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## UT PROSIM ALIIS

### Principal's Comment

Northcote College has a history longer than any other secondary school on the North Shore. I have been delighted to have the opportunity presented by the 130<sup>th</sup> reunion to highlight this for current students. At a recent school assembly I attempted to illustrate the extraordinary length of the school's history by relating developments at the school to events and changes in New Zealand as a nation over the decades. I started by explaining that the school was ten years old when Mt Tarawera erupted in 1886 and that students would have seen the glow and ash from that eruption!

Obviously Northcote College today is in many ways very different from the school first established on this site. Starting as a primary school, becoming a junior high school and for the last 70 years as Northcote College, this fine school has witnessed, contributed to and been affected by many changes and challenges.

## Northcote College School Reunion

21-22 September 2007

*Celebrating 130 years 1877 - 2007*

[www.northcote.pastpupils.net](http://www.northcote.pastpupils.net)

The basis of the school's strength now and throughout the last 130 years lies in its ongoing ability to meet the needs of the community. It is the goodwill of generations of staff, parents and friends of the school working together to do their very best for students of this area that gives the school its unique character and strength. Today Northcote College and the Northcote community are both richer for the tapestry of achievements and events over the last 130 years.

Preparations are now almost complete for the reunion celebrations on the weekend of 20-22 September. We can take great pride, not only in the reunion events, but also in the contribution made to the preservation of the history and traditions of the school and to the strength of the school in the future.

In recognition of importance to the school of family and community this newsletter features an article about the Santo family whose connections with the school date back to 1915 and look likely to continue into the future. I would be delighted if this story prompted other Northcote families to share their histories with us and look forward to the reunion highlighting these very special connections.

Vicki Barrie

### CALENDAR

- Fri 21 Sept Term 3 Ends (12.45 finish)
- 21-22 Sep Reunion Events & Celebrations
- Mon 8 Oct Term 4 Begins  
BOT Meeting 7.30pm
- Thur 11 Oct Year 9 & 10 Social/Disco
- Mon 22 Oct Labour Day (School Closed)
- Wed 24 Oct 2008 Enrolments Information  
Evening
- Mon 5 Nov BOT Meeting 7.30pm
- Thur 8 Nov Sports Prizegiving
- Wed 14 Nov Seniors Finish
- Thur 15 Nov Senior Prizegiving 7.30pm
- Mon 19 Nov NZQA Exams Begin
- 26-30 Nov Junior Exam Week
- Thur 6 Dec Leavers Dinner
- Mon 10 Dec BOT Meeting 6.00pm
- Fri 14 Dec Junior Prizegiving / Term 4 Ends

## NCEA Update

### Results

All students currently studying NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3 can check results, including completed 'internals' from this year by logging on to the NZQA website and using the learner login facility. If there are any queries about the results shown the student should initially seek clarification from their subject teacher or see Ms Russell.

### Certificate Endorsement

A significant proportion of Northcote College students are likely to be eligible for the new Merit and Excellence endorsement certificates. These endorsements will be a valuable addition to student CVs and are well worth having.

Merit and Excellence endorsement certificates are available for all current students and can be issued for previous years if the criteria is met and the student is attending school in 2007. To be eligible for Endorsement with Merit students need 50 credits at Merit or Excellence in any one level or higher. Endorsement with Excellence requires 50 credits at Excellence in any one level or higher. Students can apply for these endorsement certificates when they receive their interim result notice from NZQA early in 2008. For more information refer to [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz)

### Introduction to NCEA

For those parents still struggling to come to grips with the NCEA system a basic introduction to the National Certificate of Education Achievement is included with this newsletter.

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## Drug Dog - Guinness

During Term Two we were fortunate to witness drug dog 'Guinness' in action at a weekly assembly. Guinness very quickly and efficiently demonstrated his skills in identifying the 'strategically planted' backpack.

Northcote College has a zero tolerance for drugs and this display to the student body was designed to reiterate that policy.



## College News

### System Upgrade

Recently the college installed a new student management system (SMS) incorporating attendance, discipline, contact details, marks and reports etc. It has been a huge undertaking but we are pleased with the benefits to date and potential of the new system. Inevitably there will be some teething problems but we ask for your support and patience through these issues.

### Sustainable Energy

Earlier this year Northcote College installed 12 photovoltaic panels on the roof of the school hall. A display panel has been installed in the science block so that real time data of the solar energy



generated is available to be viewed. This information is also available through the Schoolgen website [www.schoolgen.co.nz](http://www.schoolgen.co.nz). We would like to thank Schoolgen, Genesis Energy and the Enviroschools Foundation for providing us with this programme and additional ongoing support in our efforts towards reducing the financial and environmental impacts of the school's energy use.

## Student Representative on the Board of Trustees

Elections were held recently to appoint a student representative to the Board of Trustees 2007/2008.

Congratulations to Year 12 student

**Priyanka Girish**

## Former Student Update

Past pupil Han-Wei (Tina) Chang has become part of the North Shore Police force. Tina attended Northcote College from 1998 to 2002 and completed a Bachelor of Arts at Auckland University before attending Police College where she graduated in May this year.

Edwin Henshaw (1999-2003) won the National Cross Country Championships held in Dunedin during July. Edwin returned immediately after the event to the United States where he will continue his sport and study scholarship in Tulsa.

# Santo Family 1915 - 2007



*Olivia Santo, her grandfather Rex Wilkins  
and her Mum Karen Wilkins*

Young Edna Verran would never have known the legacy she would leave Northcote College when she was enrolled as a young five year old in March 1915, back in the days when this was an all-ages school serving the wider local community.

Some 92 years on and three years after her death, Edna's great granddaughter 16-year-old Olivia Santo (Year 11) has become the fourth generation of her family to have attended the school.

Along the way, every generation has recorded at least two siblings on the roll, often several at any one time and it is as much a reflection of the school's own proud sense of community as of its own status within the wider Northcote/Birkenhead community.

Olivia's own family tree as it relates to Northcote College traces her family's connection through 12 of her antecedents. They include her parents Karen Wilkins (1986-90) and Paul Santo (1986-90), Paul's brother Richard Santo (1984-88) and Karen's sisters Sheree Wilkins (1987-89) and Catherine Wilkins (1988-90).

One generation further back there is her grandfather Rex Wilkins (1958-60) and his elder brothers Franklin Wilkins (1956-59) and Brian Wilkins (1949-52).

Rex's mother, Edna Verran, was enrolled on March 22 1915 according to the college's register of the day that had every new pupil's name, date of birth or admission and his/her register number carefully penned in ink in the 'public high school' register in the elegant cursive handwriting style of the day.

Edna's brothers Noel and Ray Verran were enrolled in 1925 and 1933 respectively in a register headed Northcote Junior High Public School. Edna's husband Harry was a Northcote student along with Harry's sister Edna Betts who is now aged 98.

How times and school life have changed even in Rex's lifetime. Back then there was a shooting range where the school pool now stands and every Friday was army cadet day. The lessons were about how to handle a rifle. "It's not a gun," Rex points out as a matter of correction. "A gun was what was towed on the back of the truck. If you called a rifle a gun you were a dunce." Paying attention was about learning how to load your rifle, pull it apart and put it back together again."

The rest of the week was about technical drawing, metal-work and woodwork (for the boys, that was; the girls did domestic subjects) with english, mathematics and geography dotted through the timetable. Rex's fondest memories are more for the fun than for the detail of the 3R's - the 'reading, 'writing and 'rithmetic' - that got him through to his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday and his legal right to leave school for a trade apprenticeship (in his case as a plumber) that was a common rite of passage at the time.

"Everyone fitted into the hall for assemblies, the girls on one side, jokers on the other and the teachers all on the stage. They could soon tell who was sitting near the tap and the fire reel if anyone turned the tap on and sent the fire hose and the water flying around the hall," says Rex.

Olivia's parents Karen Wilkins and Paul Santo met up as 6<sup>th</sup> form geography students although they had both started at Northcote College together as entry level 3<sup>rd</sup> formers (as the Year 9 students were known back then). Back in the days when a uniform was compulsory for 3<sup>rd</sup> formers only, Karen remembers the punk garb of the girls who were far less conservative than she was.

Karen, who went on to train in beauty therapy, represented Northcote College in netball, cross country running and swimming. Paul, the manager of Hirepool, Albany was a keen rugby player.

For Olivia, arriving at Northcote College was little different than for her peers until she discovered that several current teachers had either taught her parents or were at school with them. They include Assistant Principal Mike Dudley who taught Paul and coached him in rugby and who has also taught Olivia and coached her at underwater hockey. PE teacher Stuart Chong went through Northcote College as a student during Karen's and Paul's years as well.

Best of all, this family's future connection with Northcote College is assured. Karen and Paul live in Birkenhead and their second baby, a boy, was born this week. The year 2020 will mark the arrival of Olivia's brother as a pupil 105 years after Edna Verran unwittingly started something big all those years ago.

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## Student Achievement

### Young Enterprise

Congratulations to 'Technovation' a Northcote College Young Enterprise Team whose product *The Ski Sling* took



first place in the North Shore competition. The teams winning business plan was for an innovative new product that allows skis to be carried hands-

free. On finals night the group took out second place. Pictured left to right at the awards event are Ms Barrie, Principal; Mr Condon, HOD Economics; Louise Beuvink; Mr George Wood, North Shore City Mayor; Mirelle Olivier; Suzanne Bowerman; Justine Oakley & Michael Neville. Team members not in attendance were Sean McGrath, Hannah Eriksen & Israel McDonald.

### Reserve Bank Monetary Policy Challenge

Another successful group of students have teamed up to become the Reserve Bank Monetary Policy Challenge Team. Mirelle Olivier, Suzanne Bowerman, Min-ah Ha, Julie Cao and Nic Pope represented the school at the regional finals. After preparing a 1000 word submission they made a 10 minute presentation to Reserve Bank staff later this month with an end target of the finals in Wellington. Of course the competition will be fierce but the students are determined to do their best.

### New Zealand Economics Competition

Four Year 13 students recently took part in the New Zealand Economics Competition involving a 55 minute examination paper containing 40 multiple-choice questions testing classroom theory and general knowledge of current economic issues. Approximately 1100 students from 59 schools throughout NZ entered and Nicholas Pope, Mirelle Olivier, Julie Cao and Suzanne Bowerman (pictured left to right) each received Distinction awards at the 2007 Awards Presentation held last week at the University of Auckland.



### Music

The Northcote College Jazz Combo travelled to Palmerston North to compete in the 6th Manawatu Youth Jazz Band Competition during Queen's Birthday weekend. The festival featured big bands and combos from around the country which proved to be tough competition. Alex Churchill (right) was awarded the Most Outstanding High School Saxophonist Trophy and Jonathan Tan (left) was awarded the Most Outstanding High School Trombonist Trophy.



Most recently Jonathan and Alex have been selected for the New Zealand High Schools' Jazz Orchestra. In addition to their selection an original composition written by Jonathan will be performed by the band.

Also during June, Lydia Warren and James Daniell attended the Auckland Chamber Music Contest. 110 groups took part in this competition and Lydia and James performed in a recorder quartet with two other friends. Their group 'Kuro' made it through to the final eight and received a Highly Commended Award.

### Silver Ferns Press Conference

Earlier in the term 'Team One Netball' were honoured to be invited to a press conference with the Silver Ferns at The Spencer on Byron. This provided the players with the opportunity to mix and mingle with the Ferns and each team member was given tickets to the test match between NZ and Australia at the Vector Stadium.

Pictured left to right: Ashleigh Jenkins, Suzanne Bowerman, Carly Phillips, Kate McKenzie, Kati Ahipene and Tahnya Mekkelholt.



### ASB Bursary Awards

Congratulations to Mei Yen Tan, Min-ah Ha, James Daniell, Wilhelmina Shrimpton, Hannah Lawton and Angela Zhang who have been awarded ASB Bursaries for their outstanding achievement in NCEA 2006.

### Science Examinations

Two students achieved outstanding results in the University of New South Wales Science Examinations. Sarah Daniell received a 'High Distinction' which rates her in the top 1% of entrants. Sarah is a Year 10 student currently studying year 11 science. Kenny Chan, a year 11 student, received 'Distinction' which places him in the top 11% of entrants.

## Classics Quiz

Northcote College was represented at the annual Auckland University Classics Department Classics Quiz for Schools by Nic Pope, Laura Halliwell, Louise Beuvink and Michael Carpenter. Mr Beachman described the competition as fierce with over 40 teams competing from all over Auckland. The Northcote College team were placed third overall – an excellent result.

Congratulations to the students in this team and thanks to their teachers Ms Peterson and Mr Beachman.

## Mairangi Bay Arts Centre Exhibition

Artwork from a selected group of Northcote College students has recently been displayed at the Mairangi Bay Arts Centre as part of the North Shore Libraries exhibition.

Year 13

Blyth Phillips, Nick Blazey

Year 12

Lauren Henderson, Rebekah Eaton, Courtney Rayes, Courtney Parkinson, Sophie McBride, Sianne Smith, Alex Ramsdale, Alana Bowmar

Year 10

Joel Coster, Jamie Giles, Joel Hardgrave, Sam Hohaia

Year 9

Jamie Peterson, Michelle Edwards, Eva Parker, Paige Cull, Celeste Olivier, Pierce Hargreaves, Polly Holland

## Fred Hollows Foundation

A recent Student Council initiative during senior exam week was to hold lunchtime activities in support of the Fred Hollows Foundation. The Foundation works to provide support and services to cataract sufferers in Asia, Africa and the Pacific. So far the sight of more than one million people has been restored but there is still so much more to be done.

In order to appreciate just what it is like have cataracts and limited vision junior students were provided with masks to blur their vision while completing simple tasks like playing ball and moving around obstacles. The 'Make a Spectacle of Yourself Day' provided the junior students a highly entertaining lunchtime but more importantly gave everyone a much greater appreciation for their own sight and the problems others face daily. The Student Council raised \$800 to donate to the Foundation.



## Enrolments for 2008

Parents and students intending to enrol at Northcote College for Year 9 2008 who have not yet made an application should do so urgently.

There will be an information and option choice evening for all successful applicants at 7.30pm on Wednesday 24th October. Students enrolled for 2008 will be asked to indicate their option choices to allow us to finalise the school timetable and plan staffing for 2008.

## Education for Life

### Adult Community Education Classes at Northcote College

The Term 4 Programme commences Monday 15 October with a range of classes available:

- Art, Crafts & Photography
- Boating & Navigation
- Computing
- Cooking
- English for Speakers of Other Languages
- Home Garden & Environment
- Health, Fitness & Recreation
- Languages
- Music, Drama & More
- Tools & Techniques

Northcote College Community Education  
9.30am-4pm Monday to Friday  
6-10 Kauri Glen Road, Northcote  
phone: 481 0144  
email: learn4life@xtra.co.nz

Keep Learning - Keep Growing

# Sports Report

## AEROBIC GYMNASTICS GOLD!



The girls Aerobic Gymnastics team won **Gold** at the National Secondary Schools Aerobic Championships in the Junior A Team event. Congratulations to Jaimee Dudley, Ella McGreal and Rosanna Levett (pictured left to right).

## PREMIER GIRLS BASKETBALL



The Premier team had an outstanding win over Rangitoto College in the semi-finals of the Auckland competition to reach the final to play Auckland Girls Grammar School. The Northcote College team, the current holders, retained the title in an exciting game played at the North Shore Events Centre. The final score was 76-73 to Northcote College.

## SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING

Congratulations to Sian Emery who competed in the North Island Secondary Schools Championships of Synchronised Swimming. Sian placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the solo event. Most of us don't realise the athleticism of this sport. All swimmers must train very hard to develop great stamina, strength and flexibility. (At Olympic level Synchro is second only to long-distance running for endurance and second only to gymnastics for strength and flexibility). Well done Sian.

## TABLE TENNIS

Congratulations to Renji Sun who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in his grade in the Term 3 Secondary School League Table Tennis. He was also placed 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Secondary Schools Champion of Champions event.

## RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Congratulations to Angelika Zueva who took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Auckland Secondary Schools Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in August.

## 1<sup>st</sup> XI SOCCER

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI Soccer team have had a tremendous season. Coached by Mr Williams the team won the Auckland Secondary Schools senior A3 grade and have been promoted to A2 for 2008.

## THE SPORTS ELITE PROGRAMME

There are 38 students presently in the sports elite programme from 13 different sports.

Three recent additions are:

**Oliver Gunman – Windsurfing:** Oliver is a North Harbour and New Zealand Age Group representative who will be representing New Zealand in Spain in September this year. Oliver finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the North Harbour and Auckland Age Group Championships and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the New Zealand Championship.

**Jasmine Teariki Davis – Basketball:** Jasmine is a North Harbour A representative and in the New Zealand Under 16 Basketball team.

**Aaron Young – Waterpolo:** Aaron is a North Harbour U14A rep team member. Aaron is also in the Junior Underwater Hockey team which recently competed at the Nationals.

## Northcote College & AUT

Northcote College has a partnership with AUT University to deliver the SHINE programme. The programme deals with elite student athletes and encourages and supports them to reach their potential. The SHINE programme covers such areas as Achieving Excellence, Leadership, Goal Setting, Motivation, Nutrition, Public Speaking and Career Paths. Noah Hickey (NZ All White) and specialist staff from AUT deliver this quality programme.

## GEAR RETURN

Please return all outstanding gear to the Sports Office ASAP

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### BIRKENHEAD COLLEGE SPORTS EXCHANGE

The annual Northcote/Birkenhead College Sports Exchange was a great success with Northcote picking up three of the four trophies. The Wynton Rufer Cup - Boys Soccer, The Hartley Cup - Netball and The Wysoczanski Cup - Girls Soccer.

### RESULTS

Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XI Soccer won 3-1  
Team 1 Netball won 56-46  
Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XV lost 12-10  
Girls 1<sup>st</sup> XI Soccer won 2-1

The McKibbin Cup game between the Northcote College and Birkenhead College 1<sup>st</sup> XI Hockey teams was played last week and resulted in a 2-1 win to Birkenhead.

### WINTER TOURNAMENT WEEK

Seven Northcote College teams qualified for national secondary school competitions held in tournament week.

<i>Team</i>	<i>Location</i>
Team 1 Netball	Whangarei
Premier Girls Basketball	Waitakere City
Premier Boys Basketball	Waitakere City
1 <sup>st</sup> XI Boys Hockey	Taupo
1 <sup>st</sup> XI Girls Hockey	Rotorua
1 <sup>st</sup> XI Girls Soccer	Taupo
Junior Underwater Hockey	Christchurch

Without exception teams played well and with huge commitment. There are great stories of grit and determination. Congratulations to all winter tournament teams and thanks to their coaches, parents and supporters.

Tournament Week saw two new events in the sporting calendar this year which look set to become annual fixtures for the school.

The first is the Northcote College 10 a side Rugby tournament held here over mid-term break and the second is a Thames Exchange. It is very appropriate that in the year of our 130<sup>th</sup> reunion we reinstated an exchange which existed between Northcote College and Thames in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV travelled to Thames in tournament week. We have invited Thames High School to visit with sports teams this time next year, with a view to us making a return visit in 2009.

### UNDERWATER HOCKEY

One of the junior teams travelled to Christchurch to compete in the NZ Nationals after placing 4<sup>th</sup> in the Northern Regional Champs. The team were placed 10<sup>th</sup> overall. This is the first time that Northcote College has qualified for the Nationals. At Northcote College underwater hockey is a relatively new sport without the advantage of years of coaching and resources that the major underwater hockey schools have had, so these were significant achievements for us.

### SKI TEAM

The Northcote College ski team has just returned from a three day North Island Secondary School Ski Championship competition held at Turoa. The team placed 16<sup>th</sup> out of 98 teams. An awesome effort was made by Ben Wrightson, Charles Cheesman, Louise Beuvink, Ryan Meijering, Claire Beuvink, Chris Divitt, Zoe-Rose Herbert and Elena Lochore-Ward. Look out for a full report in the next newsletter.

#### Sports Office

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## “Affair of the Heart” Art Exhibition

Northcote College is pleased to announce the 4<sup>th</sup> annual “Affair of the Heart” Art Exhibition which will be run over the weekend Friday 7 March – Sunday 9 March 2008. Put these dates in your 2008 diary.

A dedicated group of parents are already working hard on this event which is the school’s major fundraising event each year.

The net proceeds to the school from the 2007 “Affair of the Heart” Art Exhibition totalled over \$31,000 and enabled the school to purchase much needed lighting for the school’s main performance space and drama rooms. Parents and students attending the Talent Quest would have noticed the exceptional lighting show made possible by the new equipment which includes thirty new theatrical lights from Selecon, a highly regarded Northcote based supplier of quality lights designed in NZ. Sound equipment is the next requirement and quotes are currently being sought for a mixing console, microphones, front of house speakers and stage monitors.

The 2008 Exhibition will feature over one hundred professional and emerging artists from throughout New Zealand including former and current students of Northcote College.

The aim of the exhibition is to provide funds to enhance Northcote College Performing Arts facilities for the benefit of current students.

Excellent opportunities exist for businesses and individual sponsors to align themselves with this enduring and much anticipated event. For more information about sponsorship opportunities please contact:

Lee Anne Moverley  
l.moverley@walshegroup.co.nz  
Ph 4191693  
0211904721

This is an opportunity to make a contribution to the school and at the same time provide local exposure and recognition for business. We look forward to working with you.

## Talent Quest 2007

Talent Quest 2007 was a huge success. Congratulations to all students and staff involved and in particular to the prefects who headed the Talent Quest committee, organised promotion, collated student entries, arranged the logistics of music rooms and equipment, liaised with staff and ran the auditions. Prefects Jonathan Tan, Alex Churchill, Suzanne Bowerman, Isaac Robinson, Stephane Monten and Chanel Turner spent hours planning and organising this event and without their initiative and drive this night would not have been the huge success it was.

The involvement of former students was significant at Talent Quest 2007. Thanks to former students Sam Haycock, Andrew Coombridge and Michael Bowerman who returned to support the technical team contributing to the sound and lighting for the show. The judges on the night were also former students of the school. Thanks to Finn Scholes, Joel Herbert and Elliot Christensen-Yule for accepting the challenging role of judging the acts.

Final thanks must go to Ms Manoa and Ms Russell for their excellent leadership of, and enduring support for, the 2007 Talent Quest.

### Results

**Best Vocal** – Tasman Bartlett-Masina [10BR] *vocal & acoustic guitar* - performing ‘Home’ by Daughtry

**Best Band** – The Stone Masons performing ‘Snake’  
Jeremy Aston *vocals*, Chris Scott-Dye [13BT] *guitar*,  
David Haynes [12CD] *bass*, Elliot Rawson [12WE] *drums*.

**Best Dance** – Double Delight - Ashika Raj [12CD] &  
Priya Jattan [10WN] dance duo

**Most Entertaining** – S.V.P. Surreptitious Vinyl Pants  
‘The Final Countdown’: Jeremy Teal [11WS] *vocals*;  
Rohan Jenkins [11ZH] *guitar*; Scott Neville [11ZH] *bass*;  
Ivor Popovich [11ML] *keyboard*; Alex Grant [11BG] *drums*.

**Best Performer** – Stephane Monten [13WE]

**People’s Choice** – 13PT’s Backstreet’s Back  
Tobias Webster, Quinn Norrie, Laban Cole, Jacky Yang,  
Nick Chester, Beth Gillis, Melissa Sullivan,  
Nastassja Millard, Sasha Kelly and Nick Blazey.

New benchmarks were reached at the Talent Quest 2007 in terms of entertainment and organisation. We all look forward to Talent Quest 2008.