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Week 7, Term 1, March 15, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

### Time for a show of unity



As we all continue to follow the tragic events unfolding in Christchurch, we keep in our thoughts the people of Canterbury and particularly our Kiwi Muslim community at this time.

It is a time for families and all New Zealanders to pull together as a show of unity and support for each other.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected.

**Patrick Drumm**  
Headmaster

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## Weekly Notices



### Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the 2019 Calendar

**Saturday, March 16**  
MAGS Kapa Haka at Polyfest, Manukau Sports Bowl, 9.10am

**Thursday, March 21**  
Junior School Pasifika Parents Evening, MH Atrium, 6pm

**Tuesday, March 26**  
Parent-Student-Mentor Conferences

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### Sport



**Photo Essays**  
Auckland League Archery  
Click [here](#)



Softball Premier 2 Boys v Onehunga High  
Click [here](#)

**Fixtures and results**

Click [here](#)

Sport trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

## Prime Minister's Breakfast



Tickets for the Prime Minister's Breakfast, held for Year 9 students and their parents, will be on sale at the Finance Office from 8am Monday, March 18. This event, which features a delicious buffet breakfast and has been kindly sponsored by Anne Duncan Real Estate, will be on Thursday, 4th April, starting at 7.00am, and the guest speaker is The Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Ms Ardern is also our MP for Mount Albert and holds ministerial portfolios for Arts, Culture and Heritage; National Security and Intelligence; and Child Poverty Reduction.



**What:** Prime Minister's Breakfast

**When:** Thursday, 4th April, 7.00am - 8.00am

**Where:** F.W. Gamble Hall  
**Cost:** Tickets \$20 per person (maximum of 3 tickets per student)

Tickets will be on sale at the Finance Office from 8am Monday, March 18, until sold out. Finance Office hours are 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

**Tickets are limited in number and will be sold on a first come first served basis by cash or eftpos transactions only.**

Please note that in consideration of the many who will be going on to work from the breakfast, this event is scheduled to finish by 8.00am.

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## MAGS Kapa Haka at Polyfest tomorrow



Friends, family and supporters can watch MAGS' Kapa Haka group performing at Polyfest tomorrow morning.

They are scheduled for 9.10am and will be the third group of the day to perform in Division 1 on the Maori Stage at Manukau Sports Bowl.

The roopu have been working very hard for the past two months under the guidance of Whaea Waimirangi Paul and Matua Peter Walters.

Last year, our Kapa Haka group placed seventh, a massive achievement when up against Maori immersion schools.

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## Excellence Award for Mr Gibbs

Congratulations to Academic Dean Warwick Gibbs, who is one of 15 recipients of the 2018 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Mr Gibbs, pictured with Headmaster Patrick Drumm, rose above the pack of more than 2000 nominations in the awards this year.

He has taught languages at MAGS since 1972, and was HoF Languages for 30 years.

Currently Academic Dean, he has been a dean since 1986.

Nominations for the awards are anonymous, and nominees must make a submission about why they are deserving.

Mr Gibbs' dedication to languages has earned him various scholarships over the years but his submission offers an insight into why he has been acknowledged for excellence in teaching:

"Time with the young is never wasted. In a world where adults (including teachers) are so busy with their jobs and paperwork, one-on-one communication across the generations is reducing," Mr Gibbs wrote.

"I spend every interval and lunch with the students. It is sadly becoming a fact of teaching life that these breaks are now used for marking and preparation by so many teachers. At least the students take some time off and they are ever ready for discussion. My office is full of students wanting to share new things, discuss current affairs or talk about history, sport or anything they fancy. It becomes a place where they are out of the elements and also safe. You realise what it means when they and/or their parents write to you to say how much they appreciate it."



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## Albertian Elijah Manu making it in music

Albertian Elijah Manu is making a name for himself in the music industry as part of rap duo Church & AP, who have been working together for only about a year but already have a hit single in *Ready or Not*.

Elijah (aka Church) was a Year 13 Music Student last year and was one of our top Pasifika students.

You can see a *NZ Herald* article about Church & AP's success [here](#)



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## Scholarship for Princess Elliott

Congratulations to Rugby Sevens and Touch player Princess Elliott, who has been awarded a Tania Dalton Foundation Scholarship.

Princess, pictured with Shawn Rushby of scholarship partner Archibald & Shorter North Shore, was one of 12 recipients nationwide of the Scholarship, which is for three years and provides financial, mentorship and personal development support to young women and helps them to fulfil their potential.

Princess has also recently been named in the NZ Open Women's team to compete at the Touch World Cup in Malaysia next month.

Last year, basketballer and netballer Sharne Pupuke-Robati was one of the inaugural recipients of the Scholarship, set up to honour former Silver Fern and netball commentator Tania Dalton, who passed away in 2017.



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## School reports now available

Parents should have received notification that students' school reports are now available on the KAMAR Parent Portal.

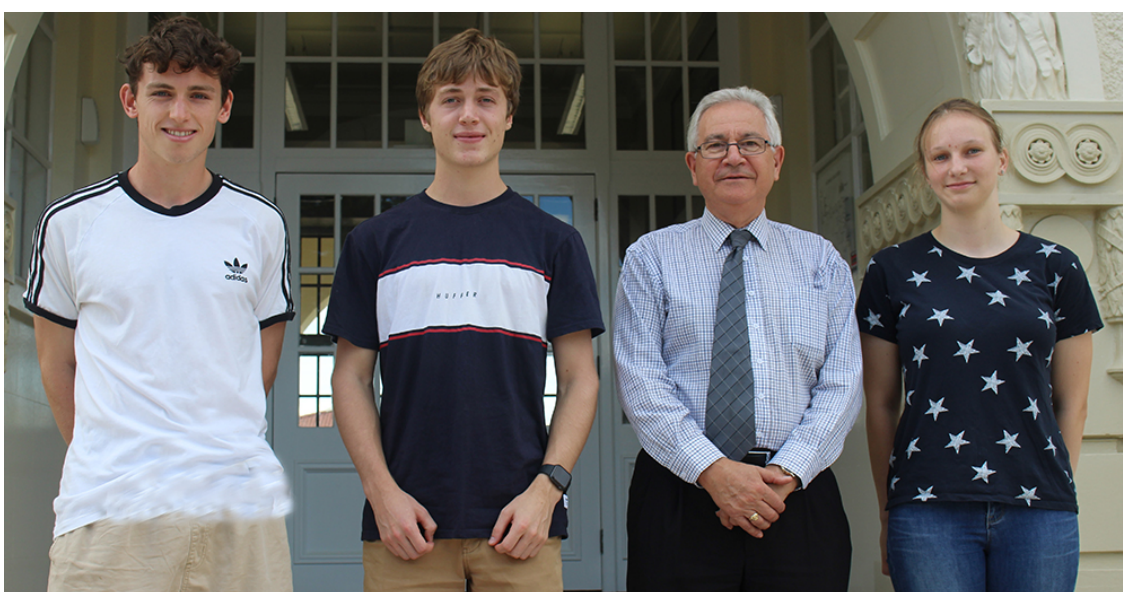
Term 1 Progress Reports will be discussed at the Parent-Student-Mentor Conferences on Tuesday, 26 March, for all Year 11 and Year 12 students.

Parents of Years 11 and 12 students should have already received information regarding booking a 15-minute conference time. However, if you have not received this please contact Deputy Principal Tanya Rose via email [trose@mags.school.nz](mailto:trose@mags.school.nz)

If it has been considered necessary, some parents of Years 9, 10 and 13 students would also have been asked to attend a conference with their child on Tuesday, 26 March. On Tuesday, 26 March, there will be no timetabled classes running and students will only be required to attend their respective conference appointment. We strongly encourage all students to make the most of this day with any school assessments or individual study they need to complete at home. A room can be set aside for any students for whom parents are unable to find alternative arrangements for this day – please register your interest with Deputy Principal John Stradwick via email [jstradwick@mags.school.nz](mailto:jstradwick@mags.school.nz). Students attending the conferences are expected to be in school uniform and be ready to discuss their Term 1 Progress Report.

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## Returning scholars inspire next generation



Jonty De Pledge, Miriam Leonhardt and Liam Thompson returned to MAGS today to share their experiences sitting NZQA Scholarship in 2018.

Addressing a large group of aspiring Scholars from Years 9 to 13, the three Albertians spoke about the keys to success in these examinations; the highest possible qualification available to New Zealand secondary students.

Given they gained a total of 15 Scholarships between them, including seven Outstanding scholarships, this trio knew their topic well. Jonty is the top physics student in the country, Miriam a Premier Scholar and top female scholar in the country, and Liam gained three scholarships himself.

Mr Paul McKinney (pictured above with the trio) also shared his vast experience preparing students for scholarship and advised students about routines and habits that support successful scholarship candidates. Mr McKinney helped 21 students gain Calculus scholarships in 2018, including two Outstanding scholarships, so he too brought his vast experience to the conversation.

The passion all speakers have for learning was clearly evident, and students planning to sit scholarship in 2019 and beyond left the hall with a clear sense of the dedication needed to be successful in this pursuit.

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## Tomorrow's Schools public meetings

More public meetings regarding the Tomorrow's Schools review have been announced. The Ministry of Education will hold an extra meeting in central Auckland at Freemans Bay School on Thursday, 21 March, 7-9pm.

You can see the full list of public meetings [here](#) and view the various avenues available to the public for feedback on the report.

The report by the Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce *Our Schooling Futures: Stronger Together \ Whiria Ngā Kura Tūātitini* was released last December. The Independent Taskforce is now keen to receive feedback from as many people as possible to help complete their final recommendations.

If you can't attend the meetings, you can voice your opinion via an online survey [here](#)

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## Year 12 Drama production unveiled

Year 12 Drama students will present the play *To Kill a Mockingbird*, based on the famous book of the same name, over four nights in early April.

See poster below for details.

# TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

WRITTEN BY **CHRISTOPHER SERGEL**  
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY **HARPER LEE**



**MAGS LEVEL  
TWO DRAMA  
PRODUCTION**

12 DRAMA (HGH): Monday April 1st, Wednesday April 3rd

12 DRAMA (RIG): Tuesday April 2nd, Thursday April 4th

RESERVE TICKETS THROUGH THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT IN ADVANCE

ADULTS: \$10 MAGS STUDENTS/STAFF: \$5

WHERE: E9 (DRAMA ROOM)

**7PM START**

CAST DIFFERS PER NIGHT. CHECK WITH STUDENTS FOR DETAILS



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## Arts update

### JUNIOR MUSIC IDOL

We have received quite a few entries for this junior music competition from a variety of musicians and singers of different styles.

Plans for heats are now underway and will be announced next week.



## **SAVE THE DATE**

In Week 11, the Dance department will hold its Annual Dance Concert, which features items from every dance class. This will be held on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th of April at Centennial Theatre. More details and ticket information out next week.

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## **Graduate Choir Rehearsal**



The acclaimed Graduate Choir NZ under the direction of Terrence Maskill visited MAGS on Monday evening and held an open rehearsal for students and families to come and watch. The mainly male audience were in awe of the singers, one boy describing the performance as the “voices of angels”.

The school is lucky to have secured Mr Maskill to develop the choral programme at Mount Albert Grammar, and already we have attracted some keen participants.

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## **Anzac Service and Luncheon**



The Mount Albert Grammar School Albertians Association is hosting drinks and lunch at School House on Thursday 11th April, following the Anzac Service Assembly. For the Anzac Service, please assemble in the foyer of the main school building, by reception, at 11.30am, where you will be shown into the F.W. Gamble Hall. Following the service, please make your own way down to School House for the luncheon, which begins at 1pm. The guest speaker at the luncheon will be Headmaster Patrick Drumm. The cost of the lunch is \$30 per person, which is payable by cheque or cash as you arrive at School House. Alternatively, you can make an online payment to:

MAGS Albertians Association, ASB Bank, Mount Albert:

**Account Number: 12 3029 0376398 00**

Ref: Christian name and surname

**Please RSVP by Thursday 4th April by**

**either** Email : [msykes@mags.school.nz](mailto:msykes@mags.school.nz)

**or** Phone School Reception on (09) 846-2044

Unfortunately, car parking will not be available on school grounds, however drop-off at the front of school is fine.

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## Tertiary education seminars and planning



The Careers Department has released its schedule for the year for presentations by tertiary institutions and course planning seminars. There will also be a presentation about careers in the the NZ Defence Force. You can see the schedule [here](#)

The Careers Department has also launched its own Facebook page where students and parents can find out more about future pathways.

The page is regularly updated and has information about available jobs, tertiary education providers, seminars, trades opportunities and much much more.

To keep up with the play in a fast-moving job market, click [here](#) and follow their page to receive regular updates.

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## Academic tutoring available

The MAGS Academic Council provides both free and paid tutoring for any students at MAGS.

We have many student tutors at the school who are keen to help, and a wide range of subjects that our tutors can teach.

Tutoring is an easy way to get help if you are struggling in a subject or just need a little more explanation about a topic. To get tutoring simply

email [tutoring@mags.school.nz](mailto:tutoring@mags.school.nz) with the following information:

- Are you looking for free or paid tutoring?
- What year level are you in?
- What subject would you like tutoring in? (It can be more than one).
- Would you prefer a female or male tutor? Or does it not matter?

Once the email is sent, the Academic Council will get in touch with you as soon as possible to look for a suitable tutor.

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## Duke of Ed Bronze



Last weekend saw 28 students go out to the Karangahake Gorge to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze journey with Mr Belson, Ms Mackinnon and Mr Fullerton. Once again, the weather was extremely variable, ranging from rain on Saturday to hot, sunny conditions later on, as we tramped up and down through the gorge and enjoyed the view from Karangahake Mountain.

The campsite at Dickey's Flat is the perfect place to learn about living in the outdoors and cooking with limited facilities, although some of the meals were almost gourmet cuisine! The students learned how to navigate, pack their packs, manage their team and themselves, and be safe in the outdoors as well as realising the importance of pitching their tents correctly.

All students were enthusiastic and tackled their respective journeys in an energetic manner. They were a great bunch of students who were a credit to both themselves and the school. Hopefully this is the final part of their Bronze award and they will now continue onto Silver.

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## MAGS staff vacancies

### **Receptionist/Secretary**

We are seeking an experienced receptionist and secretary to join Mount Albert Grammar School.

This role involves providing secretarial support to the senior leadership team in conjunction with duties as the receptionist in the main school office.

Strong secretarial and administration skills are essential.

### **Teacher Aide – English Language**

MAGS is seeking a person who has the skills and passion to work with students in our English Language Department.

You will work closely with students who require classroom help, primarily with literacy and

numeracy. The students all have English as an additional language and some are recent migrants to NZ.

You will also support the English Language staff with administrative duties.

**For details about these vacancies and other vacancies at MAGS, click [here](#)**

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## Homestay families wanted

MAGS' International Department is currently looking for English speaking Homestay families, for short and long-term stays.

You may like to include a student in your family life, or perhaps you know of someone who would like to – a friend, relative or retired couple. The experience is enriching and rewarding for both students and hosts.

### **What is the expectation of a host?**

A host is expected to provide a clean and comfortable bedroom with bed, wardrobe (built-in or free-standing) and drawers, linen and towels, desk and lamp, heating in the room, meals and laundry.

### **What is the benefit of hosting?**

- A chance to meet students from all over the world
- A great opportunity for your children to learn a different language
- Share your culture while learning about your student's culture and country
- Prompt fortnightly payment of \$590 (\$295 per week). Payments continue through the April, July and September holidays
- Short and long-term guests available

If you are interested in becoming a host family or would like further information, please email [homestay@mags.school.nz](mailto:homestay@mags.school.nz) or call the International Homestay Department on 846 2044 xtn 8123 or 8227.

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## Sports update

### **Sponsors back Melbourne Football trip**



Sponsors have come on board to supply new playing, training and travel kit for the Football Academy trip to Melbourne next month that will include a game against the Melbourne Victory Youth Squad. Main sponsors [GreenStar Energy Solutions](#) have been joined by [Student Horizons](#) in paying for the strips for the 18-strong squad for their trip, which will include four games in the Victorian capital.

Jeremy Kellett, of GreenStar Energy Solutions (pictured left), and Ollie Wright, of Student Horizons, (second from right), visited MAGS on Monday to present the boys with their kit.



Director of Football Peter Smith said the boys now looked the part, and it was good to see each of them thanking the sponsors personally for their support.

Mr Smith said, "I am extremely grateful for the sponsorship support from both GreenStar Energy Solutions and Student Horizons. We are looking forward to the tour in Melbourne and for the boys to face some very challenging games against some of the best young talent in Australia.

"As the Football Programme at MAGS continues to grow, we are constantly looking at opportunities for our most talented players to support their development as young footballers."

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## Medals galore at Auckland Champs



*Auckland Age Group Championships medallists pictured above are (at back from left to right): Bowen Crawford, Bede Aitu, Michael Chapman, Amber George. At middle: Edie Ancell, Vasilina Shipilova, Brearna Crawford, Ella Speight. At front: Isla Marsh, Hunter Dobson, Lucy Woodall.*

MAGS swimmers achieved outstanding results at the Auckland Age Group Championships held at West Wave Aquatic Centre last weekend.

Talented MAGS student Brearna Crawford was outstanding in her nine-Gold medal haul. Brearna rewrote the record book and broke five Auckland 16yrs Girls records, two of which had stood for 27 years. Brearna swam under the World Junior Championship Qualifying time in the 200m Breaststroke.

Auckland Age Group Champions from the MAGS Aquatic Academy program are as follows: Hunter Dobson, Lucy Woodall, Bowen Crawford, Edie Ancell, Vasilina Shipilova, Lara Grozev and Brearna Crawford.

The swimmers will now prepare for the Champion of Champions and NZ Age Group Championships in five weeks.

For a full list of medallists, click [here](#)

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## **Rowers claim five medals at NISS**



MAGS rowers won five medals at the North Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships last weekend.

This placed MAGS again in the top 10 rowing schools.

At NISS there were 1891 students from 105 schools entered in 4548 seats in 1308 crews.

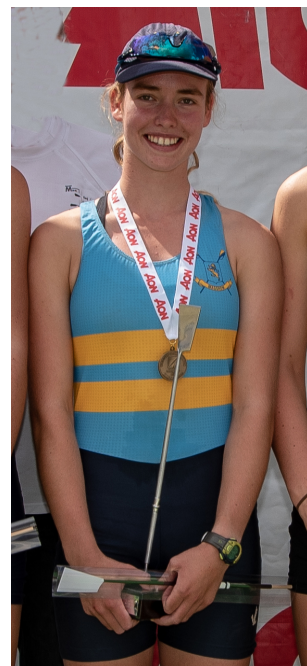
Holly Chaafe (pictured right) continued her winning ways, taking the U17 Singles title and combining with Marieke Richards for Silver in the U17 Double Sculls.

The girls novice crews took Silver in both the Coxed Eight and Four events.

A strong race by the Boys U15 Coxed Four (pictured above with coach John Cook) saw them continuing their upward momentum and finally beat Westlake this season, taking the Bronze medal.

The Senior Boys made the A final of the U18 eight and were 4<sup>th</sup> in the U18 Quad Sculls.

Mr Cook said, "This strong showing by the junior crews at this prestigious event shows promise for the future of MAGS rowing, and crews are looking forward to the national championships Maadi Cup regatta at Lake Karapiro in two weeks."



## Archers on target

At the Youth North Island Championships in Palmerston North, MAGS had two archers in the medals.

Lauren Emirali, at left, won Gold in the Target, and Silver in Individual Match Play, while Lizzy Robins (at right) won Silver in Target, and Bronze in Match Play.

The pair also won Bronze together in the Teams Match Play.

Lauren and Lizzy are both members of Mt Albert's Mountain Green Archery Club.





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**Touch Academy opportunity**



## GALAXY SPORTS – WINTER TOUCH ACADEMY

- Materially improve your touch skills before next summer
- Work on all those 'one percenters' that your coaches keep talking about
- Get a better understanding of the game
- Learn skills specific to your position (wing, link, middle)
- Have a great time and experience with other like-minded players
- Get to play 'live games' to test your new skills against opposition
- Learn off some experienced rep coaches / players including Mr Touch – Peter Walters
- Have fun!! The academy is run on astro turf.

If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, then enquire now!

We are capping this academy to the first 70 applicants.

**What:** Galaxy Sports – Winter Touch Academy

**When:** Monday nights, 5.30-7pm

**Starts:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March. **Finish:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

**Where:** Ngahue Reserve, St Johns (above the Auckland Netball Courts). Access via 62-80 College Rd.

**Cost:** First session free! Then if you want to participate for the programme, \$70 for the 8-week programme.

**Who is this for?** We are targeting high school student (boys and girls) regardless of current skill and experience levels. We are keen on lifting the participation, skills and love of touch rugby in our community

### Contacts:

Peter Walters

[sportcoach5@gmail.com](mailto:sportcoach5@gmail.com)

021 976 579

Ben Bartlett

[ben@benbartlett.com](mailto:ben@benbartlett.com)

021 158 0019

Steve Freundlich

[sfreundlich@argosy.co.nz](mailto:sfreundlich@argosy.co.nz)

021 472 872

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## General notices



ST MARY'S YOUTH PRESENTS:

# *SUNDAY FUNDAY!*

**SUNDAY 24TH MARCH  
11AM -3PM  
MARIST COLLEGE FIELD**

**A DAY FOR ALL FAMILIES TO  
HAVE FUN, PLAY GAMES,  
AND ENJOY A RANGE OF  
CULTURAL FOOD**



# NAVY CADETS

Te Taua Taurira o Aotearoa

## JOIN TODAY!



TS ACHILLES (AUCKLAND CITY)

3 OPEN NIGHTS IN MARCH

Thursday 7th, 14th and 21st from 6:30pm

Enrolling Year 9–11 youth for 2019 now

19 TAMAKI DRIVE, OKAHU BAY (Ground Flr, Navy League Building)



Training Ship Achilles



@tsachilles



achilles.org.nz



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