

# TOLCARNE TRUMPET

*Tolcarne Boarding Residence Newsletter*



## Director of Boarding Message

By Ange Rathbone

Tena Koutou, tena koutou katoa,

**'He waka eke noa' – We are all in the same boat.**

This whakatauki represents why and how Tolcarne won the 2022 Business Integrity Award. We work together to combine each part that completes the circle, we move as one, rise as one and hold as one.

Entering the Business South 2022 Business Awards was a way of recognising our boarding house as a successful business that values our staff and their contribution to the growth of our courage culture which we strive to embed into our practice with our staff and students.

The building of our courage culture is underpinned by 4 core skills:

1. Knowing and living into our values.
2. Rumbling with vulnerabilities and knowing how to lean into them when times are uncertain or we feel at risk. Working towards being our best selves and not our armoured selves.
3. Building trust within our relationships so that it is observable and actionable.
4. Rising strong when we need to reset and get back up after a setback or failure.

The award process was a new experience for Tolcarne; completing the application, being interviewed, posing and speaking for the camera, and attending The Grande Business-South Awards Gala Dinner. It was a privilege to sit amongst other Otago and Southland businesses who have done the mahi within their industries and for Tolcarne to be an integral part of the celebrations.

Winning the Business Integrity Award is an accolade that we are very proud of at Tolcarne - e tino whakakake ana mātau. Being the recipient of this award reinforces the value we place on our relationships and the integrity of our people. Our courage culture has given us the processes and the skills to communicate effectively. This is especially important when we need to do the mahi and step into a difficult conversation with those we work with while maintaining the integrity of the relationship. We are also very grateful that Tolcarne Boarding Residence was able to represent the education and boarding house sector and be recognised as a contributing organisation to the regional business sector. The Tolcarne team would like to acknowledge Jackie Barron as our Principal and the Board of Proprietors for their encouragement and support of our vision.

Thank you, whanau, for all of your support over 2022, the feedback from the whanau survey was encouraging and indicated that our families are happy with what Tolcarne provides – our facilities, our staff, student well-being support, safety procedures, and our catering. The Tolcarne team wishes you all a Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū Ia

Be safe, have fun and spend time re-energising.

Ngā mihi nui  
Ange

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# Junior Dean Report

By Robyn McGarry

The end of 2022 ... Wow !!

Our Year 9's now have a year under their belt and have learnt so much around the many intricacies of Tolcarne life. Learning to balance time, space and emotions can not be underestimated.

This has been another very busy term with sports, the Tribe Carnival, various weekend activities and our Waihola overnight camp. We were super impressed by the way the girls threw themselves into the challenges they were given. It was lovely to see everyone step outside their comfort zone and also the way they encouraged each other with support. Lastly a huge shout out to the way in which the girls welcomed the new 2023 Year 9s at the sleepover. Thank You!!

Year 10's soon to be Seniors ... Can't believe I'm saying that. Thank you girls for a wonderful 2 years of support. As I said before, a lot of learning happens in the first 2 years. As a Junior you are learning so much about living away from home, managing friendships, school and being involved in many extracurricular activities. I have been super impressed by the way in which you have all embraced hostel life and at times when you have needed to query decisions you have come to me with considered thoughts and ideas of change.

Lastly I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas.  
Love Robyn



# Senior Dean Report

By Ziggy Hill

Term 4 began with a super-fast pace.. and I do not think it has eased yet! But we did get to enjoy the tranquility of our beautiful Tolcarne Christmas tree – Thank you Nat.

We changed things up a little this year with a farewell dinner for our fabulous Year 13's and their families. It was a lovely evening and so nice to be able to get them all together. As a result we were able to have our first Tribe carnival, involving the biggest inflatable we could get our hands on.. Such fun! We also had a happy clown to ensure Ange was drenched by dinner. Our dinner was not sit down, but grazing tables of bite sized deliciousness and A LOT of sweet treats for dessert - including a doughnut wall and a pick'n'mix selection of lollies!

As with every year there are a whole gamut of emotions felt, as we say farewell to those who are leaving us. But there is always a deep sense of excitement for their next adventures and wondering where the next chapters will lead them.

Have a wonderful Christmas with friends and family - see you next year!

Warmest wishes, Ziggy



# Head Boarders Chat

By Georgie Lawson and Kaylee Bond



Wow, where has the time gone?! Our year as Head Boarders has flown by and we couldn't be prouder of what we have been able to achieve with our time! Some of our favourite initiatives this year had to be the Tolcarne Second Hand Clothing Sale in Term 2, along with the Otago Boys Hostel Dinner Swap and Netball Game at the end of Term 3! But by far, our most successful initiative was our hostel merchandise. Having 2 colour options of satin pyjamas, wasn't the easiest to organise, but they were definitely worth it. We love seeing all the girls matching in their PJs!

Our most recent event, before we went off for exams, was our Year 13 Leavers Dinner. This was held in the Dining Room, with the Year 13 students, our parents, and some school and hostel staff. It was such a lovely evening which was spent reflecting on our experiences at Tolcarne, thanking those who have guided us over the past 5 years and sharing kind words about everyone's future endeavours beyond Tolcarne and St Hilda's!

We just wanted to wrap up our last Trumpet Message with a huge thank you to those who have supported us throughout the year, because it hasn't always been smooth sailing like we all hoped! We are so grateful for this opportunity, and only wish the best to everyone for the future. Hope to see you around sometime!

Love Georgie & Kaylee x



## 5 Tips for New Students!

By Rosa Smith and Neve Black

Here are our Top 5 Tips for New Students...

- **Print out lots of your favourite photos** - There is plenty of space on your pinboard to put up your favourite photos. It adds to the comfort of home and reminds you of your special memories.
- **Bring a clock** - It helps to know the time in the mornings when you're getting ready for school and at night when you are getting ready for bed.
- **Sign up for extracurricular activities** - This is important to keep yourself busy and to meet new people at school or in the wider community. It is also a great way to make new friends at St Hilda's and other schools.
- **Be open to get to know everyone** - Talk to new people, even in other year groups and from different schools. They may become some of your best friends in the future!
- **Bring your favourite snacks** - This is perfect for when you need a 'pick me up' or just want some comfort food without having to walk to the dairy. It is good to have something to eat in between meals, especially a favourite snack from home!



Check out what is happening weekly on our Facebook instagram and Tiktok pages!



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# Year 9 Waihola Camp

By Vanessa Paterson and Sophie Cameron

After a long windy bus ride, we arrived at the CYC Camp in Waihola. Once we were all settled we headed across the road and played paintball. We split into two teams, playing a game called 'capture the bunny'. There was a massive bunny in the middle of the arena and you had to try to grab it, running back to your side without being hit. While it was loads of fun it was quite painful for those who got hit! After two hours of paintball, we went back to camp and had turns going down the water slide. The water was very cold, so we warmed up and made a bonfire, on which we toasted marshmallows and made s'mores. Later that night we had a talent show with our roommates. Each bunk room had to make a dance to any song they wanted and we performed them in the main hall. That night we stayed up super late and had loads of fun.

The next day we started with the assault course, taking turns in our bunk rooms to get the fastest time. This consisted of many different elements, such as climbing over a wall, walking along seesaws and crawling under a cargo net. Each team was timed and the fastest time won. The goal was to work as a team and finish together. After this activity we played zorb soccer, it was a lot of fun running into people while being inside the zorb and kicking the yoga ball around. We then split in half and while one group was sliding down the water slide, the other group walked to the top of the hill and had turns going down the zipline. Both activities were enjoyable and exhilarating. Then we sadly had to pack up camp and come back to Dunedin. We all enjoyed the Waihola camp and made many memories. Everything was amazing, from the activities to the food - It was definitely a highlight of the year for us!



# Tasty Tidbits from the Tolcarne Kitchen

By Ross Leishman, Food Service Manager

Well are we there yet? Yes, yes we are, wow where did the time go? Term 4 has had a busy start and middle for the kitchen team.... We had the Year 13 Leavers dinner, which we took the opportunity to try some different things, including the dessert sharing table, which worked pretty well! This is always a wonderful evening, tinged with sadness as we say well done but also goodbye..... we will miss the Year 13s, but wish them all the very best for the future.

We then, within a matter of days had Robyn McGarry's Grandparents High Tea. As usual Robyn, Barb and their team of kitchen angels did a fantastic job, so much work involved but so rewarding.

It was then time for the Tribe Carnival, which was a new idea instead of our traditional Christmas Dinner. What an awesome idea this was and a fantastic combined effort, brought the vision of Ziggy, Isla, Ange and Robyn to life. Complete with the bouncy castle obstacle course, 'dunking' machine, donut wall, slushy maker, rolled ice creams, lolly station and tasting table for each Tribe - which included burger sliders, bao buns, sushi, 'vege stacks' and more!

We also catered for the Year 9 Waihola camp, Year 10 camp and our new 2023 Year 9s sleepover. Sooo many highlights this term. As well as all the catering there was also the feeding of our students on study leave and then exams, we hope these went well and good luck for receiving your exam marks!

Oh and shut the front door..... Then to top the year off, Tolcarne won the Business Integrity Award, which I was fortunate to be part of at the Gala dinner. Congratulations everyone!!

So..... That's my first year in charge of the kitchen almost up, are we going to do it all over again next year?? Yes, yes we are! Thank you to everyone that helped myself and our kitchen team this year, have a wonderful and safe Christmas and an awesome new year.



# Chaplains Chat

By Dr Townsley

We are now in the season of Advent. This is a time of hope and expectation! I wonder what you are hoping for this Christmas? It might be as simple as hoping that we might have a warm, joyful Christmas, celebrated with friends and family, without the worry of Covid! Hope can also tap into something even deeper – there is a yearning for deliverance from the evils and injustices of the world, such as those we see on the news so often.

Hope is essential. And however faint and fragile it seems at times, and however distant God sometimes feels, hope never gives up. The birth of Jesus is the greatest sign of hope – that salvation can come even in the form of a vulnerable new baby, born to an unwed mother, in the poverty of a stable, in the most hopeless of situations.

So whatever you are hoping for, longing for – never give up. If you feel stressed, anxious, impatient, disappointed, or hopeless during this Advent season, remember that you can always come before God, knowing that God always loves us, never gives up on us, and will always offer us hope.



# Tribe Carnival

By Honor Garden and Sophie Restall

Tolcarne's Tribe Carnival was an amazing way to spend an afternoon out in the sun, bonding with other year groups and trying to win the Tribe competition!

The Tribe carnival started with the hostel all dressed up in their Tribe colors, performing their chant. We then did a rotation of the bouncy castle obstacle race, tug of war and 'dunk the director' - which was a fun game where you try and hit the target (clown's face) with a mini bean bag so that the director (Mrs Rathbone) got dunked with water!

Dinner then consisted of bao buns, sushi and mini burgers with raspberry slushies. And dessert included donuts, many flavours of scooped ice cream and a lolly bar - that you could fill a bag with all you could dream of!

At the end of the Tribe Carnival, we had our year group Secret Santa. The budget is always \$10, so everyone gets creative! After sharing presents we sit around and open them. This was a very special way to kick-start Christmas!

