English, History, Physical Science,  
Religious Education

**Ysabelle Casimiro (5)**

Biological Science, English, Media Studies, Music,  
Religious Education

**Sadie Costa (5)**

Biological Science, English, History, Mathematics,  
Physical Science

**Maia D'Andrea (5)**

English, Mathematics, Media Studies, Physical Education,  
Physical Science

**Kate Hunter (5)**

Accounting, Biological Science, History, Year 12 Mathematics  
towards Calculus, Religious Education

**Sorren Larsen (5)**

Biological Science, Computer Science, English, Mathematics,  
Physical Science

**Nicole Nobre (5)**

Accounting, Biological Science, English, Physical Science,  
Religious Education

**Saffron Tse (5)**

Accounting, Biological Science, English, Media Studies,  
Religious Education

**Kate Wise (5)**

Biological Science, English, French, History, Religious Education

**Level 2 Excellence Endorsement  
in five or more courses**

**Solana Bayne (7)**

Accounting, Year 13 Calculus, Chemistry, Economics, English,  
Physics, Religious Education

**Chloe Cheng (7)**

Biology, Year 13 Calculus – Advanced, Chemistry,  
Computer Science, English, Physics, Religious Education

**Maddy Meredith (7)**

Biology, Chemistry, English, Mathematics towards Calculus,  
Painting, Physics, Religious Education

**Amber Ong (7)**

Biology, Year 13 Calculus – Advanced, Chemistry,  
Computer Science, English, Physics, Religious Education

**Angelin Austin (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, English, History, Physics,  
Religious Education

**Kerryn Gray (6)**

Biology, Drama, English, Mathematics towards Statistics,  
Media Studies, Religious Education

**Rianna Hall (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, English, History, Physics,  
Religious Education

**Caitlin Murphy (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics towards Calculus,  
Physics, Religious Education

**Olivia Zhu (6)**

Biology, Year 12 Chinese, Year 13 Chinese, English, History,  
Religious Education

**Hannah Brinker (5)**

Biology, Chemistry, Classical Studies, English,  
Religious Education

**Jade Carran (5)**

Biology, English, Physics, Religious Education,  
Year 13 Statistics – Advanced

**Gabrielle Copley (5)**

English, French, History, Music, Religious Education

**Jemma Cronin (5)**

Classical Studies, English, History, Religious Education, Spanish

**Lucea David (5)**

Biology, English, History, Painting, Religious Education

**Isabelle Ekanayake (5)**

Biology, Construction and Materials Technology, Design,  
English, Religious Education

**Gabrielle Francisco (5)**

Chemistry, English, French, Mathematics towards Calculus,  
Physics

**Amy Mason (5)**

Drama, English, History, Music, Religious Education

**Sarah McKechnie (5)**

Biology, Accounting, Economics, Food Innovation Technology,  
Religious Education

**Sienna Mobbs (5)**

Biology, Computer Science, English, Physics,  
Religious Education

**Isabelle O'Connell (5)**

Biology, English, Mathematics towards Statistics,  
Physical Education, Religious Education

# 2023 NCEA Excellence Endorsements

**Congratulations to our students who received Excellence Endorsements on their Level 1, 2, and 3 NCEA certificates in 2023.**

## Level 1 Excellence Endorsements

Ella Aitken  
Giselle Ally  
Maya Anderson  
Catherine Bhanot  
Holly Brown  
Clementine Bulmer  
Ava Bunn  
Anna Butcher  
Mary Carston  
Ysabelle Casimiro  
Lily Chapman-Ruakere  
Emily Choi  
Chloe Chua  
Liliana Cisaria  
Sadie Cormack  
Ellie Cormack  
Sadie Costa  
Meg Courtney  
Keira Croad  
Maia D'Andrea  
Alex Dew  
Zoe Dignan  
Lucia Donnianni  
Lucia Donohoe  
Lauren Draper  
Esmenia D'Souza  
Helena Dunn  
Keira Evans  
Hiranya Fernando  
Ava Flathaug  
Ava Galloway  
Dominique Galvez  
Sophie Gehin  
Lily Goddard  
Hayley Haberfield  
Scarlett Hale  
Rosie Hartnett  
Christie Holloway  
Kate Hunter  
Emma Johnson  
Harriet Johnston  
Alana Kenny  
Sorren Larsen  
Caitlin Lawrence  
Constanza Lazarte-Simic  
Jihyeong Jessica Lee  
Hyunseo Lee  
Emily Lydon  
Makayla Lysaght  
Jullia Machado-Brown  
Victoria Maher  
Kiera Martin  
Amalia Mazzaschi  
Maya McCarthy

Eva McKinstry  
Alice McLaughlin  
Kate Monro  
Isabella Montenegro Raubo  
Samantha Munapeyi  
Ella Nie  
Nicole Nobre  
Jessamyn O'Brien  
Orla O'Carroll  
Katie O'Connor  
Danielle O'Driscoll  
Sia Okach  
Charlotte O'Neill  
Ella Patterson  
Zoe Phillips  
Juliette Rajotte  
Sarah Relf  
Sophia Rhodes  
Gemma Robertson  
Kate Robinson  
Samantha Rowe  
Tayla Rua  
Samara Saunders  
Billie Schuller  
Tessa Sims  
Giuliana Stamilla  
Josephine Stickley  
Joahn Sung  
Rebecca Sutton  
Safira Sasa Syaifudin  
Zoe Thompson  
Ruby Topp  
Saffron Tse  
Nia Turner Montes  
Momoko Ukai  
Zara Wallace  
Molly Walsh  
Amelia Waters  
Isabella White  
Dixie Whiting  
Anna Wilkinson  
Kate Wise  
Anna Worth  
Lexie Wu  
Atea Zapata  
Zara Zazulak-Baker

## Level 2 Excellence Endorsements

Angelin Austin  
Solana Bayne  
Emma Blackie  
Brooke Blakey  
Amelia Bray  
Penny Brill  
Hannah Brinker

### Zara Pinfold (5)

Biology, English, Physical Education, Physics,  
Religious Education

### Kirstin Skeet (5)

Drama, English, Mathematics towards Statistics, Music,  
Religious Education

### Violeta Zalazar (5)

Biology, Design, Mathematics towards Statistics,  
Religious Education, Spanish

### Level 3 Excellence Endorsement in four or more courses

### Elizabeth van Wijk (6)

Biology, Classical Studies, Drama, English, History,  
Religious Education

### Xuan An (5)

Biology, Chemistry – Advanced, Calculus – Advanced, Physics,  
Religious Education

### Liana Carran (5)

Chemistry – Advanced, Economics, English, Religious  
Education, Statistics – Advanced

### Isabelle McDonnell (5)

Chemistry – Advanced, Economics, English, Geography,  
Religious Education

### Sofia Olan (5)

Biology, Classical Studies, English, French, Religious Education

### Jorgia Roberts (5)

Calculus – Advanced, English, Media Studies, Physics,  
Religious Education

### Amelia Scrymgeour (5)

Biology, Chemistry – Advanced, History, Physics,  
Religious Education

### Jessica Stevens (5)

Biology, Dance, History, Religious Education, Statistics

### Naomi Binet-Johnson (4)

Accounting, Chemistry, Religious Education, Spanish

### Grace Carston (4)

Biology, English, History, Religious Education

### Kiri Littlejohn (4)

Economics, English, Religious Education, Spanish

### Emma Newsome (4)

Biology, English, Food Innovation Technology,  
Religious Education

### Elizabeth Portass (4)

Classical Studies, English, Painting, Religious Education

### Natalie Salmon (4)

Drama, English, History, Religious Education

Riaan Bryant  
 Ella Burrett  
 Emily Burrows  
 Victoria Butler  
 Bridget Candy  
 Catalina Cardinali Mundaca  
 Jade Carran  
 Catherine Cavanagh-Ginnelly  
 Chloe Cheng  
 Alex Clarke  
 Mila Conway  
 Stella Cook  
 Gabrielle Copley  
 Gabriella Couper  
 Bailee Courtney  
 Jemma Cronin  
 Jess Crummy  
 Katy Cussins  
 Lucea David  
 Isabel Doyle  
 Isabelle Ekanayake  
 Cathy Ferraby  
 Hannah Fewtrell  
 Taylor Fisher  
 Emily Flexman  
 Giselle Ford  
 Gabrielle Francisco  
 Georgia Fraser  
 Zoe Freeman  
 Kara French  
 Emma Gerrand  
 Emily Gibb  
 Isabelle Gibson  
 Violet Goldsmith  
 Lucia Gordon  
 Addy Gray  
 Kerryn Gray  
 Grace Greaney  
 Paige Grover-Annan  
 Rianna Hall  
 Samantha Hall  
 Ruby Hannan  
 Keira Harvey  
 Marley Hawkesby  
 Freya Holland  
 Charlotte Hurley  
 Solenn Jordan

Annie Kriletich  
 Isabella Lee  
 Georgia Lindroos  
 Morgan Lloyd  
 Sienna Lushkott  
 Emily Maingay  
 Aixa Marco-Ramos  
 Leia Marqués-Ruiz  
 Amy Mason  
 Georgia McDermott  
 Alicia McGivern  
 Sarah McKechnie  
 Hannah McKenzie  
 Charlie McKeown  
 Sasha Melville  
 Maddy Meredith  
 Sienna Mobbs  
 Caitlin Murphy  
 Amelia Nathan  
 Grace Neal  
 Nikita Noble  
 Poppy O'Brien  
 Isabelle O'Connell  
 Amber Ong  
 Mia Palao  
 Eden Pendigrast  
 Isla Petherbridge  
 Zara Pinfold  
 Sarah Pratley  
 Grace Pratt  
 Georgina Reiher  
 Juliene Salivio  
 Alice Sasso  
 Ruby Saunders  
 Kiera Scott  
 Coco Shale  
 Kirstin Skeet  
 Ciara Swan  
 Kate Tuck  
 Edie Tunnicliff  
 Talia Uluinayau  
 Sophia Urlich  
 Caitlin Weir  
 Nyamee Welsh  
 Mae Whiting  
 Mihi Whittington

Jessica Williamson  
 Amanda Wright  
 Violeta Zalazar  
 Olivia Zhu

### Level 3 Excellence Endorsements

Xuan An  
 Sofia Bates  
 Naomi Binet-Johnson  
 Julie Bladinières  
 Sophia Booth  
 Mikayla Brown  
 Mia Bryant  
 Harriet Burrell  
 Pieta Campbell  
 Anastacia Campos  
 Liana Carran  
 Grace Carston  
 Olivia Cavanagh  
 Poppy Cavanagh-Briggs  
 Alina Chen  
 Realle Chua  
 Eden Clark  
 Lanihei Connolly  
 Bria Cotton  
 Molly Culpán  
 Lydia De Montalk-Allen  
 Kate Dryden  
 Phenix Durrant  
 Maggie Flexman  
 Celia Galvin  
 Jorja Gantley  
 Rachel Green  
 Alexia Gribble  
 Zoe Hannan  
 Madison Heffernan  
 Kassandra Hernandez  
 Ciara Hoare  
 Mary Hunter  
 Sofia Hutchinson  
 Anija Irvine  
 Emma Lincoln  
 Kiri Littlejohn  
 Mischa Mardanus-Budiono

Alyssa Martinovich  
 Hannah McCall  
 Isabelle McDonnell  
 Rose McGuire  
 Estee McPherson  
 Alicia Montenegro Raubo  
 Leah Mosen  
 Lucy Mullany  
 Ruby Nathan  
 Alanna Nelson-Weir  
 Emma Newsome  
 Rochelle O'Connor  
 Sofia Olan  
 Kate Parish  
 Joy Park  
 Eva Perese-Wood  
 Matisse Platt  
 Elizabeth Portass  
 Bonnie Rattray  
 Jorgia Roberts  
 Holly Roberts  
 Ava Robertson  
 Eva Roddick  
 Amelia Rojas  
 Emma Ross  
 Audrey Rossolatos  
 Manea Ryan  
 Natalie Salmon  
 Natalie Saunders  
 Amelia Scrymgeour  
 Chelsea Snell  
 Emili Snowdon  
 Jessica Stevens  
 Beth Stringer  
 Zoe Thomas  
 Vanessa Toh  
 Kaitlyn Tomlinson  
 Renee Van Tiel  
 Elizabeth van Wijk  
 Jade Varney  
 Evie Vuletich  
 Emma Wallace  
 Ruby Whetter  
 Ella Williams  
 Charlotte Willoughby  
 Kayley Wilson



Our 2023 Top Scholars



Annaliese Blincoe

We were delighted to welcome alumna Annaliese Blincoe (Class of 1997) as our guest speaker at this year's Scholars Assembly. Annaliese is a Paediatric Immunologist and Allergist, working at Starship Children's Hospital and in private practice, and is one of only four paediatric immunologists in New Zealand. Annaliese emphasised the importance of challenging yourself, and that the sky is no longer the limit – anything can be possible when you are determined enough. She spoke about her years at Baradene and how they have shaped who she is today in both her personal and professional life. Annaliese presented our Top Scholar students with their awards along with Principal Sandy Pasley.



# ACADEMIC DEANS

**Baradene is consistently looking for ways to encourage and support academic achievement.**

In 2023, we established the Academic Dean role at each year level to support our students' academic achievement. They do this by tracking each student's academic progress and liaising with them to ensure they are on track to meet their full academic potential. The establishment of these roles has increased the pastoral and academic care that is available to Baradene students.

## 2024 ACADEMIC DEANS

Mrs Fiona Gillies	Year 13
Mr Micheal Johnston	Year 12
Mrs Jo Proffit	Year 11
Mrs Rachel Blanchard	Year 10
Miss Jess Maclean	Year 9
Miss Laura Thomas	Year 7 and Year 8

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INTRODUCING

**NICOLE  
KNIGHT**HEAD OF  
COUNSELLING

**Our new Head of Counselling shares what makes her role, and the help her team provides, so important.**

**Tell us about your background and career trajectory.**

I am a people person, and a big softie. But I am also a strong advocate for social justice and helping people find their voice. I grew up on the North Shore, but have lived and worked all over Auckland, as well as living in New York and Vancouver for a time. I went to The University of Auckland from school, but the timing for study wasn't right for me and I found myself called to the New Zealand Police, where I had an amazing and varied career. My experiences in the Police highlighted the importance of education, and this led me to pursue studies towards becoming a primary school teacher. I found myself called again to really step into my nurturing role and studied once more to become a counsellor, completing my Master of Counselling with First Class Honours. I absolutely love my job. Everything I have done and experienced throughout life and my varied career has shaped and armed me wonderfully to be able to offer understanding, support, strategies and care in the counselling space – and I truly feel privileged and honoured when people enter the counselling space and share their real selves with me.

**What made you become a school counsellor?**

My career hats have changed considerably, but they always involved working with people – policing, teaching, and now counselling lovely souls. I have seen the positive impact an education can have on a person, and with life getting more complicated and busy, the issues students now face that may distract them from their learning are unfortunately plentiful. I love seeing the change in students as they leave the office so much lighter and happier, ready and able to take on the challenges of school and life.

**Why do you think it's essential for counsellors to be on staff at school?**

It is so important to have counsellors at a school – teachers are amazing at what they do, but they can't do it all, and that's

where the school counsellor can help. When students are struggling with personal issues, it is critical that they receive the right support and guidance to help get them back on track and happy, both in the classroom and life in general.

**What do you think is important for students to know about Baradene's counselling service?**

It is completely confidential. Parents and teachers are not told about what is shared in the sacred counselling space, unless there is an emergency, or you (the student) agree it is best for them.

**What are some common concerns or issues you might deal with as a counselling staff? What can you help with?**

Stress, anxiety, friendship breakups, home/life issues... We can support you through anything and everything if you want us to. We can offer tips and strategies on how to keep the stress and anxiety at bay, manage breakups and all sorts of hard-to-talk-about emotions. When life knocks you down, we help pick you up and get you feeling great again.

**What advice do you have for students when it comes to their mental health and wellbeing?**

Don't struggle alone! It is scary reaching out to someone, but I guarantee you will feel better afterward and, more importantly, you won't feel like you are all on your own going through a tough time. You are NEVER a burden, and we all deserve love and happiness in this life.

**How can students access counselling support?**

Email us at [counsellors@baradene.school.nz](mailto:counsellors@baradene.school.nz), message us on TEAMS, or come and fill out an appointment slip request outside our offices, and if the door is open – come in and have a chat!



# READING MATTERS

## Library Manager Claudine Crabtree highlights the importance of libraries in schools.

Kia ora! Nau mai ki te whare pukapuka. Welcome to the library! I have been the Library Manager for the past five years and love being a school librarian. It is the best job in the world! Our library team includes the wonderful Annie Triggs, whom I have the joy of working with every day, and the fabulous Charlotte Gehin, who works one day a week with us. We also have a fantastic team of student librarians from Years 11 to 13 who help out before and after school and during breaks.



Nine months ago, I was elected to the role of President of the School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa. I was honoured and excited to be Manukura and raise the profile of and highlight the challenges facing school libraries in New Zealand. SLANZA ([slanza.org.nz](http://slanza.org.nz)) has 500 members across Aotearoa, who are passionate about empowering and supporting school library staff, and strengthening and promoting school libraries.

Unfortunately, two-thirds of New Zealand schools do not have a school library staffed by a librarian, with a quality collection of online and print resources. There is a proven and well-researched link between school libraries and literacy rates, so with the declining literacy rate in New Zealand, it is difficult to understand why there isn't a library in every school. Having a library staffed by librarians in all schools to encourage students to read and learn for life is essential.

Baradene's Library, thanks to the support of the Board and Senior Leadership Team, is well-staffed, well-resourced, and fully supported. Located on the third floor of the Duchesne building, our students, staff, and wider community are blessed to have a library at the heart of our school, designed to nurture a love for reading and learning. We are not only part of the school community, but also an important environment for community building.

Everyone is welcome here; we invite staff and students in, hosting book clubs, author visits, events, competitions, classes from all subjects, and the wider Baradene community. The library is a beautiful third space, neither a classroom nor a home; it is a haven for some, a place of discovery for others, where you can learn to better understand yourself, each other, and the world. Hari panui! Keep reading!



*The Library Team: Annie Triggs, Claudine Crabtree, Charlotte Gehin.*

I have always loved books and been an avid reader; bookshops and libraries are my happy place. My favourite part of the job is connecting a student with a book and opening the door to a world of wonder, escape, imagination, and learning through reading.



**“The library is a space for dreaming, wondering, imagining, reading, learning, and relaxing – a community space where everyone is welcome.”**

### NEW SHELVING! NEW PAINT!

How does a school library engage successfully with students, staff and the school community? By inviting them into a space that is friendly, comfortable, organised, accessible and easy to navigate. The library is a space for dreaming, wondering, imagining, reading, learning, and relaxing – a community space where everyone is welcome.

Baradene’s McKinstry Memorial Library, with the very generous support of The Board of Trustees and the School Leadership Team, has recently replaced all the shelving in the library. We now have lower shelf heights, flexible mobile shelving for events and meetings, and an improved layout. Natural light now flows throughout the space, and the collection has a clearer section definition and an arrangement that encourages more browsing with a “discovery” flow.

We can’t wait to welcome everyone in to benefit from all the library offers our community. Thank you, Hydestor, for supplying the new shelving and providing a complete design and installation service. Thanks also to the Baradene College BOT, our Principal Sandy Pasley, and the School Leadership Team for supporting and financing the new shelving.




**Follow the official Instagram account for Baradene College Library.**  
@barabookstagram



### On the small screen

Library Manager Claudine Crabtree and Librarian Annie Triggs appeared on TVNZ’s *Seven Sharp* in March, discussing the importance of school libraries, which are integral to learning outcomes. “Libraries help raise literacy, and they’re not just a place for books; they’re a place for connection and community and collaboration,” Claudine told presenters Hilary Barry and Jeremy Wells. She also said students should know that librarians aren’t the “shushers” of the past, and that she is a “funbrarian”!

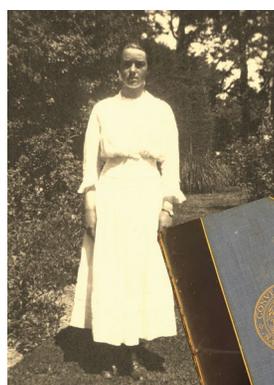


# ARCHIVE TREASURES

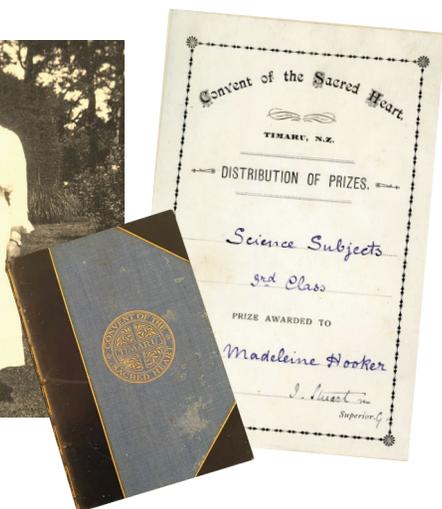
**Our Archivist Yolande van de Wetering shares some unique treasures donated by alumnae.**

Baradene is part of the worldwide Sacred Heart community, but closer to home, we are affiliated with three schools in Australia. In New Zealand, we are the only Sacred Heart school remaining after Sacré Cœur Timaru (1880-1935), Cottesmore College (1963-1976), and Erskine College (1905-1985) sadly closed down. We are very lucky to have some special pieces from alumnae who attended those schools.

Maida Coxhead (née Hooker), who attended Timaru in the early 20th century, donated items from her personal archive. This collection contains copies of photos and also *The History of Richard Raynal* by RH Benson, awarded to her as a science prize and signed by Janet Erskine Stuart RSCJ, who visited New Zealand in 1913/1914. Maida was an accomplished pianist and became a music teacher.

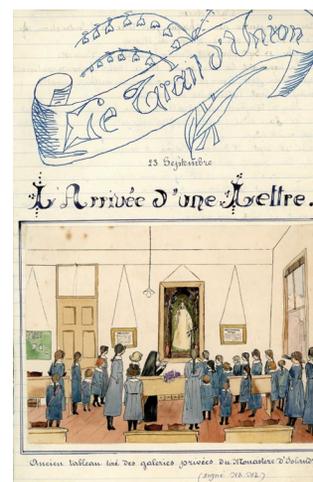
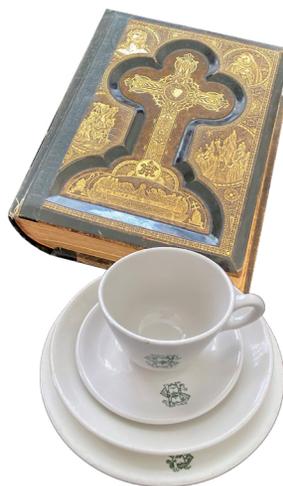


Maida aged 17 in Timaru, 1916.



Part of our collection is a family Bible, dating from around 1880, with a gold embossed leather cover and pages where the births, deaths, and marriages of the members of the McHardy family were recorded. The last recorded date was 1941. Father Emmett McHardy was a frequent visitor to “Remuera” (as Baradene was known) in the 1920s. Father McHardy died of disease at age 28 in 1933, after he was sent to Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, to open a primary school. We assume the Bible came to the Archives via his sister Margaret, who was a pupil here.

We also have crockery with the school emblem that was “souvenired” by boarders just before our boarding school closed down in 1984. The girls smuggled plates and cups hidden under their uniforms out of the dining room. It’s amazing that these pupils had the sense, at such a young age, that history has to be preserved at all costs!



McHardy's family Bible, Sacred Heart crockery, Le Trait d'Union newspaper.

We are fortunate to have a school newspaper, *Le Trait d'Union*, produced by pupils of Erskine during World War I. This newspaper was handwritten in French and illustrated with the most beautiful drawings. Most of the pupils had a very good grasp of French as they were taught by French-speaking RSCJ Sisters.

**We are always happy to receive personal items from alumnae relating to their time at school. If you have items you would like to donate please contact our Archivist Yolande van de Wetering.**

**Email: [yvdwetering@baradene.school.nz](mailto:yvdwetering@baradene.school.nz)**



## A CLOSER LOOK

**The media landscape has changed dramatically in recent years, and Baradene’s Media Studies students are at the forefront of innovation and critical thinking.**

Media Studies plays a crucial role in preparing students for various career pathways in an ever-evolving industry. Our programme, which covers Years 11 to 13, delves into the theoretical and practical aspects of media in which students gain valuable insights into the industry and develop skills to become media literate. Students can analyse texts, study target audiences, explore audience responses, understand commercial considerations, and develop communication skills in group tasks.

The curriculum includes hands-on experiences that mirror the industry, encouraging students to develop skills such as video production, editing, and digital storytelling. These skills are highly transferable and align with many media and communication courses offered at tertiary level.

**“Students with a background in Media Studies are well-equipped with the appropriate tools to succeed in their field.”**



Moreover, Media Studies fosters critical thinking, analytical skills, and the ability to decode messages in different media formats, essential attributes for all professionals, especially in the media realm. Whether pursuing careers in journalism, broadcasting, content creation, media management, or film industry jobs, students with a background in Media Studies are well-equipped with the appropriate tools to succeed in their field.

Recently, Baradene has been fortunate to see interest in the subject grow, leading to the establishment of multiple classes at each year level. We have seen some great success in results, including seven Scholarships in 2022 and five Scholarships in 2023 (including one Outstanding).

While the success in the class has been tremendous, we also have an excellent extra-curricular programme open to all students. Each year, we create teams to participate in the 48HOURS film competition, and this year, we have introduced our very own student-led Film Club. Join the Club to collaborate with fellow film enthusiasts, unleash your creativity, and bring your stories to the big screen. The department looks forward to sharing our passions with like-minded students keen to showcase their talents.



# POLYFEST 2024

**ASB Polyfest is one of the largest Pacific cultural festivals in the world, and Baradene is proud to be part of it.**

This year, six of our cultural groups took to the stage to showcase their talents: Filipino, Chinese, Indian, Samoan, Tongan and Kapa Haka. They performed with pride and grace, and their polished routines demonstrated all of their hard work.

This wouldn't have been possible without the support of the entire Baradene community. We are fortunate to have a passionate group of students, parents, teachers, and supporters contributing to their success. Congratulations to all our cultural groups, with a special mention to those who achieved the following results:

- **Samoan:**  
Togiga – Third  
Taupou/Ma – Third (Ariana Steffany)
- **Kapa Haka:**  
Haka Taparahi – Second







## MUSIC LEADERS 2024

### **Congratulations to our Music Leaders for 2024!**

Baradene's music leaders are selected on the basis of their commitment to the music group, and their musicianship and leadership skills. The leaders serve as role models and mentors for the students in their group. They assist with organising music, instruments, and gear, and help the musical director by communicating messages to the students. They also represent the group at local and national events.

*Pictured above:* Combined Symphony Orchestra Leaders **Sia Okach** (Percussion Leader), **Alex Clarke** and **Georgia Lindroos** (Brass Leaders), **Olivia Zhu** (Concert Master), **Lucea David** (Woodwind Leader).



**Jaeda Ala'alatoa-Dale and  
Milly Summerfield**  
Schola



**Sophia Rojo and  
Naomi Buddell**  
Sophia Choir



**Aleena Joseph and  
Sophie Kim**  
Duchesne Orchestra



**Abigail Lord and  
Tara Kelly-Hulse**  
Clariphones



**Alex Clarke and  
Molly Walsh**  
Concert Band



**Lucy Scrymgeour and  
Ashley Lin**  
Symphonic Band



**Amy Liefing and  
Rosie Beech**  
Jazz Band

**Amy Mason (Year 13)** recently took part in a recording session of the **Stand Up Stand Out** competition's best originals compilation, and played a set at the **Summer SUSO Concert** in February. She tells us about her musical experiences and aspirations.

I have always loved music and performing, and I believe my musical skills have grown through the influence of family and friends. Baradene has offered me many musical opportunities, from learning how to play the guitar in itinerant lessons, to the support of my music teachers, and the School of Rock group which gave me the opportunity to perform with other students, and develop the confidence to write my songs and share them with others.

Taking part in the SUSO recording session was an amazing experience. The studio was well-equipped and I felt like a true professional artist. I recorded an original song called "Lifeline", which was my competition song. The Stand Up Stand Out concert also went really well. It was quite nerve-wracking being on stage performing a 15-minute set, but I put a lot of thought into it and spent time rehearsing my set so that I would be more confident when performing it.

In the future, I'm planning to study law at university, and I still plan on pursuing my music, doing more paid gigs, writing more music, and recording songs to release on music platforms.



**Pianist Ruby Lo (Year 12)** was named **Freemasons Hawke's Bay Young Musician of the Year** in 2023. She started at Baradene this year after moving to Auckland. Ruby recalls her musical beginnings, and shares what she's looking forward to.

My mum started me on piano when I was four-and-a-half, because she also did music as a child. I picked up the flute when I was around nine because I wanted to learn an orchestral instrument. As I got older, I learned to love and appreciate music more, and that has motivated me to keep going.

It was surreal to be named Hawke's Bay Young Musician of the Year. I really enjoy sharing my music, and I'm thankful to everyone who helped me achieve my goals.

Being part of Baradene's Senior Orchestra and Concert Band has exposed me to new styles of music and helped me make new friends. I'm excited to get more experience in ensemble playing and possibly chamber music groups. I'm looking forward to performing in concerts, at music festivals, and some solo performances. Currently, I'm aiming towards my performance assessments for NCEA music and hoping to achieve Scholarship in Music Performance. I took on a few piano students last year and have almost completed the IRMT Foundation course, so I may also take that up again.



## A MUSICAL JOURNEY

**In April, as this issue of *Baradene Heart* was going to print, 49 talented music students departed for a whirlwind two-week tour of Taiwan and Japan.**

This journey was a testament to our students' dedication and musicianship, and a wonderful opportunity for cultural exchange with other Sacred Heart schools, bringing music to local communities and public settings across these vibrant countries.

Preparations for this ambitious tour began in Term 4 of 2023, with music students dedicating countless hours to perfecting their performances. Their hard work and commitment culminated in the March 2024 pre-tour concert, *Sim Kio (Bridge of Hearts)*. This name beautifully encapsulates the spirit of connection and heart-to-heart communication through music. The concert featured both the tour orchestra and individual performers from the group and school community, showcasing the orchestra's impressive repertoire.

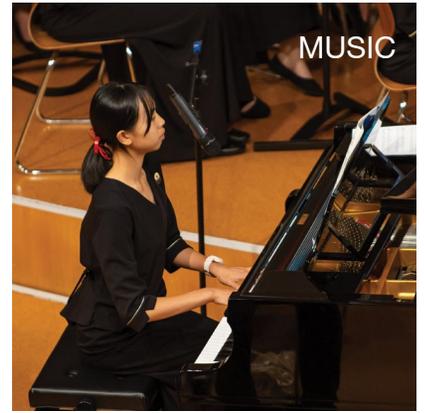
The event also served as an opportunity to raise money for the trip, and enabled Baradene to purchase instruments to gift to a school in need. Caroline Harris, our dedicated Music Administrator, and Richard Neunzerling, who led the Fundraising Committee, played an essential part in making this journey successful. Their tireless efforts in organising fundraising activities and catering for the *Sim Kio* concert played a crucial role in the tour's realisation.

Richard also brought his charisma to the event as the MC, alongside Year 13 student Kirstin Skeet, making the concert even more memorable. With the support of the tour group's families and the wider school community, the Fundraising Committee was able to raise over \$10,000 to put toward the costs of the trip, purchasing gifts for the host families and schools in Taiwan and Japan, and the gift of new instruments for a rural school in Lukang, Taiwan.

The experiences gained over the last few months will have a lasting impact on these young musicians, enriching their lives and furthering their musical journeys. The Baradene College community is incredibly proud of their achievements, and looks forward to more opportunities to share their music with the world. We will report on this exciting trip in our October 2024 issue of *Baradene Heart*.



Asia Music Tour rehearsals and student raffle winner (Claire Shen, Year 11).



**心橋 SIM KIO**

BRIDGE OF HEARTS - BARADENE'S MUSICAL JOURNEY  
TO TAIWAN AND JAPAN

ASIA  
MUSIC  
TOUR  
BARADENE 2024

**FUNDRAISER CONCERT**

FEATURING THE ASIA TOUR ORCHESTRA  
AND SPECIAL GUESTS

**THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2024**

**BARADENE AUDITORIUM**





# Baradene Art Show celebrates 35 years

**As we embark on the 35th year of the establishment of the Baradene Art Show, we take a moment to reflect on the importance of our Baradene community, which works tirelessly each year to put the event together.**

The very first Baradene Art Show took place in 1990 and included a celebrity auction from “artists” such as Sir Edmund Hillary, Dame Susan Devoy, Sir Paul Holmes, and Baradene’s principal at the time, Mr Bill Fryer. Then, as now, this major fundraising event provided vital funds to support the school’s development. In 1990, the money raised was used for refurbishment purposes; this year, we have a beautiful new gym complex to look forward to.

The Baradene Art Show is the biggest event on the PTA fundraising calendar and, as such, relies on a significant

contribution from the network of parents, families, and alumnae to ensure its continued success.

The dedicated team looks after sponsorship, art research, liaising with the artists, communications and marketing, operations, sourcing raffle prizes, developing the catalogue, organising the Art Show café and shop, and many other important tasks.

The Art Show Committee is always looking for new members, so if this sounds like something you would like to help with, please email [admin@baradeneartshow.co.nz](mailto:admin@baradeneartshow.co.nz)

This year, the Baradene Art Show commences on Friday, 23 August, with the popular Gala Opening Night event. It’s always a fantastic occasion to catch up with friends,



1994



1990





**2023**

**“In 1990, the money raised was used for refurbishment purposes; this year, we have a beautiful new gym complex to look forward to.”**

enjoy the delicious catering, and have a glass of wine while taking advantage of the first buying opportunity of the show.

You can visit the Baradene Art Show for free throughout the weekend of 24 and 25 August. All weekend, the on-site café will provide a relaxed spot to escape the crowds, have a coffee and something to eat while contemplating your next art purchase!

Closer to the event, you will be able to visit the dedicated Baradene Art Show website [baradeneartshow.co.nz](http://baradeneartshow.co.nz) to preview some of the incredible artworks offered for sale this year.



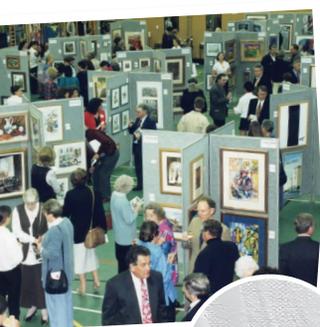
**2016**



**1995**



**2013**



**1996**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**BARA  
DENE  
ART  
SHOW**

**GALA NIGHT  
23 AUGUST**

**FREE ADMISSION  
24 TO 25 AUGUST**

**BARADENEARTSHOW.CO.NZ**

# PTA UPDATE

## Simon Laphorne, Chair of the PTA, invites you to be part of Baradene's "village".



The purpose of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is to support the school and to foster community. The PTA organises a number of events throughout the year, which could not take place without the effort of a group of committed individuals and close collaboration with the school.

We are blessed at Baradene with a dedicated parent and caregiver community that has a diverse range of knowledge, skills, and experience. In my first year as Chair of the PTA, I have received invaluable support and guidance from the school and from parent volunteers.

The PTA's goal in 2024 is to expand our pool of contributors. I recognise that time is a precious commodity, and for many parents, work and/or family commitments limit the time available to undertake volunteer activities, but there are many ways to contribute. You don't have to attend PTA meetings (although we would love to see you!), and there are opportunities to sponsor events and donate raffle prizes, which help raise funds for the school.

Alternatively, if you have a passion for art and would like to join the fantastic group of people that organises the Baradene Art Show, we would love to hear from you.

### PTA Events

The first event of the year on the PTA calendar was the Meet and Greet Evening for the Year 7 parents in February. It was great to meet the new parents and to welcome them to the community. Milli Carnegie and Fleur Curac did a fantastic job organising the event, and I am grateful to Myra Dolon, Cecilia Ruiz-Acosta, Lottie Hart, and Karl Blakie for their help on the night.

We are excited to host our annual Father/Daughter Breakfast on 12 and 13 June this year, and we will announce this year's exciting speaker shortly.

Our main community event of the year is the Baradene Art Show, which will take place from 23 to 25 August. It is the 35th year of the Art Show, which is an impressive milestone.



Left: The very first Art Show in 1990. Above: The 2023 Art Show.

## Be a part of the PTA!

We've all heard the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child" – join the Baradene PTA and become part of our village! The PTA offers a valuable link to your daughter's school and will help you to forge relationships with other parents and teachers in the community.

If you would like to join the PTA or can help in any way, we would love to hear from you.

Email us at: [baradenepta@baradene.school.nz](mailto:baradenepta@baradene.school.nz)

# Many helping hands

At Baradene we are fortunate to have many dedicated parent/caregiver helpers whose efforts add to our Cor Unum spirit and community. Here we spotlight some of the wonderful ways our helpers are involved.

## ~ Social Awareness ~

If you've been a Year 11 (Form 5) student at Baradene any time in the past 38 years or so, you'll likely remember being involved in the Social Awareness Programme.

One term of the programme is dedicated to in-school sessions accompanied by community visits to rest homes, primary schools, and recreational facilities for older adults and people with disabilities, to name a few. The importance of these weekly initiatives can be seen in the development of relationships within the community, and the reflection and personal growth that takes place as a result.

Each Wednesday morning, taxi vans, parent vehicles, and school vans depart from Gate 1, transporting our keen participants to 15 different venues! The support of our parent drivers is essential and enriches the programme. We have captured some of their thoughts about their involvement.



*I wanted to help with driving for the Social Awareness Programme to be involved in serving the school community and to demonstrate that service is sometimes a sacrifice and commitment of our time and energy.*

*I observed the girls responding with empathy and consideration for the students they worked with. I believe they were surprised by and also recognised the abilities of the students, and they gained an insight into the experiences of some people who are very different to themselves.*



*I am delighted to be able to be a parent helper for the Social Awareness Programme this year. I wanted to get involved to support the school and students during an important exercise within our community.*

*It has been wonderful to hear the student group I have taken to St Andrew's Village discussing their experiences each week. Some of these have included their reflection of how it has been such a wholesome experience talking to older people about their many and various life experiences.*

*The students have also been very thoughtful in their preparation about what they could discuss with the group at the rest home.*

*I have been impressed with the students' confidence and energy each week, and I am sure the St Andrew's Village group will be enjoying these regular visits from the Baradene girls.*

**Would you like to join our team of Social Awareness parent helpers? Please email Catherine Everitt at [ceveritt@baradene.school.nz](mailto:ceveritt@baradene.school.nz)**

## ~ Baradene Lunch Bar ~

**Feeding bodies and minds to ensure they're ready for learning is an important service that our Lunch Bar parent helpers provide with a smile.**

Our Lunch Bar provides an important service to the staff and students at Baradene. We aim to provide fresh and nutritious food, within the Ministry of Education and Nutrition Foundation guidelines. This means that we are working hard to produce 75% of our products on-site, with near-zero waste. The Lunch Bar can only be run efficiently with the fantastic support of our volunteers. Our Lunch Bar volunteers have said that being part of the parent helper network gave them a great sense of community, and they enjoyed being part of a team.



Top: Lunch Bar volunteers Sarah Rowley and Helen Ponsonby.  
Bottom: Cate Bus and Catherine de Spa.

“ The time spent in the Lunch Bar is full of fun, with plenty of smiles and laughs, working alongside the good-humoured and extremely hard-working canteen staff. It is great to feel that I am contributing to the goal of producing delicious, fresh, nutritious food for sale, and I am very much looking forward to moving into a fresh, new, purpose-built cafeteria, which I think will certainly become a real hub for the school.

**If you would like to volunteer at the Lunch Bar, please email Judi Delbridge at [lunchbar@baradene.school.nz](mailto:lunchbar@baradene.school.nz)**

## ~ Friends of Music ~

**The Baradene College Friends of Music is an enthusiastic group of parents who come together to support the growth and development of the music programme at Baradene as well as the Music Department.**

They support the music staff by helping to organise weekend workshops and events, providing refreshments for guests to enjoy. Additionally, they organise fundraising projects to help with the costs of musical instruments, tuition, and equipment to keep music accessible for all. In August this year, Friends of Music is hosting and organising the spectacular Baradene and St Peter's College Gala Concert, where our students celebrate and share their musical talent and hard work at Holy Trinity Cathedral.

In September, we will host our Spring Music Festival celebrating our Junior Music Programme. With the help of Friends of Music, the music programme at Baradene has grown, and the number of opportunities our students

have has expanded. Friends of Music is a supportive and fun parent group, giving members the opportunity to share in their daughters' musical journey at Baradene while meeting other friendly, music-loving parents!



**If you would like to join Friends of Music please email Caroline Harris at [charris@baradene.school.nz](mailto:charris@baradene.school.nz)**



# GYMNASIUM UPDATE

**As Baradene’s incredible new gymnasium complex nears completion, we look back on the rapid progress made over the last year.**

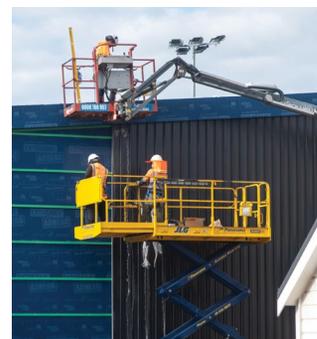
It is amazing to think that this time last year, the construction of the new gymnasium complex was only just getting underway. The old gym was demolished at the beginning of May 2023, and since then, building has accelerated quickly.

On site, the school community has witnessed the transformation as major earthworks were undertaken, followed by the installation of the precast panels, roof, wall and ceiling framing, services, joinery, and insulation. We are now in the home stretch as exterior cladding, interior linings, the installation of the lift, and the final finishing touches are being completed, including the hard landscaping of walls, stairs and bleachers.

The project has proceeded on schedule, and with construction nearly complete, excitement is growing as we realise what an amazing new resource the gymnasium complex will bring to our campus, with its double gymnasium with spectator seating, fitness centre, cafeteria with commercial kitchen, and classrooms. Before we can make full use of the new facilities, we need to fit them out with the necessary sports, fitness, electronics, and kitchen equipment. In June we will be holding our 2024 Giving Week to raise funds for this purpose. Please read more about our Giving Week on page 38.

Thank you to the Property Committee of Baradene College

Limited, and to the construction company, Watts & Hughes, who have worked so hard to bring this vision to life with their skills, professionalism, and dedication. We look forward to welcoming students, staff, and parents into the new gymnasium complex later this year.



*Left: Framing going up in September 2023. Right: Cladding being applied to the completed walls in February 2024.*



*Left: Interior progress as of early March 2024. Right: Interior render by JASMAX of the same view showing what the completed gym will look like.*

## THE NEXT LEVEL



### This year's talented participants in the APS Programme span a number of sports codes.

Our young top sportswomen lead increasingly busy lives, and the APS Programme assists their academic, sporting, and personal endeavours, which are critical to achieving optimal success. We believe a solid, holistic programme which supports, encourages, and educates our athletes and their families is necessary and a vital part of our commitment to the total development of our students.

### Our Mission

We aim to nurture, advise, and support our athletes towards achieving their sporting dreams and aspirations. The essence of a Sacred Heart education is entrenched in total development – spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, cultural, and physical – for our students.



Visit our official Sports social media pages for up-to-date information and results, including our recent successes at the Summer Tournament with Silver in Water Polo (NISS), Silver in Volleyball (NISS Satellite), and Bronze in U15 coxed Octuple (MAADI)!



[facebook.com/baradenesport](https://facebook.com/baradenesport)



[instagram.com/baradenesports](https://instagram.com/baradenesports)

# YSPOTY AWARDS

The Baradene sporting community is extremely proud of our talented athletes.

What a year of sport 2023 was for our many talented sportswomen who were showcased at the College Sport Auckland Young Sportsperson of the Year Awards (YSPOTY) in November last year. Baradene had an all-time high number of 12 athletes named as finalists over 13 categories. We were incredibly proud of all our finalists, and those that went on to be named as winners of their categories.

To top off the evening, basketball player Ritorya Tamiolo (Class of 2023) was awarded Young Sportswoman of the Year. This is an incredible recognition, and a well-deserved award for all her achievements throughout last year.

College Sport Auckland



A record number of 12 Baradene Athletes named as finalists!

FEMALE CATEGORY FINALISTS	
JAEDA ALA'ALATOA-DALE	Archery
AUDREY ROSSOLATOS	Archery
RITORYA TAMILO	Basketball
BONNIE RATTRAY	Cycling
RUBY NATHAN	Football
PENNY BRILL	Football
HOLLY ROBERTS	Football & All Rounder
GEORGIA LINDROOS	Orienteering
ALICIA MCGIVERN	Orienteering
DIXIE WHITING	Sport Climbing
ISABELLE GIBSON	Swimming
AMELIA BRAY	Swimming

FEMALE CATEGORY WINNERS	
JAEDA ALA'ALATOA-DALE	Archery
RITORYA TAMILO	Basketball
RUBY NATHAN	Football
DIXIE WHITING	Sport Climbing
HOLLY ROBERTS	All Rounder

Young Sportswoman of the Year 2023



RITORYA TAMILO



DIXIE WHITING



RUBY NATHAN



HOLLY ROBERTS



JAEDA ALA'ALATOA-DALE

GATE 4

2023 NRL FINALS UNREAL

AAMI PARK THIS FRIDAY, 7:50PM

NRL TICKETS

## COURTING SUCCESS

*Alumnae Cup players outside Rod Laver Arena.*

**Baradene's Tennis programme has grown over the past decade through the efforts of a passionate and dedicated Head Coach.**

Craig Bell has been the Head Coach of Tennis at Baradene for 11 years. He brings a wealth of knowledge and qualifications, including Tennis Australia/Tennis New Zealand (TNZ) Coach, TNZ L1 Competition Coach, International Tennis Federation (ITF) L1 Junior Development Coach, ITF L2 Club Professional Coach, and High Performance TNZ Coach. He is also currently the Vice President of Tennis New Zealand. Over the past 29 years, Craig has been fortunate to work



with players at the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), World Tennis Association (WTA), International Tennis Federation (ITF), and New Zealand representative levels. Craig was also involved in the development of TNZ Junior Players of the Year Sebastian Lavie and Claudia Williams.

Craig believes the true test of a great coach is to be able to coach all types of people, of all ages and abilities, while staying up-to-date with current international coaching techniques.

On court, Craig helps our students with technical and tactical coaching in a relaxed or competitive environment, depending on the students' goals. Craig's continued support, positive energy, and knowledge have created a warm environment for Baradene's tennis players.



Tennis continues to be a popular sport at Baradene. In Term 1, it is open to students in Years 7 to 13, and in Term 4, it is open to students in Years 7 to 10. In Term 1 this year, four Senior and four Junior teams entered the College Sport competition. Our top team, the Senior A team, plays on Wednesdays after school in the Senior A grade, while the other teams play on Saturday mornings at various Auckland venues.

## ALUMNAE CUP TOURNAMENT

In September 2023, 10 students competed in the Alumnae Cup in Melbourne. The Alumnae Cup provides an opportunity for the Sacred Heart schools in the ANZNet province to not only compete against each other, but also to continue building relationships between students and staff. Baradene competes against Kincoppal-Rose Bay (Sydney), Sacré Cœur (Melbourne), and Stuartholme (Brisbane) in singles and doubles matches. We were fortunate to play at Melbourne's top facilities, including Albert Park Tennis Centre and Melbourne Park. The girls played exceptionally well in sweltering 26°C conditions. Baradene won both the A and B grades and made many friends along the way.





# She shoots, she scores!

**Ritorya Tamilo (Class of 2023) is a basketball sensation who recently joined the 2degrees Tall Ferns. Here she tells us more about her sporting career and what it's like playing basketball at the highest level.**

**When and where did you start playing basketball?**

I started playing basketball when I moved to Baradene in Year 7. I had made the Year 7/8B team, and we had Thursday night games down at St Kentigern Boys' School every week. We played against the boys and often lost by a lot, but it was an extremely fun environment.

**What part did your family play in getting you involved in basketball?**

I am the first in my family to play basketball. Both my parents were volleyballers, so it was a new sport for them to take on too. However, they encouraged me to try out for the Auckland representative teams and would sign me up for different training camps to help me develop my skills.

**What was it like playing for Baradene's premier basketball team?**

I am super grateful that I played for Baradene's premier basketball team. I loved having a basketball family and being able to grow with them each season. I am thankful to Andrew Parke and Candice Marsh for coaching me throughout the years.

**What position do you like playing best?**

I prefer playing centre because it is the most suitable position for someone my height/size. I can play to my strengths as a centre on both offence and defence.

**What is a memory you have related to your time playing basketball for Baradene?**

Throughout my years of playing basketball for Bara, a special memory of mine would be qualifying for the 2023 Secondary Schools Basketball Nationals. Here, we placed 13th in the country, which was a great way to end our 2023 season.

**How did your involvement with the 2degrees Tall Ferns come about?**

Before being involved with the 2degrees Tall Ferns, I had been selected in the U16 and U17 New Zealand



UP-AND-COMING TALENT

**“Travelling to China and playing against some of the best teams in the world was a surreal experience that I am thankful I got to be a part of.”**

representative age groups that travelled to Jordan for the Asia Cup and to Hungary for the World Cup Tournament in 2022. These tours gave me a lot of exposure and put me in a great position to be considered for the Tall Ferns team. In 2023, I was selected to be part of the Tall Ferns squad for the very first time to travel on the Europe tour to Serbia and Turkey, then again for the Asia Cup tour in Australia. More recently, I was selected as part of the team for the 2024 Pre-Olympic Qualifying Tournament held in China.

**What was it like being named to the 2degrees Tall Ferns roster this year?**

It was awesome to be named to the Tall Ferns roster again this year. Another great opportunity to learn, grow, and play alongside some talented and experienced players. Travelling to China and playing against some of the best teams in the world was a surreal experience that I am thankful I got to be a part of.

**What’s some good advice you have received from a coach or teammate over the years?**

Good advice that I have received over the years is to have a “next play” mentality. This means to focus on the next play or next move instead of pondering on mistakes you might have made.

**What is some good advice you would give to other young women who want to play sport?**

The advice I’d give to other girls/young women playing sports is to work hard. All sports require time and effort to improve your skills. In saying this, make sure you’re also having fun. Enjoy the game and the journey.



*At right: Ritorya with her parents at the 2023 YSPOTY Awards, where she won the Basketball category and was named overall Young Sportswoman of the Year.*





# RSCJ NEWS

## On 9 September 2023, Sister Barbara Crombie RSCJ celebrated 80 years since she made her religious vows.

To mark this auspicious occasion, Father Tony Dunn celebrated Mass for the community and invited guests, followed by a special morning tea and a screening for her guests of the movie *With the Heart of an Educator*. Sister Crombie celebrated her 102nd birthday the following day.

Congratulatory cards and letters came from many people in different parts of the world, all of whom had known and loved Sister Crombie. At right she is pictured holding a letter of loving appreciation from an RSCJ Sister in the Indian Province, recognising her 21 years in India. Sister Crombie lived, worked, and prayed in an ashram in the foothills of the Himalayas, serving the God-seekers who came to visit.

We wish Sister Crombie all the best for her 103rd year!



## We are pleased to share RSCJ news from the Australian Schools in our Sacred Heart network.

In May 2023, Sister Mary Shanahan RSCJ OAM was awarded the Honor of Croce Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, for her distinguished services to the Church in the Archdiocese of Sydney and Australia. The Papal Honour was presented to Sister Shanahan at



Sancta Sophia College by His Grace the Archbishop of Sydney, Anthony Fisher OP. Archbishop Fisher was effusive in his praise of her work, acknowledging the immense impact that she has had on the Church.

Sister Shanahan's career has encompassed multiple leadership roles within the Society of the Sacred Heart, at Sancta Sophia College and at Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart, where she has been a Director of the School Board. She was Provincial of the Society in Australia and New Zealand for five years, and was called to Rome to be on the

General Council for six years. She has served as both Vice Principal and Principal of Sancta Sophia College within the University of Sydney. Sister Shanahan is currently involved in spiritual formation at Kincoppal-Rose Bay and Sancta Sophia. She is well-loved by all those she works with, including staff, parents, and students. Her presence as an RSCJ is of great significance, demonstrating that the charism of Sacred Heart education is wholly contemplative and wholly active.



Words and images courtesy of Kincoppal-Rose Bay.



## REST IN PEACE



**Sister Margaret D'Ath RSCJ passed away on 5 February 2024 at the age of 99.**

Margaret D'Ath and her twin sister Joan were born in Otaki on 30 June 1924. As a baby, Margaret contracted a mild form of polio and was sent to hospital in Rotorua for treatment, where she remained until she was two. Polio left her with a limp, but despite this impediment, she enjoyed a vigorous and carefree childhood with her siblings, roaming the countryside among hills, rivers, and beaches, often on their bikes.

Margaret attended the local convent school and determined at the age of five to become a nun. For her secondary education she was sent to board at Sacré Cœur, Island Bay,



later known as Erskine College. Margaret loved Erskine – its ethos, its sense of internationality, the kindness of the RSCJ Sisters, and the classic arts-based curriculum. After an initial period during which she admitted to being “very bold” and pushing boundaries, Margaret settled down. She remained at Erskine for five years and was Head Girl for two consecutive years.

After leaving school, Margaret worked for a short time in Wellington. Then in 1942, with Japanese submarines lurking in Sydney Harbour, she travelled by flying boat to Rose Bay

and entered the Noviceship there, taking to religious life like a duck to water. After completing an Arts degree at Sancta Sophia College within Sydney University, and following Probation in Rome in 1951, Sister D'Ath began 10 happy years at the Sacred Heart schools of Kincoppal-Rose Bay, Baradene, and Erskine, teaching Religion, History, Maths, and Languages. She was well respected as an extraordinarily gifted, resourceful, and thorough teacher.

In the 1960s Sister D'Ath was a lecturer, then Principal, at Loreto Hall Teachers' Training College. She then spent two years on the staff at Christ College in Melbourne, returning to New Zealand in the early 1970s to become a primary schools' adviser, touring the Auckland diocese from Hokianga to Taumarunui. The mid-70s brought unsettled times with the changes of Vatican II, and after a time of further study and renewal overseas, she returned to teaching, this time at Woldingham, a Sacred Heart school in Surrey, England.

In the early 1980s, Sister D'Ath came back to New Zealand for the final time, and worked for many years in the Catholic Education Office in Wellington and Christchurch. Sister D'Ath was the local Superior for the RSCJ Sisters at Baradene Convent from 1999 to 2001. She later trained in Canon Law and worked in the Auckland Diocesan Tribunal until well into her 80s. For a number of years she was a member of a small community in Massey, before returning to Baradene.

Sister Margaret D'Ath was much-loved by her fellow Sisters and all in the Baradene community, and by her extended family. Her nieces and nephews visited her regularly and described their “Aunt Peg” as full of life, with her clever brain always so active, her sense of humour always to the fore, and with a non-judgmental attitude of love and fairness. She will also be remembered fondly by the students she taught at Baradene, many of whom she continued to keep in touch with over the years.

# GROWING HEART NEWS

**Growing Heart has now paid or committed more than \$700,000 in grants, students scholarships, and awards. We would not be able to do this without the support of our generous community. Thank you!**

We are all part of an incredibly special and connected Baradene community, with a history going back 115 years.

The many parents, grandparents, past parents, and alumnae who contribute to Baradene and to Growing Heart are testament to what Baradene means to them. They feel a desire to be part of the Baradene community, “give back”, and support Baradene to secure its future... And Baradene needs this support.

Many of the facilities enjoyed by students today are the result of the efforts of previous generations of the Baradene community – the Auditorium, Sophia Chapel, Conservatoire du Musique and hockey facilities, and Makerspace being recent examples. Unfortunately not all educational initiatives are able to be financed by parent contributions or by the Ministry of Education, so there is a real need for fundraising for projects such as these.

## **Giving Week 2024**

This year, Growing Heart continues to focus on fundraising to complete the fit out of the new gym complex so that it is fully equipped and ready for students to use later this year.

To make an exceptional sports and fitness complex for our students, and a vibrant hub for our Baradene community, we need:

- Court equipment – posts, hoops, backboards, nets, dividing curtains
- Fitness Centre and sports equipment
- Audio visual, electronics equipment, and PA system
- Cafeteria/kitchen equipment and furniture

This wonderful new facility will enable Baradene to offer on-site, indoor sports trainings/games, fitness programmes, and interschool competition games. It will provide all our students with amazing new opportunities to experience the

**“Many of the facilities enjoyed by students today are the result of the efforts of previous generations of the Baradene community.”**

positive impact of physical activity and sport on health and wellbeing and performance in all aspects of school life.

Our 2024 Giving Week will be held in June to raise funds to complete the fit out. We are creating a Donor Plaque to display the names of all who contribute \$1,000 or more to the gym fit out campaign (whether in 2023 or 2024). Donations of less than \$1,000 to the 2023 Giving Week can be “topped up” this year to reach the threshold. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a lasting impact. Further details will be provided in the coming weeks.

We would appreciate your support for this campaign.

*Fit for  
their future*

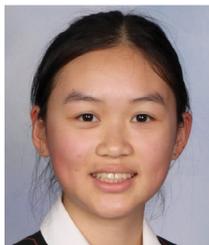


Please mark in your diaries...

**BARADENE GIVING WEEK  
14 - 21 JUNE 2024**

**Congratulations to the 2023 Deirdre McKay Piano Award Recipient, Ella Nie.**

Thanks to the generous bequest of alumna Deirdre McOnie (née McKay), this scholarship is awarded each year to a promising Year 11 piano student to assist with the costs of piano tuition.



**The 2023 HFC Group Engineering Scholarship recipient is Jorgia Roberts (Class of 2023).**



Our thanks to the HFC Group for again offering a scholarship to a Year 13 Baradene student planning to study engineering at a New Zealand university. This scholarship will assist Jorgia with the costs of her Bachelor of Engineering studies at Canterbury University.

**Teacher Professional Development Grant**

Growing Heart has made a grant to contribute to the costs for a teacher, selected as a fellow, to participate in the 2023-2024 Global Action Research Collaborative on Girls' Education 2023-24, researching "Engaging the Power of Many Voices: Leveraging girls' collaborative spirit towards courageous and joyful learning".

***With the Heart of an Educator: Stories from the Religious of the Sacred Heart, Baradene Convent***

We are pleased that there is such demand from our community for more screenings of this special film. There will be an opportunity for alumnae to view it as part of the Alumnae Association 100 year celebrations, and for parents to see it later in the year. We are also planning online screenings.

**Thank you for your support. Growing Heart contact details:**

Anna Stone (Class of 1978), phone: 09 524 6019 ext 865  
Email: [development@baradene.school.nz](mailto:development@baradene.school.nz)

**Congratulations to the 2023 Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship recipient Keira Roberts (Class of 2023).**

This scholarship fund was established in 2020 thanks to a generous bequest of \$100,000 from Josephine McHugh (née Barnao), alumna and past Principal of Erskine College. It is awarded to a deserving Year 13 student to provide financial assistance towards the costs of first-year study at a NZ university. Keira has commenced her first year at Otago University, and says, "I will be studying a Bachelor of Arts and Science (BASc) in neuroscience and psychology, which will be the foundation of my ultimate goal to become a neuropsychologist, a specialist on how brain injuries and conditions affect your behaviour, thinking and mood. This scholarship supports my passion for understanding the human mind. I am excited to contribute to the field of neuroscience and psychology, and I am grateful for the opportunities that the Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship has provided me. I am eager to make a positive impact in these fields in the future."



.....

**2022 Erskine Barnao Scholarship recipient, Jodi Orias**, having successfully completed her first year of a Bachelor of Architectural Studies at Victoria University, is now undertaking her second year. She reports: "This degree is challenging and requires a lot of work. The Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship has made it possible for me to devote my time to my studies and has assisted me in fulfilling my dream of becoming an architect."

**We wish both Keira and Jodi well with their studies. Applications for the 2024 Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship will open in the middle of the year.**

**How to donate to Growing Heart**

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](http://baradene.school.nz/our-community/growing-heart) and donate! 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.





*Alumnae class reunion in 1937.*

## Celebrating a century of sisterhood: The Baradene Alumnae Association turns 100!

As the Alumnae Association celebrates its centennial this year, we reflect on a legacy steeped in camaraderie, growth, and cherished memories. A journey that began a century ago has blossomed into a vibrant tapestry of shared experiences, lifelong friendships, and unwavering support.

An extract from the *Baradene Golden Jubilee Magazine* states: "It was on 31 May 1924 that our Old Girls' Association came into being officially. We say 'officially' for, of course, there had been annual reunions for several years before that... In 1924 the numbers warranted the establishment of a formal Association with rules and procedure. That memorable day was our real birthday."



## Centenary Celebration Day

*Sunday 19th May, 2024*

Our Alumnae Association stands as a testament to the enduring *Cor Unum* spirit and values instilled within our community. Few alumnae associations can boast a century-long history, making this milestone even more special. We look forward to welcoming alumnae to our 100 year celebration on 19 May 2024. For centenary celebration enquiries, please email [alumnae@baradene.school.nz](mailto:alumnae@baradene.school.nz) or phone 09 524 6019 ext 865.

As we embark on the next chapter of our storied history, let us carry forward the legacy of sisterhood, excellence, and service that has defined the Baradene alumnae community for the past century. Here's to the next hundred years of memories, milestones, and enduring friendships!

## Reunions

We have been so pleased to see alumnae reunions taking place over the last few months. In October 2023, the Class of 1957 held their reunion in the Baradene Parlour, and the Class of 1961 (who have been meeting consistently since 1979!) held their reunion in November. The Class of 1963 reunited in February with a reunion lunch and a school tour the following day. We will be hosting the annual 5-Year Reunion on Friday 21 June – this year we welcome the Class of 2019.



*From top left: Class of 1963, Class of 1957 (Third Form Class of 1953), Class of 1961 (School Certificate Class of 1959).*

*We would love to see your reunion photos! Please email [alumnae@baradene.school.nz](mailto:alumnae@baradene.school.nz) to share them with us.*

## Alumnae Archives

In keeping with our commitment to preserving the rich history of Baradene, we extend a heartfelt invitation to donate any treasured items you may have to our Archives. From photographs and memorabilia to personal stories and mementos, your contributions will help ensure that future generations continue to learn from and be inspired by our collective journey. Read more about the Archives and how you can donate on page 16.

## ALUMNAE MERITAE AWARD 2023

The Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award 2023 High Tea was a delightful occasion filled with laughter, warmth, and admiration as we celebrated our award recipient Dame Helene Quilter DNZM QSO (Class of 1971).

Set in the sunny atrium, old friends reunited and new connections were forged over cups of tea and pastries. Dame Helene's presence added a special charm to the event as she graciously shared anecdotes from her illustrious journey. Her inspiring story resonated deeply with attendees, highlighting her commitment to championing women in the workplace, her support of the visual and performance arts in New Zealand, and her steadfast support of Baradene. Her passion for education and advocacy for women's rights reflect the Cor Unum spirit treasured by all Baradene students, past and present, making her a truly deserving recipient of the Meritae Award.

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Meritae Award. Please visit [www.baradene.school.nz/alumnae/meritae-award](http://www.baradene.school.nz/alumnae/meritae-award) for more information.





## ERSKINE CHAPEL

**In October 2023, Erskine Chapel was reopened as an event space after a thoughtful refurbishment project.**

Opened in 1906, Erskine College (also known as the Convent of the Sacred Heart Island Bay, Sacré Cœur Island Bay, or simply Island Bay) was one of the four schools established by the Society of the Sacred Heart in New Zealand and was, together with Baradene, a member of ANZNet, the Australian New Zealand Network of Sacred Heart schools, up until its closure in 1985. Erskine College was designed by notable Wellington architect John Sydney Swan, who also later designed the Erskine Chapel, which was built adjoining the main convent during 1929-1930. Erskine Chapel is considered to be New Zealand's finest French Gothic-style chapel, and is listed as a Heritage New Zealand Category 1 Historic Place. The Chapel's wonderful acoustics have attracted many musicians of note over the years, including the Vienna Boys' Choir.

Many Baradene pupils spent time at Erskine, particularly due to the Helen's Trophy (pictured below), an annual competition between the New Zealand Sacred Heart schools: Baradene, Erskine, and Cottesmore, with a number of events including netball, volleyball, debating, and general knowledge quizzes.



Each school took turns to host, and the trophy was retained by the winning school for the year. The trophy was donated by William Bradshaw in memory of his wife, Helen (née O'Leary-Fay), who was an alumna of the Convent of the Sacred Heart Island Bay in the late 1920s and died in 1973. The trophy is a carved wooden Māori figure on a solid base with an engraved silver shield recording the year and winning school.

After Erskine closed in 1985, the site was home to various creative groups but sadly, over time, the buildings fell into disrepair, became abandoned, and were eventually red-stickered. In 2000, the Erskine site was purchased by developer Ian Cassels of The Wellington Company. There was opposition to Erskine being redeveloped into housing, but the Environment Court ultimately ruled that the school buildings could be demolished but the Chapel must be restored. Erskine alumna and Wellington City Councillor Nicola Young worked closely with The Wellington Company to help save the Chapel.

Significant strengthening work was undertaken on the Chapel, and the roof was fully restored, complete with heritage ochre-red cladding. The intricate details inside the Chapel were then restored, which included significant carpentry, leadlight windows, and Italian Carrara marble.

**“This restoration is a gift that has been well worth waiting for.”**

Erskine Chapel officially reopened on 26 October 2023. Now lovingly returned to its former glory, it sits among an award-winning residential development of 97 homes. Members of the community, stakeholders, alumnae, media, and the project team enjoyed an evening of celebration on

the opening night. Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ, Baradene alumna and former teacher at Erskine College, attended the celebrations. A few days later, on a sunny Wellington day, a public open day and market were held to celebrate the reopening. After visiting the restored Chapel, Erskine alumna Mary-Anne Bourke noted, “You’re reminded of what a massive and complex job it must have been to strengthen and restore this very special part of the old school when you see the photos showing the state it had got into through the last couple of decades... This restoration is a gift that has been well worth waiting for, and I wish to add this note of appreciation and sincere thanks to all those involved along the way and to the developer, Ian Cassells of The Wellington Company.”

**A few words from Nicola Young, Erskine Head Girl 1971 and Wellington City Councillor**

*“It was emotional to attend the Erskine Chapel reopening, after almost 40 years of neglect. As an alumna (from the age of eight), former Head Girl, and now a Wellington City Councillor, I worked with the owners (The Wellington Company) to gain support for the redevelopment from fellow alumnae and local Island Bay residents, many of whom had never been inside. I helped ensure some of the RSCJ Sisters were commemorated by the street names in the development – Sister Erica Pabst, for example. Then, as the restoration neared completion, I helped with the placement of fixtures, including the Stations of the Cross (although a few are missing), and tracked down a late-1960s recording of the students singing hymns, which was used during the reopening. The restored Chapel is now a popular venue for weddings, funerals, concerts, and other social gatherings.”*



Nicola Young, Wellington City Councillor and Erskine alumna, with Ian Cassells of The Wellington Company at the Erskine Chapel reopening.



Above: Photos of the restored Chapel. Below: Sister Anne de Stacpoole RSCJ and Erskine alumna at the Chapel during a preview visit in 2023. Archive photo of the Chapel from the Wellington City Libraries Constable Postcard Collection.



**Erskine Alumnae Event**

Organised by Erskine alumna Monica Tresch

**All Erskine Old Girls and Staff are warmly invited to a service at Erskine Chapel followed by Morning Tea.**

**Date:** Saturday, 8 June 2024

**Time:** Arrive at 9.30am; service starts at 10am

**Venue:** Erskine Chapel, Avon Street, Island Bay

Morning tea will be served from 11am to 12pm.

Erskine Chapel will be open for Old Girls and staff to visit from 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

**Please RSVP by completing the form at [bit.ly/3T8oEz7](https://bit.ly/3T8oEz7) or email [monicatresch@gmail.com](mailto:monicatresch@gmail.com)**

*Note: There is no parking; bus, taxi, or Uber are advised.*

To learn more about the Chapel restoration project and to see more photos visit [erskinechapel.co.nz](https://erskinechapel.co.nz)

We congratulate two alumnae on their recent appointments as Judges of the High Court of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

## MICHELE WILKINSON-SMITH (Class of 1988)



**In January 2024, Michele Wilkinson-Smith (née Wilkinson), Crown Solicitor for Whanganui, was appointed a Judge of the High Court.**

Michele attended Baradene from Form 1 in 1982 until the end of Form 6 in 1987, before spending Form 7 as a boarder at Woodford House. Michele has many happy memories of her six years at Baradene, with House Parades for the swimming sports a particular highlight.

Michele attended the University of Auckland, graduating with LLB (Hons) in 1993. She commenced practice with law firm Brewer Mazengarb in New Plymouth, becoming a partner of Auld Brewer Mazengarb and McEwen in 1998. Specialising in criminal law, Michele became a barrister sole in 2004, practicing as both a defence barrister in Auckland and a Crown panel prosecutor in Palmerston North. In addition, Michele was a member of the legal aid review panel, a visiting Justice at Whanganui prison, and a member of the Legal Aid Performance Review Committee. Michele was also involved with the Taranaki District Law Society, holding various roles including President, and on the faculty of the New Zealand Law Society Litigation Skills Programme. In 2016 Michele was appointed as the Crown Solicitor

for Whanganui. At this time, she set up legal offices in Whanganui with her husband Chris Wilkinson-Smith, also a lawyer.

During her career, Michele appeared in several high-profile criminal cases and in New Zealand's appellate courts. At her swearing-in, it was noted how unusual it was for a Judge to have had experience with both criminal defence and prosecution work. She was described in media reports as a "distinguished legal professional who brings a wealth of experience to the bench".

## LAURA O'GORMAN (Class of 1990)

**In October 2023, alumna Laura O'Gorman KC was sworn in as a Judge of the High Court by Chief Justice Helen Winkelmann.**

At her swearing-in, Laura was described as a "highly effective litigator who is strongly principled, kind, calm, with a strong sense of morality and social justice."

Laura remembers her Baradene years fondly, and while a student here, she not only excelled academically, becoming Dux in her final year, but also pursued a wide range of cultural and sporting interests. After leaving Baradene she studied at the University of Auckland, graduating with conjoint Law (Hons) and Commerce degrees in 1996. Laura commenced her career at law firm Buddle Findlay, then travelled to the United Kingdom and completed her LLM at the University of Cambridge in 1999. Returning to New Zealand, Laura also returned to Buddle Findlay, becoming a partner in 2005.

Laura joined Bankside Chamber as a barrister sole in 2019 and was appointed QC in June 2021. Prior to joining Bankside Chambers, Laura had been a partner at Buddle Findlay for 14 years. Laura's practice included a broad range of commercial litigation with specialist expertise in insolvency, competition law, judicial review and statutory appeals, conflict of laws, company law, and contractual disputes.



## EMILIA WICKSTEAD

**It was thrilling to learn late last year that alumna Emilia Wickstead (Class of 2001) had been selected to design the new uniform for Air New Zealand.**

Emilia was chosen from a large number of talented New Zealand designers who applied for the coveted role of dressing 5,000 customer-facing Air New Zealand staff. Emilia's design will replace Dame Trelise Cooper's koru patterns, worn since 2011. Previous uniforms have been designed by Zambesi, Nina Ricci, and the House of Dior.

Famous for her tailored and elegant look, Emilia's designs are favoured by royalty, prime ministers, politicians, women of influence, actresses, and celebrities alike. Emilia's design hallmarks are timelessness and effortless femininity, and her silhouettes are precise, architectural, and designed to be flattering. She is known for blending tradition and modernity in pieces which appear simultaneously classic and fresh.

Emilia said that her "key inspiration is the heritage of Aotearoa" and the uniform will be "a real tribute to Māori heritage through the print design." The Air New Zealand project does mark a departure for Emilia in that it is the first time she will be designing menswear. The airline described her designs as creative and unique, yet functional and comfortable, and said that sustainability was a key consideration. Emilia says designing the airline's new uniform is "a true passion project". Her designs will be revealed in late 2024.

In a Newshub article, Emilia remarked, "My approach to the uniform centres around a deep respect for New Zealand's cultural heritage. First and foremost, it is inspired by people. I'm a big believer that clothing can be transformative, uplifting, and empowering, and my hope is that the new uniforms will instil a sense of pride and purpose in Air New Zealand's incredible, world-class team."

In a post on her personal Instagram @emiliapialuisawickstead

**"I'm a big believer that clothing can be transformative, uplifting, and empowering."**

Emilia referred to her appointment by Air New Zealand and paid tribute to Baradene and the lifelong friends she made here, writing, "Aotearoa. This year I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to create an even greater connection with my homeland through my work with Air New Zealand. Reflecting back on my early years, one of the greatest gifts I've been given in life is my upbringing in New Zealand. From carefree, barefoot days on the beach to happy memories of friends and mentors at school, Baradene College of the Sacred Heart taught me so much... Where I met my best friends and where we had the time of our lives! Almost three decades on, these were the friends by my side when I arrived in Auckland last month for a special welcome and blessing to celebrate my announcement as Air New Zealand's next uniform designer. From a dream born there moons ago, I couldn't be more thankful, or more excited, to continue the journey into this new year. Me at 13 with a very short hair cut and not a care in the world!"



We are proud of Emilia's fantastic achievement, and she is something of a "frequent flyer" in *Baradene Heart* magazine; you can read more about Emilia in Issue 15: October 2023, Issue 8: October 2019, and Issue 4: October 2017, which also features photographs of Emilia as guest speaker at a gathering of alumnae in New Zealand House, London.

# A LIFELONG CONNECTION

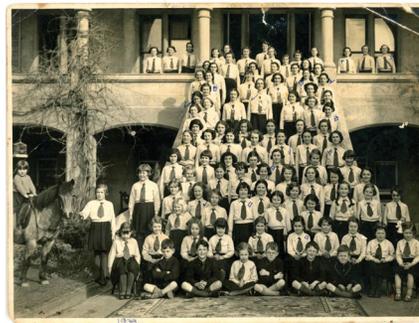
**Four generations of the Ferguson, Wilson, MacDonald, and Williamson family have all attended Baradene.**

Alumna John Wilson, who attended primary school at Baradene from 1939 until 1942, recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Yes, there were once boys at Baradene! In November 2023, John celebrated his milestone birthday with Jean, his wife of 64 years, and a host of friends and family, including his daughters, Madeleine (Class of 1985) and Barbara Williamson (née Wilson, Class of 1989), and Barbara's daughters Jessica and Charlotte Williamson, who currently attend Baradene in Years 13 and 10 respectively. John's mother, Jessie Wilson (née Ferguson) also attended Baradene, then known as The Convent of the Sacred Heart, Remuera, as did Jessie's sister Dorothy MacDonald (née Ferguson).

Jessie married Gordon Wilson, and they initially raised their family of five children on a farm in Te Aroha. Jessie was determined her children would also have the benefit of a Catholic education, and they sent their eldest child Peter to board with family and attend St Peter's College, Auckland. At the time, travelling from the Waikato to Auckland was no easy feat, and cars would have to stop at the bottom of the Bombay Hills to put chains on their tyres so they could climb the hill! With many years of schooling ahead for their children, Jessie and Gordon moved the whole family to Auckland. Their daughter Ann (Class of 1955), and sons Douglas, Lindsay, and John all attended the junior school at Baradene. While Ann stayed on at Baradene, the boys went to Sacred Heart College, then situated in Ponsonby. Coming from a farm, John and his siblings no doubt enjoyed the animals which were then kept at Baradene. A favourite archive photo shows John and his cousins

Tony and Alec MacDonald riding the school pony, Lassie.

Over the years, many of Jessie's extended family members have also attended Baradene, including John's cousins, MacDonald and Ferguson nieces, nephews, and great-nieces; Jessie's granddaughter Elizabeth Wilson, and her great-granddaughter Ally Stokes (Class of 2014).



*Above from left: A recent photo of John Wilson, the Baradene boys in the front row of the school photo. Below: John, Tony, and Alec with Lassie.*



## Alumnae Milestones

**Share with us in celebrating Baradene alumnae and the significant moments in their lives.**

**Congratulations to the following alumnae on their professional and personal achievements.**

**Jane Patterson ONZM (Class of 1985)** was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for Services to Sports Administration in the New Year's Honours. Jane is an experienced event management professional and was Chief Operating Officer (New Zealand) for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023. Jane had previously been appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in 2016.

**Dr Therese Lautua (née Kiely, Class of 2010)** is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Theological and Religious Studies at the University of Auckland. Therese received her PhD in Theology in 2021 and was recently a keynote speaker at the Practical Theology in Oceania Conference. In the middle of this year, Therese is taking up a position of College Fellow in Indigenous Religion at Harvard University with the Committee on the Study of Religion in the Faculty of Arts and Science. As well as continuing her own research, Therese will be teaching courses in Pacific Spiritualities and Theologies.

In November 2023, **Sarah Murray (Class of 2002)** became the new owner of *Fashion Quarterly* magazine. Sarah successfully led the FQ team for two-and-a-half years prior to the purchase and remains in her role as Editor-in-Chief to steer the brand into the future.



In January 2024, **Alicia Murray (Class of 1997)** joined specialist law firm Matthews Law as a partner. Alicia is an experienced commercial litigator specialising in competition and consumer law and was previously a partner at DLA Piper.



**Michelle Dianne Kidd, QSM, Baradene Alumnae Association Meritae Award recipient 2016 (Class of 1965)**, recently retired after more than a quarter of a century at Auckland District Court. Known as “Whaea”, Michelle is an advocate of restorative

justice, and brought an element of compassion and understanding to those affected by the criminal justice system, in particular the homeless, the vulnerable, and the addicted. Michelle credits the time she spent among nuns, including her time at Baradene, for teaching her to be humble in her work and to walk beside people who need help. Michelle has been instrumental in setting up new pathways for criminal justice, including Te Kooti O Timatanga Hou – The Court of New Beginnings, the Tamaki Makaurau Family Violence Therapeutic Court, and a Custodial Medical Dual Diagnosis Unit. Her office in the District Court was filled with photos of the people she has helped, and the artwork they have gifted her.

In December 2023, **Charlotte Crean (Class of 2022)** and **Laura Oei (Class of 2022)** travelled to Wellington to receive their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards, presented by the Duke himself, HRH Prince Edward.

**Juliet Nelson (Class of 2016, Dux)**

was invited to attend the Global Youth Scientists Summit (GYSS) held in Singapore in January. GYSS is a Summit for younger scientists and researchers which provides a platform for conversations on science and research, technology innovation and society, and solutions to global challenges. Juliet was sponsored to attend the Summit as a Discovery Scholar of the McDiarmid Institute.



**Bridget Strand (Class of 2003)** was first violin for both *Synphony in the Snow*, held at Coronet Peak, Queenstown in August 2023, and *The Music Man*, held at Auckland's Aotea Centre in October 2023.

In October 2023, alumnae **Amy Laithwaite (Class of 2020)**, **Emma Mazzaschi (Class of 2021)**, and **Chloe Bagayas (Class of 2017)** joined two of Baradene's senior music students, Alina Chen and Alex Clarke, in the Auckland Youth Choir/Auckland Youth Orchestra Concert Series, performing Beethoven's *9th Symphony* in Whangarei, Hamilton, and the Auckland Town Hall.

Four alumnae from the **Class of 2023** have accepted places at universities overseas which will allow them to pursue their academic studies and compete in their respective sports at a high level. Basketballer **Ritorya Tamilo** has been accepted at the University of Hawaii, USA. Ritorya is featured on page 34. Water polo player **Holly Roberts** is heading to UC San Diego, California, USA. Holly was our Sports Leader in 2023. Swimmer **Lanihei Connolly** is going to Bond University, Gold Coast, Australia, and rower **Harriet Burrell** is going to Princeton University, New Jersey, USA.

On 17 February 2024, **Mollie James (Class of 2012)** married Samuel Thomas (Sacred Heart College) in her parent's beautiful garden in Cambridge. Mollie's bridesmaids were her sisters Jemma (Class of 2014) and Nina (Class of 2017) and fellow alumnae Nina Turnbull (Class of 2012) and Makaira Calder (née Oyagawa, Class of 2012). Mollie's mother Sarah Stone (Class of 1985) is a longstanding member of the Baradene Alumnae Association, and her grandmother Angela Stone (Class of 1955) has always maintained a close connection to Baradene. Mollie's father Richard James has served on both Baradene boards and is Chair of The Baradene College Foundation, known as Growing Heart. Sam's mother Natalie Thomas (née Worth, Class of 1982) is also an alumna. In all, there were 37 Baradene alumnae at Mollie's wedding!



**Congratulations to the following alumnae on their recent sporting achievements.**

In November 2023, **Ruby Nathan (Class of 2023)** was selected for the New Zealand Ford Football Ferns squad, and played her debut match against Colombia in December.



**Fran Jonas (Class of 2021)** and **Molly Penfold (Class of 2019)** were selected in the White Ferns squad to play against the Proteas in South Africa in October 2023. They were both also selected to play at home against Pakistan in December.



In February **Prue Catton (Class of 2021)**, **Josie Penfold (Class of 2017)**, and **Molly Penfold (Class of 2019)** were named in the North Squad to take on the South in a T20 series. North were crowned North v South Champions.

**Fran Jonas (Class of 2021)** was selected in the White Ferns T201 and ODI squads to play England at home in March. **Prue Catton (Class of 2021)** and **Molly Penfold (Class of 2019)** were named in the NZ A T20 and NZ A One Day Squad to play England A.

**Sisters Jessica (Class of 2013)** and **Gabrielle Milichich (Class of 2016)** were selected for the NZ Women's Water Polo team to compete at the World Aquatic Championships in Doha in February 2024.

**Hannah McCall (Class of 2023)** has been named in the NZ Junior Ultimate team for the WFDF 2024 World Junior Ultimate Championships, to be held in Birmingham, UK in July.



**Laura Balmer (Class of 2021)** has been selected for the NZ Netball U21 Squad.

**Havana Hopman (Class of 2021)** recently represented New Zealand at the Rhythmic Aphrodite Cup in Athens, Greece. Havana has also been selected to represent New Zealand at the Oceania Championships, being held at the European Championships in Budapest toward the end of May. At these Championships Havana could still qualify for a quota spot for the Paris Olympic Games.

**Portia Bing (Class of 2010)** recently won her 18th National title at the National Athletics Championships. Portia won the 400m and came third in the 100m. Portia now has National medals in every sprint event: 100m, 100mH, 200m, 400m, 400mH and the 4x100m and 4x400m relays.

## In Memoriam

**We remember all alumnae and members of our Baradene community who have recently passed, in particular those mentioned here.**

**Christie Fan (Class of 2013)** passed away on 13 November 2023. Christie was a valued member of the Baradene Alumnae Association, acting as Treasurer until resigning to travel overseas. Christie was a talented accountant with a zest for life and had just transferred to work in London when she was diagnosed with stage four melanoma in November 2022. She was amazed by the generous support she received to a Givealittle page set up to help fund her treatment. Sadly, Christie passed away in the UK before her treatment could be completed. We send our love and sympathy to Christie's sister Bessie (Class of 2008), her family and friends.

**Sally Ewart (née Kirk, Class of 1957)** passed away on 23 February 2024, aged 85 years. Sally started Baradene as a boarder in 1953 on the same day as two of her cousins, Annette Gray (née Heasley) and Ann Meredith (née Buckland). Sally's sister Jacqueline Jones (née Kirk, Class of 1958) came to Baradene the following year. Sally made lifelong friends at Baradene, and her class kept in regular contact over the years. Sally attended their last reunion, held in the Baradene Parlour in October 2023. Sally also had



*Sally, Ann, Jacqui, and Annette in 1954 at the rockery.*

many family connections to Baradene through the Maxwell, Buckland, and Heasley families. Sally was much loved by her family, husband Niel and their three children and five grandchildren.



**Zelma Farnsworth (née Bell)** passed away on 27 November 2023, in her 104th year. Zelma generously dedicated much of her time and energy to the Baradene community. She had a familial connection to Baradene through her relationship to Mother Mahar. Her two daughters attended Baradene: Susan Heyn (née Farnsworth, Class of 1965) and Virginia Farnsworth-Grodd (née Farnsworth, Class of 1975). Zelma was President of the PTA in 1973, and then served on various boards at Baradene. In 1989 and 1990 Zelma was the first Chair of the Board of Trustees. Zelma was committed to Catholic education, working in both paid positions and as a volunteer, until well into her 80s. Zelma is pictured at the High Tea in 2018 together with daughters Susan and Virginia, and Sister Elizabeth Snedden.

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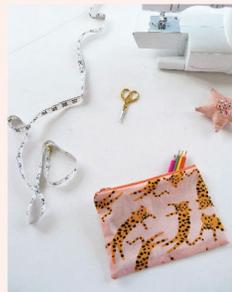
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*From 1933 to 1944, 43 young boys were taught in Baradene's junior school, and were permitted to stay until they were around age nine. "Most of them had sisters at the school... They took classes with the girls but remained apart for recreation and study, and joined in the religious life of the school by receiving first communion and learning to be altar boys."*

*~ from Baradene College of the Sacred Heart 1909-2009, by Margaret McClure*

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SACRED HEART

[baradene.school.nz](http://baradene.school.nz)