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October 21, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

## Key Dates

### Prizegivings Are Back!



Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

Welcome back to the new term – the business end of the school year.

It is hard to believe that at this time last year we were still immersed in the Auckland Covid Lockdown. The settings in place a year ago prevented the traditional end-of-year celebrations of student success –

something which had been such an important part of MAGS for almost 100 years.

The return to a degree of event normality for our centenary year is a real triumph. Once again our F.W. Gamble Hall will be filled with students and parents as we recognise the best of our MAGS young people.

It will be special for students to receive awards in person – with whanau and peers also being present in person!

Our school motto has taken on a special relevance in recent times. Our upcoming prizegivings, awards dinners and school ball are once again richly deserved celebrations for our students to enjoy and savour.

The return of the MAGS event season is a fitting closure to the uniqueness of the 2022 year.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

**Monday, October 24**

Labour Day holiday

**Wednesday, October 26**

Summer Sports Photos

**Thursday, October 27**

Sports Awards Dinner

**Friday, October 28**

Pasifika Awards Dinner

**Tuesday, November 1**

Senior Prizegiving, 10am, F.W. Gamble Hall

**Friday, November 4**

Arts Awards Dinner

**Saturday, November 5**

School Ball

**Monday, November 7**

Te Puna o Wairaka Awards Dinner

Closure? Not quite!

Bringing the best to the upcoming NCEA and Scholarship Examinations...now that will be the icing on the cake!

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm  
Headmaster

## Sport

### Photo Essays



Ki o Rahi Seniors' Regional  
Tournament

Click [here](#)

### Trials and Registrations

Click [here](#)

### Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)

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**Our Lion Fund programme aims to provide financial support to allow every MAGS student to access the breadth of opportunities we offer at our school.**

Donate to the Lion Fund now



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## Service Lions recognised



Our Service Lions were recognised at a special assembly today for the selfless work they put into all areas of the school and the wider community.

At the assembly, Mr Drumm said, as one of our Four Pillars, Service was an area where all could participate and excel. He welcomed the opportunity to recognise those who had served their school or community, especially as whanau could once again be present to see students honoured.

Guest speaker was Albertian Wesley Faleolo (1982-86), the co-founder of Fight the Good Fight programme that helps people to build resilience and face mental challenges. He has partnered with MAGS to run his programmes here and now has other schools keen to take them on.

Mr Faleolo (pictured right) said he never thought he could be a leader until he was told that

leadership came from service, and thought "I can do that; I like serving people."

He said serving others was the way towards leading the richest and most rewarding of lives, and he congratulated our Service Lions on their awards as well as the people who were keen to follow in their footsteps.

Our Gloriana choir also performed at the event before guests adjourned to the W.O.H. Gibbs Room for refreshments.

You can see all the Service Lions' names [here](#)





## Welcome return of formal Sports Awards



Sports Lions and Winter Trophies were awarded to 240 students this year, with the return of formal prizegivings.

Premier Sports Lions were awarded for Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Lacrosse, Netball, Orienteering, Rowing, Rugby, Rugby League, Softball, Squash, Swimming, Touch and Underwater Hockey.

The 6th Grade Rugby team, pictured below, won the Himalayan Trophy for Best Spirit in Practice and Games.



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## Huge response to Shave for a Cure



*Year 10 student Myra Smith with her mother Hayley at yesterday's Shave for a Cure event.*

There was a huge turnout yesterday in the Albertian Quad as some brave students and staff went under the clippers for Shave for a Cure, raising funds to support the cancer community.

The event, organised by Interact, has raised more than \$11,000 (and counting) and you can still donate [here](#)

One of the first in the chair yesterday was Year 10 student Myra Smith, who had her hair shaved by, and in support of, her mother Hayley, who is fighting her own battle with cancer.



Mrs Smith said, "I am so proud of her and all the students who were taking part. It was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm for such a great cause, and it's all about raising awareness. "The more that people know about and talk about cancer, the better. I just want all these teenagers to know what to look out for and how to look after themselves."

You can see more photos [here](#)



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## Honouring brothers at Centenary Dinner



One of our guests at the Centenary Dinner on October 1 was Suzie Rogers, who was representing her deceased brothers – both House Boys at MAGS in the 1970s. Suzie's presence and the death of her brothers were acknowledged in Centenary Committee Chair Dale Griffiths' toast to absent friends at the dinner.

She is pictured above, at right, with friends Celia and

David Billing. David was a close friend of her brother, Nicholas Ramsden, who was at MAGS from 1975-78, while Simon Ramsden attended from 1971-74.

Nicholas died in 1978, shortly after leaving MAGS, and his parents, in honour of his memory, presented MAGS with the Nicholas Arthur Ramsden Cup for the Most Improved House Boy, which was awarded annually until it went missing.

Suzie said Simon died seven years ago but when she heard David talking about the Centenary celebrations she decided to attend the dinner "because I wanted to go and remember my brothers and represent them".

"It was great to be there for them – a lot of thought went into the evening and I really enjoyed it."



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## Order your Centenary book now

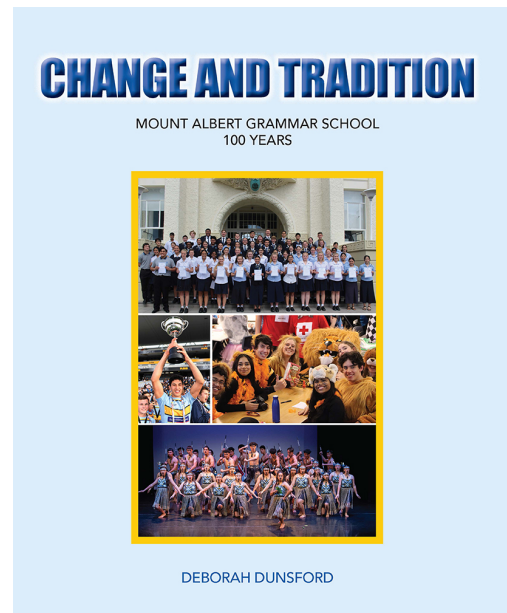
Our Centenary book *Change and Tradition* by Deborah Dunsford is available to [order online](#). The book, which focuses on the period 1997-2022, is a companion to Professor Russell Stone and Neville McMillan's 75th Jubilee book, *Tradition and Change*, which covers MAGS'

history from 1922-1997.

*Change and Tradition* has comprehensive coverage and photos of the past 25 years at MAGS.

The book has a RRP of \$45 but our Centenary pricing has it at \$35, and it can be bought in a bundle with *Tradition and Change* for \$50.

You can order these books online [here](#) along with MAGS Centenary apparel and merchandise.



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## Original chairs donated to MAGS

In the early years of MAGS there was a row of chairs on stage in the F.W. Gamble Hall.

During assembly, staff came in two-by-two and sat in the chairs.

When they were decommissioned in about 1967, they were sold off. Bob Willmott, a master from 1930-69, bought two.

Our Archivist Mr Murphy says of Mr Wilmott, "He was a remarkably gifted man; at home teaching English, History, French and Latin.

"His son, David Willmott, has had the chairs restored by a heritage restorer. They were presented to the School just before the Centennial festivities in late September 2022.

"The image shows David standing behind one of the chairs. It is wonderful to have two pieces of furniture that go back to the earliest years of the Hall."





## Centenary Week School Tours

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*The 1966 6A (Scholarship) class reunited to take part in a School Tour during Centenary Week. From MAGS, they went on to experience success in the realms of academia, research and industry.*

School Tours were held the in the last week of Term 3, our Centenary Celebrations Week, with a total of 130 people taking part across four days. The tours were led by a small team of Year 12/13 History students with Libby Markham (HOF Social Science), and planned and co-ordinated by Deputy Principal Christine Cato. Mrs Cato says, "The main tours were an opportunity to view the school site and see the significant changes to buildings and development while also revisiting those areas of the school that have hardly changed at all, such as the F.W. Gamble Hall. "The tours triggered some wonderful memories that were shared by the groups as they toured the school, culminating in a cuppa and further reminiscing in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room afterwards."





## Rocket League champions



MAGS' Rocket League team has dominated the New Zealand Esports Hyperfibre League (NZEHL) this year, going undefeated over 12 weeks to be crowned champions in the finals held at the SkyCity Theatre.

Playing every Thursday, the team (Luka Jeremic – Captain, James Hunt and Caspar van Wetering) did not lose a best-of-three or best-of five series, and only lost 2 out of 31 individual games.



It was a performance that top schools from across the country – including their additional coaches and support – were simply unable to compete against. MAGS participated in the final at SkyCity with supporters cheering them on.

On Friday, October 7, the team played Macleans College in the Upper Final match, with MAGS winning 3-1, and progressing to the final. Macleans would then go on to beat Rutherford College 3-0 in the lower bracket, to also progress to the final.

The National Final was played on Sunday the 9th, when MAGS once again

defeated Macleans 3-1, earning winners' medals and a team trophy.

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## Ian de Stigter rewarded for service

MAGS staff member of 23 years Ian de Stigter was awarded Top Technician in NZ for his years of service and dedication.

Mr de Stigter, who works in the Science Department, was presented with the award at the Science Technicians' Association of NZ conference in Christchurch.

Mr de Stigter joined MAGS in 1999 but before then he had stints in the forestry industry, with a gas company, and with the then-Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



## Workshop for Gloriana singers



*Pictured above, left to right: Keani Taruia- Pora (Takapuna Grammar and New Zealand Youth Choir), Steven Rapana (Kings College), Violani Afoa, Anouk Blackburn, Catherine Oxenham (Choir Director MAGS), Charlotte Pullen, Lara Grozev (Head Chorister MAGS), Rose Tredwell (All Together Now, Tauranga) and Kate Bell (Director, All Together Now).*

Gloriana Choir had the privilege of hosting the All Together Now group of choirs at an all-day workshop held in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room during the holidays.

Attendees were welcomed by Gloriana with a mihi whakatau led by Ms Ruth Pearson, Assistant Choir Director.

The choir then proceeded to sing with some of Auckland's leading choir directors, namely Steven Rapana (Kings College) and Kate Bell.

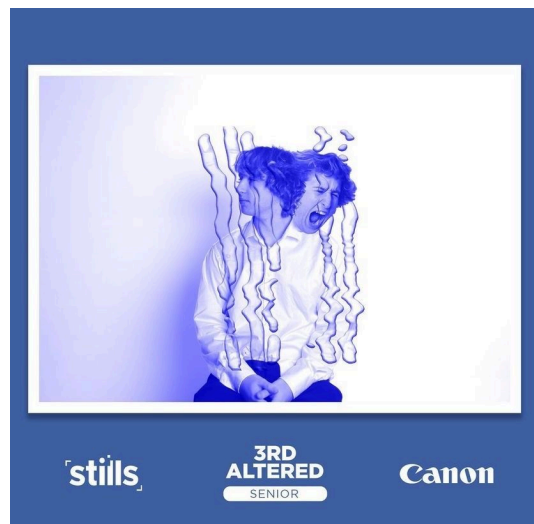
As a result, Gloriana has been invited to join All Together Now's Christmas busking to raise money for the City Mission.

Choir Director Catherine Oxenham commented that the MAGS venue was perfect for this event and the choir members' kind and capable attitudes were well-received by all the participants.



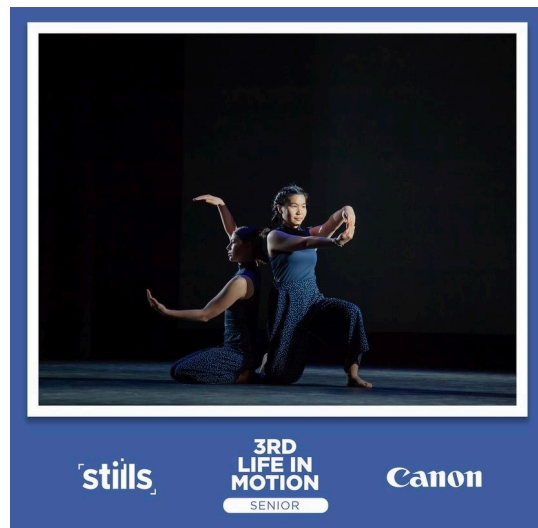
The MAGS students that took part were, from left, Violani Afoa, Paige Barnes-Kilgour, Charlotte Pullen, Anouk Blackburn, Vanishka Das and Lara Grozev (Head Chorister).

## Photography competition winners



Congratulations to photography students Zoe Whaley (Year 13) and QiQi Deng (Year 11), who have been recognised for their outstanding work in the nationwide Stills Photography Competition.

Zoe was awarded 2nd prize in the "Life in Motion" category and 3rd in the "Altered" category, while QiQi claimed 3rd prize in the "Life in Motion" category.



## Summer Sports photos next week



Summer Sports photos will be taken in the F.W. Gamble Hall next Wednesday (October 26). Students should arrive at the hall at least 10 minutes prior to their photo time, and must be wearing the correct uniform.

Click [here](#) for the schedule and uniform details.

## Order The Albertian 2022 now

Our Finance Department is now taking orders for The Albertian 2022, which will be available in 2023.



The Albertian  
2022

The yearbook can be delivered to Year 13 students, rather than picked up from MAGS, for a small extra cost. Please click [here](#) and fill out the form to order your copy of The Albertian 2022.

## Sports Update

### Orienteering champions



*Pictured above, back row from left: Kieran Woods, coach, Callum Wishart, Molly McGowan, Daniel Wood, Oscar Vink, Matthew Greenwood and Sam Carryer. Front row from left: James Milne and William Wood.*

Just before the holidays, seven MAGS orienteers were selected to represent New Zealand at the Southern Cross Challenge in Victoria, Australia.





NZ selected two teams to compete against the seven Australian states and the teams finished 1st and 2nd. In individual races there were a number of outstanding performances and podium finishes from Molly McGowan, Daniel Wood, Callum Wishart, Sam Carryer and Matthew Greenwood. Standout performances came from Molly McGowan (2nd in 20 Elite in the Australian Sprint and 3rd in 20 Elite in the Australian Long), Daniel Wood (1st in M18A in Australian Sprint) and Sam Carryer (1st in M16A in the Australian Middle).



## Champions recognised



MAGS' top tennis players and cross country runners were recognised and presented with their trophies at assembly today.

Pictured above are our tennis champions. Back row: Chelsea Wijntjes (Senior Girls, Open Mixed Doubles and Open Doubles Girls Champion), Amelie Kelly (Open Doubles Girls Champion). Front row: Amber Tokuda (Intermediate Girls Champion), Kanya Joshi (Junior Girls Champion) and Myles Kelly (Junior Boys Champion). Absent: Senior Boys, Open Mixed Doubles and Open Boys Doubles Champion Luke Eagles-Smith, Intermediate Boys Champion Reuben Solomon, Open Doubles Boys Champion Yash Morriswala.

Pictured below are our Cross Country champions. From left, Maia Lythe (Intermediate Girls Champion), Ben Mitchell (Senior Boys Champion), Myles Kelly (Junior Boys Champion).

Absent: Senior Girls Champion Emily Rednall, Intermediate Boys Champion Jesse Burge, Junior Girls Champion Nina Chalmers.



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## Melbourne Victory share expertise



MAGS' top footballers have taken part in a Melbourne Victory Pathways Development Camp that could open up opportunities in the A-League. The camp consisted of three days training delivered by Melbourne Victory FC (MVFC) coaching staff and overseen by Football Pathways Manager Gareth Turnbull. Beyond the football training sessions, players also participated in workshops with A-League men and women players and coaches, and gained an insight into the academy with academy management. There was also a coaches workshop.

Some players also participated in an identification match, where the Mount Albert Grammar 1st XI took on a MVFC invitational selection. The game was live-streamed back to the academy management, where future academy opportunities could be afforded to high-performing trialists.

MAGS Director of Football Peter Smith said, "It was great to once again see our partnership come to fruition with a Melbourne Victory presence in New Zealand at Mount Albert Grammar School after the disruptions caused by Covid."

"The purpose and intentions of the Future Pathways camp, the identification game and the coaches workshop were clear to see with all involved receiving a satisfying and meaningful football experience from the Victory coaching staff."

Both MVFC and MAGS will continue to work closely over coming months as MAGS embeds the MVFC Academy curriculum and philosophy, while aiming to take our Football Academy to play a series of games in Melbourne in the near future.

You can read more about the development of the partnership [here](#)



## Kī o Rahi regional tournament



On Wednesday, the Senior Kī o Rahi team competed in the Auckland regional tournament. They had a hard start to the day with the current champs in the same pool. They finished the morning with one win and two close losses.

Despite the results, this team was competitive and exciting to watch. They finished the day with a loss to Alfriston College and a convincing win against Pukekohe College.

TIC Mrs Absolum said, "This is only the second time MAGS has competed in this tournament and the skill level shown by this new team was impressive. We look forward to attending next year's tournament."

**Results:** MAGS 13 – Waiorea 16, MAGS 23 – Papakura 12, MAGS 9 – Nga Tapuwae 15, MAGS 18 – Alfriston 20, MAGS 21 – Pukekohe 12.

You can see more photos from the tournament [here](#)

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## General Notices



THE  
GRADUATE  
CHOIR  
NEW ZEALAND

THE GRADUATE CHOIR NZ  
**21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration**

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*St Matthew-in-the-City*

**SUNDAY 30 OCT 2022**

*2:15pm*

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**TICKETS \$45** (\$40 concession)

[www.iticket.co.nz](http://www.iticket.co.nz) / 0508 iTICKET (484-253)

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[www.graduatechoir.co.nz](http://www.graduatechoir.co.nz)

**iTICKET**

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Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland  
09 846 2044 [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

Centenary Week  
25th Sept - 1st October  
<https://mags100.ptly.com>

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