



The Cashmere High School Foundation has a vision of enriching the school community by building a connected community, willingly gifting time, talent and funding. We are working to connect current and past students and staff and you can help by passing on our details to old school friends who might not yet be connected (see below). As we build that connected community, we are looking to encourage a culture of willingly gifting time, talent and funding to enrich the school. Enjoy reading about former students who are doing just that.

## Upcoming Events

### 60s Decade Reunion - 25th October

#### Welcome to New Principal

On Monday, 14th October, a moving Powhiri was held at Cashmere High School to warmly welcome the new principal, Mr. John Stradwick. The event was attended by representatives from Mt Albert Grammar School in Auckland, where he was previously Deputy Principal, Cashmere High School staff, Cashmere High School Board of Trustees representatives, Year 9 students, and other special guests. The ceremony included a traditional handover, emphasizing the school's commitment to cultural heritage and community spirit.

The Powhiri began with speeches that celebrated the school's values and warmly invited Mr. Stradwick into the community. Students and staff participated in the ceremony, strengthening the bonds within the school community as well as honouring Mr Stradwick and his family. As Mr. Stradwick begins his tenure, the school looks forward to a fruitful and inspiring journey under his leadership.



### 60s Decade Reunion

Cashmere High School is going back to the swinging 60s! To all who attended CHS during the iconic 1960s, it's time to dust off those bellbottoms, and relive the memories of a bygone era at your decade reunion.

We have made ticket purchasing a little simpler by offering two options:

1. **Eventbrite (Our preferred option):** Click [here](#) to purchase your ticket and enter all the details we need.
2. **Bank Transfer:** For those who can't use the online system, you can make a direct bank transfer of \$25.00 per person to: ASB Bank 12-3482-0034441-00 and include your name and "60's Reunion" as the reference.

**IMPORTANT:** If you choose the bank transfer option, please make sure you email or call us to provide further registration details: [alumni@cashmere.school.nz](mailto:alumni@cashmere.school.nz) or 3329189 ext. 333.

**Ticket sales close on Sunday 20 October at 8.00pm.**

Don't miss this chance to reconnect with fellow alumni, share stories from the past, and create new memories that will last a lifetime.

Spread the word and help us make this reunion one for the books! We look forward to seeing you there.



### Class of 2014 Reunion

CLASS REUNION  
— 2014 —

Unfortunately, due to lower than expected attendance numbers, we were unable to proceed with this event.

## Alumni in the Spotlight

*\*\*Alumni in the Spotlight\*\* is a special feature that highlights the achievements and stories of our remarkable alumni. It serves as a way to reconnect with former students, celebrate their successes, and showcase the diverse paths they've taken since leaving school. Through interviews, profiles, and updates, this segment offers inspiration to current students, shows the ongoing impact of our school community, and fosters a sense of pride and connection within our alumni network.*

*By shining a light on the accomplishments of our graduates, we hope to keep their stories alive and maintain a strong bond between alumni and the school.*

### Sophie Harris - Class of 2019



**Tell us about what you're currently doing? Where are you on your career journey? When you left school, was this the path you expected to be on?**

*At this very moment, I am making the exciting (and terrifying) leap into performing full time. I am playing Sophie Sheridan in the Showbiz Christchurch season of Mamma Mia, was one of the four singers in the Ovation show "Divas!" from mid-September and have my first full-time profession show coming up at the end of the year!*

*It's hard to know where I am but I certainly hope it's just the beginning!*

*Cashmere was the place I learnt how much I loved this. I did my first major musical (The Music Man), and it was love at first show!*

*You get warned a LOT by people that this career can be pretty difficult but, at Cashmere, they constantly gave me the support to keep going!*

*I've been ready to give up and settle with "performing for fun" many times but the support and endurance placed in me by EB, Ussher and my parents, is the reason I've been able to keep going. I owe them big time. "*

**Is there such a thing as a typical workday for you? What does it look like?**

*Every day is pretty unique!*

*For unpaid amateur shows, we rehearse Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings with long days scheduled on Sundays where we end up running the show once or twice. On Monday's, I have to meal-prep most of my food for the week and get all my boring jobs done – you'll be shocked how easy it is to go through a drive through before rehearsal... that is, until you get to the end of the week and you're \$150 short...*

[READ MORE](#)

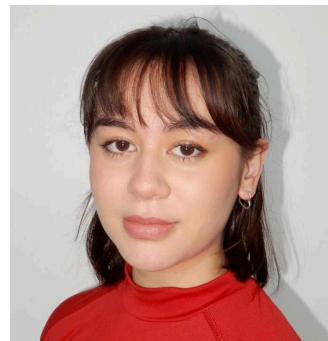
## Alumni News





Congratulations to **Karena Finnie** (née Van Dyk, Class of 2001) who won the Best Established Event Professional Award at the NZ Events Association Annual Awards Gala Dinner, held in Palmerston North recently. Karena is the Head of Major Events at ChristchurchNZ.

Congratulations to **Zahra Omar** (Class of 2022), who was one of 90 students accepted globally to attend the Brisbane International Dance Prix, held during the last week of September.



Zahra is currently in her second year of training at Transit Dance in Melbourne.

*We're always keen to hear what our alumni have been up to. If you or your former schoolmates have recently achieved success in the sporting, arts, business or academic fields please let us know so that we can share these successes with the alumni community.*

## Events on the School Calendar

**Exciting Term 4 events on the School Calendar for anyone who might be interested....**

**52nd Annual October Music Competition Finals'** tonight (Thursday, 17th October) at 7pm in the PAC Auditorium. Always one of the biggest nights in the Cashmere Music Calendar, you'll be treated to an amazing night of performances from the school's incredible young musicians all free of charge. Get along and be prepared to be impressed.

**Cashmere Dance Showcase** this Friday, 18th October at 6:30pm in the PAC Auditorium. Come along and be stunned by the amazing talent of the school's young dancers and choreographers. Whatever your preferred style of music or dance might be, you'll see it at its best here. Get on to [eventfinda](#) and get your ticket now for just \$5.

**Art Folio Festival** next Wednesday, 23rd October starting at 5pm in R Block. Come along and be blown away by the talents of the school's young Designers, Printmakers, Photographers and Painters, and see if you can pick who will be chosen to add to the Dave Turnbull Student Art Collection. This free event will leave you inspired.

**Junior Production of 'A Christmas Carol'** running from 19th-21st November in PAC1. Start your run into Christmas right with this Dicken's classic. Tickets will be released soon for just \$10, with all money being donated to the Hoon Hay Food Bank. So come along and start Christmas by giving. Keep a look out on the school's webpage and notices for further information.

## From The Archives



### Do we have your correct details on file?

Last year we updated our database software but are aware that the contact details we hold for some of our members are now out of date. If you think this may apply to you please either click on the following link to update them or email [alumni@cashmere.school.nz](mailto:alumni@cashmere.school.nz) with the changes.

[Cashmere High School Foundation website](#)

### Building a community of Past Pupils - can you help with contacts?

We're keen to gather contact details for past pupils and staff members of Cashmere High School. If you are in contact with other past pupils or staff members, please direct them to the [Cashmere High School Foundation website](#), our [Facebook](#) page, our [Instagram account](#), or forward them this email so they can become a member and get involved. Our database is growing but we are still missing a huge number of past pupils and former staff members.

**FORWARD TO A FRIEND**