



# Western Springs College

## Alumni & Friends

Issue 4 | October 2013

Be into win a Kobo mini e-reader and help grow our Alumni community. See friend get friend competition below.

Passionate about our Alumni? We are looking for a volunteer to help build our Alumni. Please contact Paula on [marxp@wsc.school.nz](mailto:marxp@wsc.school.nz) or 027 4510288 for more information. Very flexible role and hours.

Feature in our next communication. Email your story to [alumni@wsc.co.nz](mailto:alumni@wsc.co.nz)

### Alumnus, Simon Pound reflects on what Springs did for him, his favourite drink and what success looks like these days.

Simon Pound is a writer/producer working across media and marketing. Half the week he's Manager of Content at Vend, a kiwi software company. He is also partner in New Zealand made label Ingrid Starnes, where he spends a lot more of his life working with women's clothing, fragrance and interior design than he had ever guessed he might. [www.ingridstarnes.com](http://www.ingridstarnes.com). He attended Western Springs college in the late 90s.

Greatest achievement:

My family, I'm very lucky with Ingrid and the three kids. Thanks to a wee bit of help we manage to keep everything going, and success these days is more about having the kids grow up happy and healthy than anything else.

Source of inspiration:

I'm inspired by reading about and talking to all the interesting people making things happen here. Auckland, and especially our little bit of it around Western Springs, has so many people working creatively and making our city a better place to be.

Working style:

I read a really great thing by Milton Glaser, the guy who designed the I love NY logo. He said that looking back on his life he realised that he did his best stuff when working with people he really liked and respected. This rings really true for me.

Favourite drink:

I like an Old Fashioned. It's really easy to make it like Don Draper does. Just get a tumbler, drop in a sugar cube and maraschino cherry, drop a couple of drops of angostura bitters onto the sugar cube and then crush it with a spoon. Then get an orange, cut a couple of 20c piece bits of peel off. No pith. Pour in a good chug - about 60mls- of a bourbon like Woodford Reserve. Pop in 5 ice cubes. Grab the peel and break it in half over the ice and drop it in there. Then simply stir it round a bunch of times and drink.

Thought on life:

Although drinks are fun, try not to work in bars too long.



Our mission is to re-connect with all students, teachers and friends of Western Springs College. We want to keep you up to date with what is happening at Western Springs College and build an Alumni community. Join at <http://westernsprings.school.nz/Alumni/>

Have your details changed? Email changes to [alumni@wsc.co.nz](mailto:alumni@wsc.co.nz)

### Parent Action Group Movie Fundraiser

Beyond the Edge, the awe-inspiring New Zealand movie about Sir Edmund Hillary. Written and directed by a WSC parent - Leanne Pooley.

WHEN: Thursday, 24 Oct  
WHERE: The Bridgeway  
TIME: Movie starts at 8.00pm, come along from 7.30pm for a complimentary glass of wine (non-alcoholic beverages also available)  
PRICE: Tickets \$25 from Jan at [jmcintosh@ihug.co.nz](mailto:jmcintosh@ihug.co.nz) or 021 414 157

What was Western Springs like for you?

I had a lot of help from Western Springs. I was a little rotter beforehand, and Western Springs gave me a chance. It fostered a creative outlook and had the best body of students and staff of teachers too interesting to be anywhere else. They related to students as people and all had strong diverse values. It's been a great environment for a long time.

Special to me:

As our kids get older the place we live gets more and more important. Auckland is feeling like a grown-up city in so many ways. It's promise as a multi-cultural, international facing exciting place is starting to be realised. And there are a lot more opportunities in terms of businesses, being able to live here and have a global market. It's what Vend, the company I work at does, and this kind of approach just opens so much more up for the future here.

Likes: I'm a big fan of practical bike paths and impractical Saabs.

### **The New School: What is Modern About Modern?**

**From the Principal, Ken Havill**

Following the recent appointment of architects, Jasmax, Western Springs College is now fully engaged in the process of designing the new school. We have been given the rare opportunity of working with the stakeholders in our community to recreate the school in a modern form. The exciting prospect is a school which will be extremely well equipped to deliver students a truly C21st education.

You might ask - what do we mean by a "modern, C21st education"? Or closer to home, upon visiting the new school when it opens in 2-3 years, what changes to teaching and learning are likely to be evident from the time when you were a student at Springs (or Seddon)?

Look for an increased emphasis on more student-directed inquiry learning. We are likely to find that students are presented with assignments that enable them to select topics or themes related to real world problems and issues which they find personally relevant. With teacher guidance, it is likely that they will have a big say in the exact nature of their inquiries, and in how they carry out their investigations and experiments – including whether they work solo or in teams. They will also think carefully about how they will present their findings and recommendations to their peers, teachers and parents, choosing from a range of multi-media formats.

Clearly, technology is a key factor which is enhancing this increased personalisation of learning experiences for students. Wireless access through the internet to unlimited research data at any time of the day and in any location in the school by means of readily available class sets of ipads or through the use of personally owned devices means that teachers can be more flexible and creative in the design of their courses and as a result better engage students (and parents) as partners in their learning.

Another trend is for learning programmes to increasingly involve participating in learning experiences outside the classroom, off site, in the field and at locations which enable access to people and resources well beyond the school gate.

Springs has always sought to produce independent learners equipped to thrive at the tertiary level and beyond. In this same spirit, we are increasingly reviewing our roles as teachers and the structures within which we operate, looking to create more opportunities for teachers to work together rather than in isolation, and for teachers to have the capacity to hold regular conversations with individual students and their parents to assist them to reflect on and take charge of their personal development as learners.

Just a glimpse of some of the trends occurring in secondary education today which will be more pronounced in schools in the future.

**What's happening at The Auckland Performing Arts Centre (TAPAC)?**

### **Event Guide**

A Thousand Hills  
Tue Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Sat Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>

Voix de Ville  
Wed Nov 6<sup>th</sup> – Sat Nov 16<sup>th</sup>

Macbeth  
Wed Feb 5<sup>th</sup> – Sat Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

For more event guide information [click here](#)



**BISC – is our local business group.** They are an enthusiastic supporter of Western Springs College. Membership of BISC offers fantastic networking and marketing opportunities. To find out how you can be a part of BISC check out their website [www.bisc.org.nz](http://www.bisc.org.nz)

## High Achievers in the Music World

Western Springs College is very proud of the achievements of two of our Year 11 Music students. This year Noah Rudd has been selected to play oboe in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra (NZSSSO). This is a huge achievement as there are only four oboes in the orchestra and to be invited to play with the orchestra is very prestigious.

Noah went to Christchurch in the April school holidays and did workshops with leading NZ musicians and performances with the orchestra.



The orchestra played three works including Beethoven's 7th symphony at a sold-out concert.

Noah is also a member of the "The Front Room" oboe trio who took part in National Chamber Music Competition in August. The Front Room made it through to the semi-finals with a memorable performance and narrowly missed out on being selected to be one of the six finalists.

Zoe Stenhouse-Burgess attended the Suzuki Music World Convention in Matsumoto, Japan during the Easter break. Over a period of four days Zoe, along with students from all over the world, attended workshops and master classes. Zoe, who plays flute, had to audition to be able to play in the concert and had to compete against many other flautists for this opportunity.

The piece Zoe performed as part of this concert was The Concertino by Chaminade. The performance venue was so busy that a live feed of the performance was streamed to another venue as organisers could not fit all of the audience in the one venue. Says Zoe, "Japan was a fantastic opportunity. I loved meeting many other young musicians from all over the world. I learned heaps from the experience."

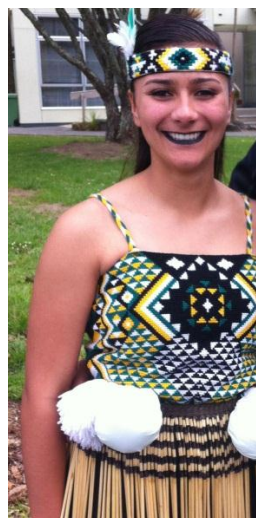
Most recently Zoe has been chosen to play in the Australian Flute Festival Young Artists competition. Zoe had to send in an audition tape in July and was then chosen as one of four to play in the finals in October in Canberra. The competition is open to anyone under the age of 18. We wish you luck Zoe.

## He kanohi kitea – A face seen

All of the indicators suggest that Ariia Tainui-McIntyre's role as an alumni student of Nga Puna o Waiorea, Western Springs College will be prosperous. She could be considered to be Nga Puna o Waiorea's own version of a 'Māori Future Maker'.

Ariia is following in the same footsteps as many of her predecessors, role models found to be promoting and supporting young Māori to pursue higher levels of education and training. In 2012, Ariia was a Y13 Rumaki student leader with a record for excelling in many different areas of secondary school life.

Her achievements included being a recipient of a 'Significant Student Scholarship' from AUT University; the "Top Academic Student Award" for her year level for 5 consecutive years from 2009 to 2012; National Secondary Kapa Haka performer 2010 & 2012; top achiever in Te Reo Rangatira, 2012; WSC Sportswoman of the Year in 2011 & 2012; and representative of NZ Girls Touch team in 2011 & 2013.



With her background of academic and sporting achievements, Ariia exemplifies for the students of Nga Puna o Waiorea what is required to be an athlete/scholar or a scholar/athlete.

As she forges along her current pathway of study in Health Science leading into nursing, Ariia continues to maintain connections with the Rumaki. She is a regular visitor who continues to help out the whānau, the kura and current students when and where she can, given her busy schedule.

Ariia is one of the alumni referred to as 'He kanohi kitea', 'A face seen', by being a visible presence and continuing to succeed both in and out of the classroom, or more accurately, the lecture hall. She provides the inspiration at the grass roots level and is our local example of what can be achieved by using excellence in sports as motivation for excellence in study.

Ariia puts it like this: 'If someone tells you, you can't, it just gives you more incentive to prove them wrong'.

Help grow our Alumni community and be into win a Kobo mini e-reader.



The good news is... all existing Alumni and Friends are automatically allocated one entry.

Friend get friend – get a friend to join and you will receive an additional entry for each friend who joins. Just ask your friend to name you on the form when they register.

**New** Alumni and Friends can register at <http://www.westernsprings.school.nz/Alumni/> Your registration automatically gives you one entry.

Competition closes on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11.59pm (NZST). Entry is free and open to persons 17 years or older.

For full terms and conditions please [click here](#)

#### Do you have an old school uniform from Seddon High?

We have long term loan of a boy's school uniform (circa 1964) belonging to a former Seddon Memorial Technical College student and would love to complete the set with a girl's uniform. If you have a uniform in satisfactory condition that you would be willing to loan or donate to Western Springs College, please email Paula on [marxp@wsc.school.nz](mailto:marxp@wsc.school.nz).

No longer wish to receive this email. Please reply to this email with **unsubscribe** in the subject line.