

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr Chris Golden
Chairman



As another year comes to a successful close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people and groups within the Christian College Community.

Firstly, I want to say a special 'thank- you' to all the Christian College Board Members who have made outstanding contributions of time, skill and wisdom to the governance and oversight of this remarkable school, Christian College in Geelong.

Much of their personal efforts will go unnoticed by most of the community; however, the success of their significant actions will be reflected through the many positive and varied facets of operations carried out within this institution. For example; the monumental and much needed building programs which are currently in progress (\$13 million) on various campuses, the provision of prudent and responsible financial planning management which has been extremely difficult in the last two years due the 'Global Financial Crisis' but most importantly, for the wisdom, support and oversight which is enthusiastically shared with our College leaders and myself.

As mentioned above, the College building projects have all begun in earnest and have presented the Board and the College leadership with some difficult challenges throughout this year. With the Senior School's Library almost completed, the Federal Government offered all schools a unique funding opportunity to receive funds to build a multipurpose hall. Our College Board accepted the challenge and was provided with funding for both the Highton Middle School Campus (\$3 million) and the Bellarine Campus (\$2 Million) to build a large facility on each campus. With increased borrowings provided through the Bendigo Bank, this allowed us to proceed with the largest building commitment the College has ever made. With the

Senior School Library and Administration complex due to open in February 2011, the Highton Middle School Building due to finish in early May and the Bellarine Sports and Music complex in Term three 2011, the pressure on all involved will be intense. I am sure the short term pain of this exercise will be far outweighed by the benefits which will be provided for all our children for years to come.

The College has had to endure along with many families, the hardships brought about by difficult economic times. It will come as no surprise that the last two years have been hard for many families; some have had to make the sacrifice to withdraw their children from the College. This is not an easy time for the families and especially for their children, nor is it something we wish to see happen within our community. I want to wish all our families the very best over the coming months in whatever difficulties you may face.

Over the next twelve months, you will be hearing more about the Federal Government's newly designed school web page, 'My School'. Whilst there has been a great deal of confusion as to the date when this site will be open for viewing by the public, many independent School Boards and staff are suspicious of its intent and the clarity of its content. Whilst I do not intend to make any political comment on the validity of such a site which seemingly endeavours to compare State Schools and Independent Schools funding sources, it is interesting to note that this site's launch will coincide with Mr Garret's new funding review to Independent schools. The results of this new review could have a large impact on Independent schools throughout Australia, which may cause an increase in fees in Independent schools. We will be watching this review process closely to see how the outcomes may affect us in future years.

In closing I would like to express my gratitude to the many staff and leaders who provide the opportunity for our children to come to this great school each day in an inspiring and safe environment. Whatever your role is in the College, your contribution is valued by the Board and the College leadership and I want to thank you for the wonderful part you have played this year.

The valuable time and wisdom which you unselfishly provide for our College has been remarkable and is much appreciated. I wish you all well and God's richest blessings.

Chris Golden.
Chairman of the Christian College Board.



The multi-purpose hall at Bellarine Campus takes shape.



Mr Chris. Golden
Chairman



Mr Vivian Watson
Vice Chairman



Dr Robert Gibson
Chairman Finance
Committee



Graham Clarke
Baptist Church
Clergy Representative



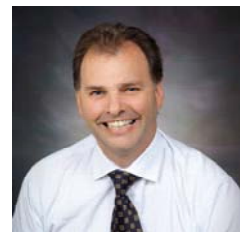
Pastor John Winkler
Parent Representative



Lt Col. Wes Collinson
The Salvation Army
Clergy Representative



Revd. Simon Koefoed
Anglican Church
Clergy Representative



Mr James Shirley
Parent Representative



Mr Eduard Nyhof
Anglican Church Lay
Representative



Mrs Lenore Ford
Parent Representative



Mr Greg Reid
Parent Representative



Revd. Rachel Franklin
Uniting Church
Clergy Representative