



Editorial

PAUL FERRIS

2016 has had some very memorable moments for everyone. England's surprising vote for Brexit, America's vote for President and just recently the shake that isolated Kaikoura and disabled many parts of Wellington.

Alongside these events we have had some major issues to deal with for integrated schools. Most significant was the intention of the Government to subsume the 1975 PSCI Act into the Education (Update) Amendment Bill. At the APIS AGM we all agreed to proceed with the Government agenda, and while a number of members have continued to express concerns about some details of the revision and the lack of opportunity to strengthen aspects of the Bill, we have continued to interact with Government and seek an outcome that maintains the provisions of the original Act. Select Committees are on the horizon and we expect to conclude that work early in 2017.

The budget provision of funding for Christchurch schools affected by the earthquake provided more focus for APIS and its members in September. What transpired was an excellent example of the spirit of our schooling network as Proprietors worked out a plan for sharing the limited resource.

Just as schools plan and interpret the data from student achievement in preparation for new focus plans in 2017, so does NZCEO plan its focus for the coming year.

We can see challenges in recruitment of teachers and the possibility of competition created by numerous Proprietors seeking limited funding. Wisdom and a sense of the Common Good will be important in this work.

On the positive side we are happy that Proprietors will see an increase in Policy 1 and 2 funds from 2017. The Ministry and Education Council will continue to work with us to address special character aspects of the Practising Teacher Certificate and pre service training for our staff.

Finally we are looking to expanding our office team to be able to respond to your needs.

The staff of NZCEO join with me in wishing you all a peaceful and relaxing Christmas break. Thank you for your support and engagement with our office during 2016. We look forward to working with you and for you in 2017.

Greetings

Tēnā koutou - ngā mihi mo te Kirihimete.

We wish you every blessing as you prepare for Christmas and the summer vacation.

\$6m Allotted to Seismic Strengthen Integrated Schools

The Government has now allotted \$6 million for the seismic strengthening of state integrated schools in greater Christchurch. Work is expected to begin in 2017.

New Services Offered by Netsafe

From late November a new NetSafe service to deal with harmful digital communications will be available free to all schools and their communities. For information see <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/hdc-in-schools/> or call 0508 638 723.

2017 PM's Education Excellence Awards Now Open

All schools, kura and early childhood providers are encouraged to enter. Entries close on 17 March 2017. For entry forms and more information see <https://www.pmaawards.education.govt.nz/>.

Excellent Progress in Education

The latest Better Public Service update shows 83.3 per cent of 18 year olds achieved NCEA Level 2 in 2015, a lift of 9% since 2011. In the year to March 2016, 96.6 per cent of children starting school had participated in ECE.

New Guidelines on Management of Violent Students

Guidelines are due to be released by the Ministry of Education in the next few weeks on how to manage the seclusion and restraint of violent students. SPANZ executive member Patrick Walsh said teachers needed more protection when dealing with difficult, violent students.

There is a time for... A Family Companion for Every Season

A new prayer resource for families is being launched on 10 December in Wellington. This book offers original prayers and reflections on family life situations of New Zealanders.

Inspired by the writings of Pope Francis with brilliant photographs of the people and landscape of Aotearoa New Zealand, *There is a time for...* beautifully illustrates the varied seasons of experience that shape family life. A copy has already been presented to Pope Francis by Cardinal John Dew.

Edited by Fr James Lyons of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Wellington, the 148 page book has over 40 contributors, including school children.

Cost \$25 per copy. Contact cathedral.pariah@wn.catholic.org.nz to order a copy.

"The two most joyous times of the year are Christmas morning and the end of school."

Alice Cooper



Congratulations to:

Congratulations to Schools and Individuals

Otago, Southland Regions:

Craighead Diocesan School, Timaru: The School Chorale won the Silver award at the National Big Sing Finale. Alia Cooper, Kate Low and Brenna Turnbull's film, "Original" won the New Zealand Film Commission Young Women Film-makers Award at the Outlook for Sunday Film Challenge, and has been selected for the 2016 All-American High School Film Festival. Charlotte Cumming and Rose McLeod were MP Representatives at Youth Parliament 2016.

St Hilda's Collegiate School, Dunedin: Jamie MacKenzie was a top 10 finalist in the National Poetry Award. She attended a masterclass/workshop at the International Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University.

Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:

Middleton Grange School, Christchurch: Sophie Tremewan has been selected as World Vision Youth Ambassador 2017. This will involve working alongside World Vision staff to motivate and engage young people in the 40 Hour Famine, and raising awareness of the plight of Syria.

Marian College, Christchurch: Hannah Kofoed danced in the National Young Performer Awards in Palmerston North alongside NZ's top dancers

Kapiti Coast, Horowhenua, Wairarapa, Wellington, Nelson, Buller and Marlborough Regions:

St Patrick's School, Masterton achieved Green Gold Enviroschool status.

St Theresa's School, Plimmerton featured in the Education Gazette having won an award for their efforts in promoting and learning New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL).

Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, Rangitikei and Hawkes Bay Regions:

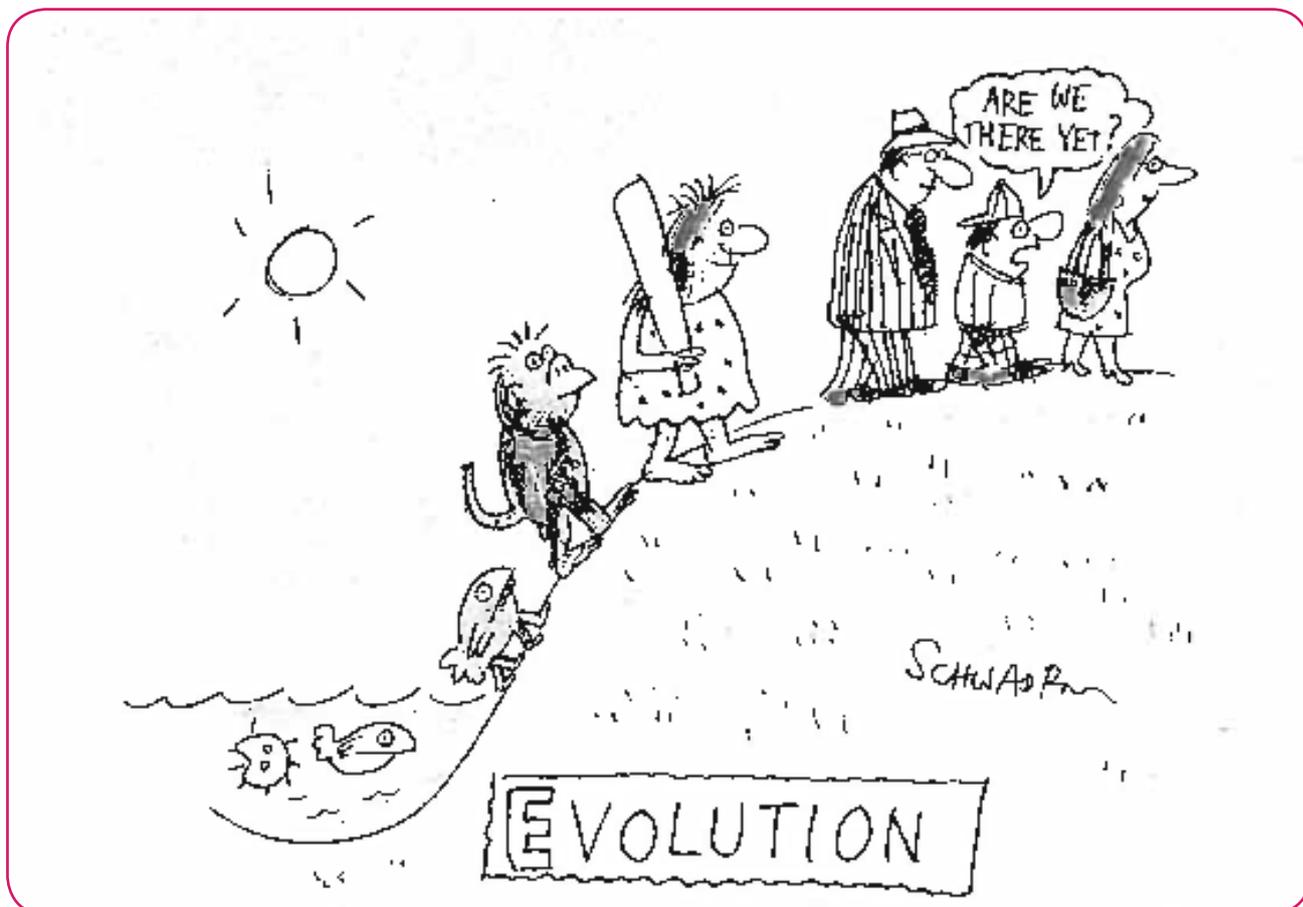
St John's College, Hastings: At the National Championships Sam Heaven was named joint Top Culinary Student in the country. He and Daniel Moss won the National Culinary Challenge and were crowned National Champions, winning \$19,500 in prizes.

Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth: Baillie Kronfeld had her short story "Up for Auction" selected to be included in the 2016 anthology of the New Zealand Secondary Schools' writing competition 'Write Off Line'.

Northland and Auckland Regions:

Baradene College, Henderson: Bella Treacher gained a place in Sydney to complete the 2017 Diploma of Dance (Elite Performance) Performing Arts, and has been awarded a Summer Conservatory Pass to American Musical and Dramatic Academy in either Los Angeles or New York.

Elim Christian College, Auckland's innovative learning environment featured in the October 2016 edition of Infrastructure Matters (MOE).



Young Enterprise National Awards Finalists

Congratulations to integrated schools whose YES companies are finalists for the supreme award, The Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Company of the Year: Roncalli College, Timaru, Acceleration Enterprises; Iona College, Havelock North Ruff Tucker; St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch, Tribal; and Winner of the National Excellence Award, St Mary's College Wellington, Small Talk.

Road Use Game Design Competition Winners

Congratulations to the three year 10 students of Columba College, Dunedin who created the winning game design for the NZ Transport Agency's Game Design Competition, and to students at Rangiora New Life School who received a Highly Commended. See <http://education.nzta.govt.nz/student-work/games>.

School Students to Seek Climate Change Solutions

Science students Jessica Cox and Eilish Quin, Baradene College, Jessie Kanapi, St Dominic's Catholic College, Eamon Walsh and Kesia Kurian, John Paul College and Annabelle Ritchie, Columba College were selected to attend the Royal Society of New Zealand's 4-day 'Powering Potential' programme, to work on the challenging issues facing the country.

A Long and Loyal Career

St Mary's Catholic School Ellerslie honours Cheryl Cowan, retiring principal of St Mary's Catholic School Ellerslie, for her 41 years of service to Catholic education. She has demonstrated dedicated and loyal service to Catholic schools, and made a significant difference to the lives of many families and their children.

School 2 School Bible Campaign

Be part of the campaign to provide free Bibles to schools in the Pacific Islands. The Poverty and Justice Bible will help your students discover more about why Pope Francis is urging us to care for the poor. For every copy your school buys, one will be gifted to a South Pacific school. Join the nationwide School 2 School campaign: neels@biblesociety.org.nz 0800 424 523.

Shared Histories Project

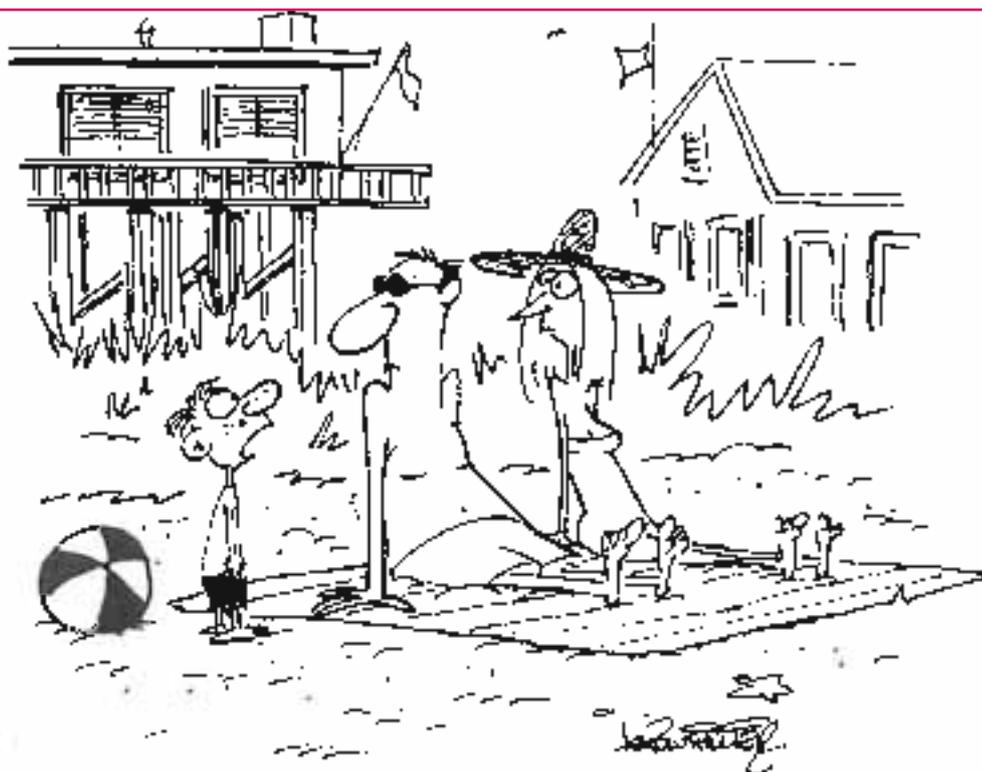
As part of the Shared Histories programme schools in France, New Zealand, Australia, Cook Islands and New Caledonia were invited to engage in collaborative projects on the theme of World War I. Baradene College, Auckland; St Peter's College, Auckland; Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Marton; and John Paul College, Rotorua were highlighted in an article in the 25 October 2016 edition of the NZ Education Gazette.

Leadership Support for 2017

The Ministry of Education is seeking to recruit regionally-based support for beginning principals, as well as providing support for experienced principals. See www.gets.govt.nz for further information.

Kainga Ora

Kainga Ora is a new Place-Based initiative launched by the Minister of Education that will bring social service agencies and communities together to support young people in Northland at risk of poor outcomes. This initiative takes a social investment approach to Northland. It is expected to deliver integrated services to 570 children, young people and their whanau and will partner with communities to shift at risk behaviour patterns and build communities that are capable, resilient and can help themselves.



"Do you think we can do something exciting? I have to write about this vacation next fall, you know!"

RSTAANZ Launch

John Chote

The Religious Studies Teacher Association of Aotearoa New Zealand was officially launched at Auckland University (with a "skyped in" group gathered at Victoria University), on Thursday 24th November. Those gathered included Secondary School Religious Studies teachers from State, Integrated and Private schools, RS advisors, university lecturers, representatives from TCI, NZCEO, PPTA and NZQA.

Jeremy Hema from Auckland University began with a poignant karakia, honouring the significance of the evening. Philomena Clare, interim Chair of RSTAANZ, acknowledged many of those over the past three decades who had made this day possible. She introduced the RSTAANZ interim committee of Colin Macleod, Amjid Ali, Susan Mumford, Andrew Murray and Anita Nelson. Mike Henson from NZQA was the guest speaker and highlighted the support networks and resources available to Religious Studies teachers from NZQA and the Ministry of Education. Finally Nick Thomson from Auckland University's Theology and Religious Studies faculty congratulated us on the launch and talked about how understanding religion is so important across many occupations. He briefly outlined the range of course offerings and mentioned the way other disciplines accessed Religious Studies papers too.

The RSTAANZ launch is timely and exciting as it gives Religious Studies an official, professional voice to interact with the Ministry of Education, NZQA, schools, universities, the media and society at large. Credit has to be given to many people who have paved the way for this official start. Since the Integration Act of 1975 in particular, lobbying to have Religious Studies included as a subject in the secondary curriculum came from key people like Pat Lynch and Susan Apáthy of NZCEO, which led to Religious Studies Unit Standards becoming a part of School Certificate and Sixth Form Certificate in the 90's.

Then due to a combination of factors, including, significant conversations between Cardinal John Dew and then Prime Minister Helen Clark, the growing awareness of New Zealand's increasing diversity, and a new NZ Curriculum with a key focus on appreciating diversity, Religious Studies was added to the NCEA Achievement Standard subject offerings in 2009.

Since 2009 there has been a significant increase in the number of students taking the Religious Studies Standards both in State Schools and in integrated and private schools. In 2015 there were 18034 students sitting Religious Studies Standards across 179 schools. But RSTAANZ is not just about qualifications and assessment, it is about developing the subject fully. Its objectives are as follows:

- To promote the study and teaching of Religious Studies;
- To provide a forum for those interested or engaged in teaching Religious Studies to express views, exchange ideas and share knowledge;
- To represent professionally, the views of teachers of Religious Studies;
- To develop and promote professional learning opportunities for teachers of Religious Studies;
- To liaise with individuals, groups and other associations with an interest in promoting the study of religion and the aims of Religious Studies

See <http://www.rstaanz.org.nz/> for more information.

(John Chote is HOD RE at Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt, and also completing a Masters Research Thesis on the growth of the use of Religious Studies Standards in State Schools in New Zealand.)



@noel leeming



KONICA MINOLTA

"Create your own dreams and follow them until they are a reality."

Susan Polis Schutz

Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia ū!

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