



Welcome to the latest edition of our alumni newsletter! Stay connected with school updates, alumni achievements, and upcoming events designed to keep you engaged with our ever-growing community.

CHS Foundation hosts Best of Broadway VIP Evening

On Thursday 31st July, the CHS Foundation proudly hosted a VIP evening celebrating the vibrant performing arts culture at Cashmere High School. Held in the McCombs Performing Arts Centre, the "Best of Broadway" event showcased the outstanding talent of our students in a night filled with iconic songs and vibrant performances.

Guests were welcomed with pre-show drinks and nibbles, enjoying the opportunity to connect with staff and senior students before settling in for the main event — a high-energy musical variety show featuring beloved numbers from Cabaret, The Music Man, Chicago, Wicked, Jesus Christ Superstar, Chess Cabaret, The Music Man, Chicago, Wicked, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Chess.

With powerful vocals, polished choreography, and heartfelt dedication from the student performers, the show was a testament to the vibrant arts culture at Cashmere High School.



[MORE PHOTOS](#)

Upcoming Events

70s Decade Reunion - Tickets on Sale Now!!



Get ready to step back in time and celebrate the vibrant spirit of the 1970s at our special 70's Decade Reunion!

Join us as we celebrate the staff and students who were at Cashmere High School during the iconic 1970s. This is your chance to reconnect, reminisce, and relive those unforgettable days. Come for an evening filled with laughter, music, and cherished memories. Reconnect with old friends, share your stories, and create new memories together.

Spread the word to fellow staff and students and make this a grand reunion!

Tickets available from [Eventfinda](#).

In Memoriam - Lee Attrill



The Cashmere High School Foundation extends its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of **Lee Attrill** (Class of 1985), who sadly passed away on July 4th after a courageous battle with multiple myeloma.

Lee was a dedicated member of Weightlifting New Zealand and proudly represented our country on the world stage. He was also a beloved coach and mentor to many, as well as a valued former staff member at Shirley Boys' High School, and his presence and passion will be deeply missed.

In Memoriam - Mary Slaughter



The Cashmere High School Foundation also extends its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of former staff member **Mary Slaughter**, who passed away unexpectedly on July 30th.

Mary was the Head of Music in 2004, came back to work part time in 2008 and then again from 2011 through until her resignation in 2014. Her passion for music education and her dedication to students left a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of working with her.

In Memoriam - Peter Lester



The Cashmere High School Foundation was saddened to hear of the sudden death of **Peter Lester** (Class of 1972 and part of the close-knit group of classmates known as the 68ers), who passed away unexpectedly on August 8th.

Peter was a world-renowned sailor across multiple classes, a veteran of 3 America's Cup campaigns, two-time NZ Yachtsman of the Year, and one of the most recognised voices in international sailing commentary.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the family and friends of Peter, and all who were touched by his life and achievements.

Alumni in the Spotlight

Briana Steven - Class of 2018

We continue the exciting collaboration with our talented English Prefects as guest writers. This month's article was written by Naomi Wilson, showcasing the creativity and insight our students bring to these stories.



From the science fair and competing at the Orienteering World Championships, to her experience at UC Berkley after winning the Fulbright Scholarship, Briana has had a fascinating journey through her education.

Naomi sat down with Briana and delved into her journey from Cashmere High School to her now finishing up her PhD on blood fluid dynamics from the University of Canterbury.

Read the full interview by clicking the link below.

"In school and university take time to have fun and enjoy yourself." - Briana Steven

[READ MORE](#)

Congratulations to **Casper Howell** (Class of 2019), who, on June 21st, became the first fencer in New Zealand History to win 6 South Island Championships in a row. Casper is now the highest-ranked of any fencer in the NZ Mens Open Sabre event.



On the World Stage! Congratulations to **Charlie Murray** (Class of 2013), **Amelie Mackay** (Class of 2021), and **Winni Goldsbury** (Class of 2024) who were recently named, along with current student Millie Junge (Year 12), in the Cycling New Zealand team for the UCI MTB World Championships in Switzerland. They will compete in various disciplines from August 30th to September 14th.



Continuing with cycling, we congratulate **Charlie Murray** who, after seven rounds of racing in various locations across Europe, finished 3rd in the Elite Men's division of the UCI Enduro World Cup series. Also, to **Winni Goldsbury** who unfortunately due to injury, missed the final round of the UCI Enduro World Cup Series but still finished 9th in her debut in the Elite Women's division. This is an incredible achievement for the youngest competitor in the series.

Inspiring Voices: Alumni Return to Share Wisdom with Senior Students

This term, Cashmere High School was privileged to welcome back four outstanding alumni who generously shared their experiences, insights, and encouragement with our senior students. Each speaker brought a unique perspective, but all shared a common message: success is shaped not only by knowledge, but by character, compassion, and the courage to pursue one's passions. These sessions were a powerful reminder of the legacy our alumni carry forward — and the potential our current students hold.



Georgia Bell (Class of 2015) brought energy and creativity to her session with our Year 13 Early Childhood class. Now based in Sydney, Australia, Georgia shared her journey from studying at the University of Canterbury to working in diverse early childhood settings, including Poppies Preschool and Hagley Community Preschool. Her passion for inclusive, play-based learning shone through — especially when she brought along colourful play dough for a hands-on activity that reminded students of the joy and importance of creativity in early education.



Gary Gotlieb (Class of 1963 | Deputy Head Boy) captivated students with stories from his distinguished career in . As a respected New Zealand Barrister, Councillor for the Thames-Coromandel District Council, and former President of the Auckland District Law Society. Gary spoke with warmth and conviction about the importance of resilience, life experience, and human connection. His reflections on how Cashmere High laid the foundation for his legal path were both inspiring and affirming.



Jenny McGregor (Class of 2015) and **Helena Bright** (Class of 2013) returned to speak with our senior Early Childhood classes about their inspiring journeys into the field of Speech-Language Therapy. They offered valuable insights into the diverse pathways that led them to this rewarding profession, highlighting the connection between early childhood education and communication development. Their session gave students a clearer understanding of the impact of helping others find their voice — both literally and figuratively.

We're always keen to hear what our alumni have been up to. If you or your former schoolmates have recently achieved success in the sporting, arts, business or academic fields please let us know so that we can share these successes with the alumni community.

From The Archives



1972 Staff

Help Us Build Our Alumni Community

If you know any past pupils or staff that may be keen to join our alumni community, please encourage them to visit our website: [Cashmere High School Foundation](#); [Facebook](#), or [Instagram](#).

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