

# Introducing...

Adam Chessum, Assistant Chaplain/Pastor



Adam and his wife Kay Ling moved into C Flat in February, and quickly made themselves very much a part of College life. Adam comes from southern NSW, having studied Visual Arts at ANU and Theology at Moore College. Kay Ling comes from Singapore, and met Adam while studying in Australia several years ago.

Adam's primary role here is to coordinate FOCUS (Fellowship of Overseas Christian University Students) in partnership with Christian Union on campus. With the majority of RMC members coming from overseas, and literally thousands of international students on our doorstep, it's easy to see why FOCUS is such a high priority as well as an enormous challenge. So far under Adam's leadership it has really flourished, and we can only look forward with great excitement and anticipation to see what lies ahead.

## RMC Art Prize – It's On!

As reported last issue, the inaugural RMC Art Prize is on its way. Following the theme Community of Learners: Art & Scholarship, the prize is open to any artist – professional, student or amateur – and there will be one section dedicated to high school artists. There's \$3,000 available in prizes, so it's well worth entering!

The closing date for entries is Friday 1 August, and there will be a public viewing in the College on Friday 29 August. If you would like more information about this exhibition or how to enter, please contact Alex Paige on (02) 9936 6052 or email [artprize@rmc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:artprize@rmc.nsw.edu.au)

## WHAT THEY SAID

"I have loved the experience. It was really a home away from home with lots of great people." Alka (Kenya)

"It has been a fantastic part of my life and I have nothing but fond memories of my time here." Jono (Australia)

"It is an awesome place where you feel at home and never want to leave." Rahul (India)

"I have enjoyed every aspect of RMC. Most of all I have met some of the most amazing people in the world. RMC has been just like home, only your family is huge!" Shanti (India)

## RMCNow via email

Would you like to receive RMC Now electronically??? If so, please email Alex – [alumni@rmc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:alumni@rmc.nsw.edu.au) – and let her know.

# OLD ROOM NEW LOOK



In what turned into an enormous logistical enterprise, somehow over summer we managed to shift every member and guest around the College long enough to let a tireless team of painters and decorators into every bedroom. As reported last issue, 'hogbristle white' was the colour of choice, not only for the walls and ceilings but for the wardrobes and bookcases too. The old multi-coloured bedspreads were replaced with crisp white doonas, full-length mirrors were installed behind the doors, and even the noticeboards have been re-covered, giving every room a fresh, clean look for the new academic year.



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# RMCNOW



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## From the Master

### Dear Friends of RMC

The 2008 academic year is already well underway and College life with it. We have a wonderfully diverse group of new and returning members from 36 countries around the world, including twin sisters, a sister and sister-in-law of recent RMC alumni, and a returning alumnus from last century!

Great work by John Petherbridge and Wendy Slee (and other College staff and members), plus a small army of painters, meant that the year began with every room freshly painted (including the wardrobes) and with a new bed, mattress and doona for its new or returning occupant.

We welcomed our new Assistant Pastor Adam Chessum and his wife Kay Ling to the FOCUS work among International students, and we hosted Archbishop Peter Jensen to TCM, the Annual University Service and the SOCS Graduation, the latter also being attended by Vice-Chancellor Steven Schwartz and Mrs Claire Schwartz. The Graduation Ceremony was a special milestone because it included the first SOCS graduate in the Bachelor of Christian Studies degree.

Details of all these stories – as well as the usual exciting images of the College year so far – can be found in the following pages. I trust you enjoy catching up on life at RMC.

Chris Bellenger  
Master

Photo: The Master presenting one of ten New Member Scholarships to Laura Duck, who joined us this year from Muswellbrook.

//FORMING THE PERSON,  
TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

# COMMUNITY LIFE@RMC

# Archbishop comes to RMC



RMC went Wild Wild West for another memorable harbour cruise



**O**  
WEEK



Another stunning Sydney day for the annual O-Week beach crawl from Clovelly to Bondi



Around 220 smiling faces packed into the Dining Room for a great start to the academic year at RMC



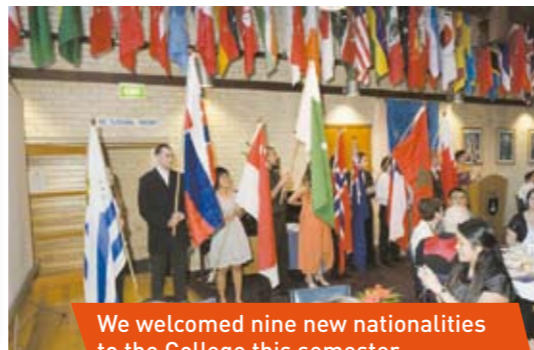
Fire training spiced up a quiet start to the year for Eric Phoummathep, Administration Tutor



Katrina Roberts (RMC 2004-07) made a triumphant return to receive the Dr Alan Cole Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in 2007



New member Stephanie Fenton from Tamworth received the annual Chubb Scholarship from former RMC Administrator Mr Geoff Chubb



We welcomed nine new nationalities to the College this semester

## Commencement Dinner



The official College photo in the courtyard before Commencement Dinner



Cat Rankin and Alicia Sommerlad (RMC 2006-08) tried to take inter-College pool games seriously



Daniel Telles (RMC 2005-08) soared in the inaugural inter-College mixed water polo



Our male soccer team managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory in an exciting tussle against DLC



Women's sport is on a roll this year at RMC, having clinically disposed of DLC in both cricket and soccer so far

## sport

In the first week of March, the College was delighted to host a three-day visit by the Anglican Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Peter Jensen.

After surviving the Chaplain's humour in his introductory interview, Dr Jensen spoke on 'Forgiveness' at the TCM evening service, on 'Theology and the Knowledge of God' at the SOCS Graduation Ceremony, then on 'Death and Resurrection' at Macquarie University's annual Christian service. The School of Christian Studies Graduation was a particularly significant occasion, with Joseph Hearne becoming our first graduate in the Bachelor of Christian Studies – a new degree offered in conjunction with the Macquarie Christian Studies Institute.

If you would like to listen to the Archbishop's talks, please visit the Student Resources section of the SOCS website ([www.socs.org.au](http://www.socs.org.au)).

Photos: **01** The Archbishop with Richard Hughes and the Bellengers  
**02** Archbishop Peter Jensen spoke at TCM on Sunday 2 March  
**03** Rebecca Gelding received her Diploma of Theology from the Archbishop



## FAMILY BUSINESS

There are siblings aplenty at RMC this year! Kimberly Yuen, who came to RMC last year on a Masters program, returned from Canada in February with her twin sister Beverly. The Yuens have made themselves at home in C Flat 1.

We have also welcomed the fourth member of the Mealings/Baker clan: new member Kiri Mealings is the younger sister of Lerryn (RMC 2002-03), who married Ben Baker (RMC 2001-03), the older brother of Ian Baker (RMC 2003-06)! Kiri is one of our Actuarial Studies contingent, though it's possible she spends more time in the music room than the lecture theatre...

Photos: **01** New member Kiri Mealings with her sister Lerryn (RMC 2002-03)  
**02** Kiri entertained the College at the Commencement Dinner with a Bach flute sonata, accompanied by the Dean on the new Dining Room piano  
**03** Kimberly and Beverly Yuen enjoying the view from C Flat 1...



## Santri Returns



It might have taken a while but Santri Djahimo has finally heeded the call, returning for a second stint at RMC after a 3,127 day break! Santri first came to College in 1998 while studying a Master of Applied Linguistics at Macquarie,

graduating in June 1999. Since then she has been lecturing back home in Indonesia but now it's time for her PhD, a project that will keep her busy till at least 2010. Santri has noticed lots of changes since her first stay – back in 1999 there were no gates around the courtyard, no big screen in the Common Room, no Members' Lounge, and hardly any students had computers in their rooms – but it's still the comfortable, convenient and friendly place she remembers. However Santri does confess another, more personal reason for her return to College life after 8½ years in the wilderness – "I hate cooking!"