Cover image:
In 2022, Lincoln University held its first Giving Day. Undergraduate and Post Graduate Students are grateful recipients of the generosity from Lincoln University alumni and supporters.
Welcome
Kia ora koutou katoa.
It is always a pleasure to talk with Lincoln’s alumni, whether face-to-face at university social events and corporate occasions, or through our publications such as Landforms.

Lincoln’s role as a teaching and research university for New Zealand’s land-based sector, and the industries and professions associated with the sector, places us arguably at the heart of the New Zealand economy.

We are New Zealand’s only specialist university focusing on the land-based industries and this gives our graduates and alumni a unique identity and responsibility. They are central to our country’s earning capacity.

It has been rightly said that you can go almost anywhere in New Zealand or in the world, and you will find Lincoln University graduates contributing in some way or another to the national or global good.

As a Lincoln alumnus myself, I know the great sense of goodwill we all feel towards the university that has given us such a special key to personal and professional development and fulfilment.

As Vice-Chancellor, I am in the special position of being able to speak to you as the university’s chief executive and chair of the Senior Leadership Team to keep you up to date on the day-to-day and long-term management of the university.

Delivering good news to alumni is always a wonderfully enjoyable part of the job, and this year the best news has to be the completion and commissioning of our new ‘fit-for-future’ science facility, scheduled for September. The facility, on the site of the old Hilgendorf Building, and a replacement for the Burns Building, was known unofficially until earlier this year as Science North. It now carries the gifted name Waimarie, received from Te Taumutu Rūnanga.

Waimarie makes reference to kā puna Waimarie, the bountiful lakes, derived from the He Puna Karikari narrative that tells of the origin of the lakes and waterways of Te Wai Pounamu. It reinforces the notions of exploration, cultivation and leadership as gifted to us by Tipuna Rakaihutu.

Waimarie will be home to the Department of Pest Management and Conservation, the Department of Soil and Physical Sciences, Agriculture and Life Sciences professional staff including faculty administration, Bioprotection Aotearoa and other research partnerships.

Waimarie is the most conspicuous manifestation to date of Lincoln University’s 10-year Campus Development Programme.

A fundamental guiding principle being expressed in our Campus Development Programme is sustainability. And it’s not only guiding the shape and form of the campus but is being expressed across all the key areas of our activities and services, and in our infrastructure and facilities.

The full depth and breadth of our commitment to sustainability is set out in our Sustainability Plan, with principal points summarised in the presentation Lincoln University Leading the Way in Sustainability.

Lincoln University is committed to being an exemplar of sustainable practices for the land-based sector. To this end, we have two immediate goals: 1. To be sector leaders in education, research and the demonstration of sustainability, and 2. To be carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2050.

Lincoln University’s sustainability efforts are backed by Action Plans and measurable Action Points. Areas covered include the conduct of Research and the development of case studies derived from the research; our Decarbonisation Programme; our Renewable Energy Programme; our Water and Biodiversity programme; and the Dairy Futures Living Laboratory initiative; ensuring that Lincoln University graduates know and understand sustainability principles and can work globally and articulate their importance.

As an institution with the motto Science and Industry with Integrity, our emphasis on sustainability definitely fulfils the ‘integrity’ obligation and will ensure our on-going relevance and value as a national and global powerhouse of research and learning serving New Zealand and the world.

Ngā mihi nui

Professor Grant Edwatds
Vice-Chancellor
Lincoln University

Cyclone Gabrielle
Lincoln University shares with the rest of New Zealand its heartfelt sympathy for all those affected by the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle. We are conscious that many Lincoln alumni are located in the farming, horticultural, viticultural and tourism areas of Northland, Auckland, Coromandel, Bay of Plenty, Tairawhiti and Hawke’s Bay where the cyclone was so devastating. To these members of the Lincoln University whānau, we send our particular aroha.
Lincoln University was proud to celebrate the recognition of several current and former staff members, as well as alumni, in the 2023 New Year Honours List.

Emeritus Professor David Simmons, a leading tourism scholar who spent his academic career almost exclusively at Lincoln, was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to tourism and tertiary education.

Additionally, alumna and lecturer in Global Supply Chains and Trade, Dr Hafsa Ahmed, was made a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to ethnic communities and women.

Recognition also went to past staff members, Grant Cleland (ONZM), Dr Jan Wright (DNZM) and Ruta McKenzie (MNZM).

Prof Simmons has been a leading tourism scholar for more than 40 years and is regarded as a key founder of the discipline at tertiary level in New Zealand.

After founding tourism studies at Lincoln University, he established the Centre of Excellence – Sustainable Tourism for Regions, Landscapes and Communities, which focuses on generating and supporting sustainable tourism regions.

He has also contributed to international tourism planning and education in numerous countries, including Sarawak, Cambodia, Niue, Mauritius and Nepal, and advised international organisations such as the World Wildlife Fund and United Nations World Tourism Organisation.

Speaking to Stuff, Prof Simmons said the honour was completely unexpected.

“Naturally, I was most surprised and initially thought that maybe it was in error, but on reflection came to realise that I had been nominated anonymously by my peers, but from where I do not know.

“I am most proud of my students, especially those who have undertaken postgraduate studies, a number of whom now make significant national and global contributions.”

Dr Ahmed has empowered women to tell their stories through media projects and the video documentary series, Immigrant Journeys, in her capacity as co-founder and trustee of Lady Khadija Charitable Trust.

A registered charity that works to support vulnerable groups achieve social cohesion in the community, it is one of many different not-for-profit organisations Dr Ahmed has advocated for over the past decade.

Also an active presenter and contributor to the Ministry for Ethnic Communities’ Women to Women Project in Ōtautahi Christchurch, she is a highly regarded leader in supporting the empowerment of ethnic women and the recovery of the Muslim community following the 2019 Christchurch terror attacks.

Following the announcement of the honour, Dr Ahmed told Stuff that she was committed to shining a light on important issues.

“Yesterday reading, I came across a Chinese proverb, ‘it is better to light a single candle than curse the darkness,’” she said. “That is so true. I guess I am trying to light a candle when there is so much darkness.”
Celebrating success

PhD scholarship allows for full-time research focus

The Lincoln University Doctoral Scholarship has gone a long way towards helping Hoani Smith to further his passion for improving the physical and psychological performance of sportspeople.

Thanks to the financial assistance offered by the scholarship, the strength and conditioning coach at Whare Hākinakina LU Gym was able to work part-time last year while studying for his PhD.

It’s one of three scholarship programmes available for Lincoln University doctoral students, the other two being the William Machin Doctoral Scholarship for Excellence and the BK Otway Education Foundation Doctoral Scholarship. All three cover tuition fees and offer annual stipends, with applications closing on 1 October each year.

“For my PhD, I’m interested in measuring the internal and external workload demands placed on competitive team sport athletes,” Hoani said. “By understanding these demands, coaches are able to understand the physical and psychological demands placed on each individual and adjust their training protocols to suit.”

He said the PhD scholarship removed the financial burden of a student loan and allowed him to focus on his research full time.

Success on tap for brewing student as he launches own beer

A Lincoln student raised his glass to a highly productive year by launching his own commercialised beer at a popular Christchurch bar in December 2022.

The event, at Kaiser Brew Garden, was a culmination of the work that Ben Holmes had undertaken to perfect his craft as part of Lincoln’s new Graduate Diploma in Brewing and Fermentation.

The beer, called the Hazy Professor, was a New England-style IPA, “as unfiltered as your average academic, and a bit sweeter in contrast”, its description read. “With citrus and grapefruit notes, it’s a great accompaniment to any pondering philosophical debates, whilst not looking to cloud your judgement.”

It was Ben’s fourth creation since he began his studies, having sold three separate trial beers at Lincoln’s café and bar, Mrs O’s, over several months last year. His first beer was also called the Hazy Professor, named after Ben’s academic father.

The diploma is the first of its kind in the country and was introduced at the beginning of 2022 to equip students with valuable skills that lead them through the entire brewing or fermentation process, from science and technology practices to production and supply chain management.

They gain hands-on experience at Lincoln’s on-campus micro-brewery and receive an industry placement to further develop their expertise.

Ben’s placement was at Kaiser Brothers Brewery in Hornby, and the operation’s central city brew garden was the logical place to launch the commercially viable product he was tasked with producing for the diploma at the end of Semester 2.

Kaiser Brothers GM Sales & Operations, Chris Mulholland, said students of Lincoln’s diploma would be highly sought-after by the industry, due to the experience they gain during their studies.

“We look for students who have gone through the prerequisite of brewing and fermentation and through Lincoln University, that endorses it for us and we’d snap them up in a heartbeat.”
Celebrating success

Lincoln graduate helping to shape future of farming

Theo Beaumont may not have a traditional farming background, but when he was given the chance to work on multiple sheep and beef farms as a high school student, he knew where his future lay.

The Lincoln alumnus said that studying for Lincoln University’s Bachelor of Agricultural Science allowed him to really “dive into the sector as a whole”.

“Without a doubt, my time at university played a critical role in my career.”

As a Business Development Executive at Halter, Theo started out in the Research and Development team in Waikato and is now based in Canterbury, after helping kickstart the company’s expansion.

The Halter system is a smart collar worn by dairy cows and allows farmers to remotely shift, virtually fence and proactively monitor their cows’ health, feed and behaviour. This reduces labour stress by maximising production, animal welfare and sustainability standards.

Theo has come a long way in the three short years since he graduated with First Class Honours, a success story that he partly attributes to the Lincoln experience.

“If I was able to study at Lincoln meant I had a solid knowledge base across more than one area,” he said.

Theo cited the practical elements of his degree as a major highlight of his study, as well as learning to solve issues in a creative way, both of which stood him in excellent stead for his career.

“The practical experience at Lincoln was invaluable, as it involved working in the dairy, sheep and beef sectors during my summer break and I also got to do an internship with Rabobank at the end of my third year,” he said.

“The biggest thing Lincoln taught me was to always question how things were done and look to innovate as much as possible. In any start-up, the ability to think outside the box and overcome challenges is essential.

“As Halter has expanded, I have done everything from collaring cows to running experiments and helping develop new features.”

Theo’s role also involves consulting with farmers on whether Halter is a good fit for their system and liaising with banks and rural professionals to learn about new markets.

“I was fortunate enough to help kick off our expansion into Canterbury and now into Taranaki, so I have spent lots of time meeting new farmers and rural professionals in different regions around the country.”

Alumnus fights to save the critically endangered red panda

Lincoln alumnus Sonam Lama’s fight to save the critically endangered red panda received international recognition and a major financial boost in 2022.

The Nepalese conservationist, a Master of International Nature Conservation graduate and Mingma Norbu Sherpa Memorial Scholar, won a Whitley Award worth £40,000 (NZD $77,452) from United Kingdom conservation charity, the Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN).

Along with five other grassroots conservationists pioneering solutions to the biodiversity crisis, Sonam was presented with the award on 27 April 2022 in London, by WFN Patron, HRH The Princess Royal.

He is using his Whitley Award to diversify income sources for communities, particularly women and young people, through forest conservation nurseries and restoration to create a wildlife corridor that connects habitat for red pandas. He is also working to establish community-led anti-poaching patrols and awareness-raising campaigns.
In May 2022, Lincoln University renamed its former Commerce building in honour of Emeritus Professor Bruce Ross and his wife, Gill.

The couple attended the 27 May formal naming ceremony via Zoom from Wellington.

Emeritus Professor Ross was the Principal of Lincoln College at the time of its elevation to independent university status in 1990, becoming the institution’s inaugural Vice-Chancellor and going on to serve as the university’s third longest serving leader in modern times.

In dedicating the Bruce and Gill Ross Building, the Lincoln University Council paid tribute to the outstanding contributions of Bruce Ross, particularly in the areas of governance, management, academia and administration.

Equally, the renaming acknowledged the service of Gillian Ross in support of her husband, and in nurturing the unique sense of whānau, pastoral care and whanaukataka that distinguishes Lincoln University.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards said the renaming of the building was a fitting tribute to a husband-and-wife partnership that played a major role in Lincoln University’s history.

“Bruce and Gill together played an exceptionally important role in shaping the status and reputation of the university, and it is an absolute honour and privilege to recognise their immense contributions to the Lincoln community in this very special way.”

Responding to the naming of the building at the ceremony, Professor and Mrs Ross said it had added greatly to “our ongoing sense of connectedness with Lincoln”. They said that Lincoln had a bright future, and they were delighted to remain associated with the university.

The newly-renamed Bruce and Gill Ross Building was constructed between 1989-1990 and contains teaching spaces and administration offices for the Faculty of Agribusiness and Commerce.

The Bruce and Gill Ross Building

Bruce Ross’s association with Lincoln began in 1956, with his enrolment as a Bachelor of Agricultural Science student. He graduated with a BAgSc in 1962 and Master of Agricultural Science with First Class Honours in Economic Theory in 1966.

Upon graduation, he worked as a Research Officer with the campus-based Agricultural and Economics Research Unit, assisting Professor Bryan Philpott with a pioneering input-output model of the New Zealand economy, presented at the National Development Conference of 1968, helping establish Lincoln’s national reputation in economics. In 1970, he succeeded Philpott as Professor of Agricultural Economics.

In 1982, Professor Ross took a leave of absence to head the Trade Analysis Division of the OECD’s Agricultural Directorate in Paris.

His work there contributed to the inclusion of Agriculture for the first time on the agenda of GATT, for the Uruguay Round of negotiations. This ultimately benefited the New Zealand economy by more than a billion dollars.

Returning from Paris, Professor Ross took up the Principalship of Lincoln College in 1985.

As Principal, together with Sir Allan Wright as College Council Chairman, Professor Ross articulated the case for Lincoln to be granted autonomy from the University of Canterbury, of which it was then a ‘constituent college’, and to be granted independent university status. This was achieved from 1990, and Professor Ross became Lincoln University’s first Vice-Chancellor.

Professor Ross retired as Vice-Chancellor in 1996, on appointment as Director-General of Agriculture. He retired from that role in 2000.

Awards held include the NZ Sesquicentennial Medal 1990; CNZM for services to agriculture 2002; Distinguished Fellowship of the NZ Association of Economists 2007; Lincoln University’s Bledisloe Medal, 2009.

Bruce Ross married Gill Wilkie, daughter of Lincoln alumnus D.R. Wilkie BAgSc, a Senior Soil Conservator, in 1963. As Chair and Patron of the Lincoln Women’s Group, in addition to her role as Lincoln’s ‘First Lady’ during her husband’s leadership years, Gill nurtured and promoted Lincoln’s defining sense of family, pastoral care and whanaukataka.

Update on Ivey West and Memorial Hall

The project to redevelop Ivey West and Memorial Hall began in earnest in late 2022, with main contractors Cook Brothers setting up the construction site in November and installing their site offices.

The project commenced with enabling works, including soft demolition works and asbestos removal, followed by manual excavation of the foundations.

In late January 2023, Council member and Te Taumutu Rūnanga representative, Puamiria Parata-Goodall, performed a karakia at the site to mark the decommissioning of the buildings’ interior and exterior taonga. Prior to being moved to safe storage, the artworks and commemoration items were all scanned to ensure their structural integrity was maintained through the reconstruction process.

The redevelopment project is expected to be completed by mid-2024 – well before the university’s planned 150th anniversary celebrations in 2028.
New flagship science facility named Waimarie

In February, Lincoln University revealed the Te Reo word, Waimarie, as the official name of its 9450m² flagship science facility, now entering the final stages of construction.

Gifted to Lincoln University by Te Taumutu Rūnanga, the name Waimarie celebrates kā puna Waimarie – the bountiful lakes – and marks the new building as a facility that will foster great leadership, inspire productivity and become a nexus for the transmission of intergenerational knowledge.

Waimarie is one of a suite of names gifted to the university by Te Taumutu Rūnanga to identify the new building and many of the spaces within it as belonging to the cultural narrative of Kāi Te Ruahīkihīki and Kāi Tahu in the Lincoln area.

Te Taumutu spokesperson and Lincoln University Council member, Puamiria Parata-Goodall, said that the rūnanga took the time to consider how the names might fit within the wider context of local history, the function and location of the building and rooms, and the relationship to other nearby facilities that have been named by the rūnanga.

They also considered how the names align with the rūnanga strategy of restoring traditional markers – names, pou whenua and traditions – into the landscape.

Ms Parata Goodall explained, “Landing at Whakatū (Nelson), *Rākaihautū travelled by land southward. Along the way, he used his digging stick, Tūwhakaroria, to dig the many lakes and waterways, kā puna karikari*, throughout the island.

“The phrase, kā puna karikari, recognises the three types of springs or waterways dug by Rākaihautū – Puna Haiaitu, Puna Waimarie and Puna Karikari.

“The name Waimarie recognises the abundance of resource and references kā puna waimarie, the bountiful lakes. The new building will be a facility which inspires and produces a bounty of rangahau and mātauranga about our whenua and for our whenua.

“Waimarie reflects the He Puna Karikari narrative, reinforcing the notions of exploration, cultivation and leadership as gifted to us by our tipuna Rākaihautū,” said Ms Parata-Goodall.

"When the first people to settle in Te Waipounamu, the South Island, came aboard the Urao, a canoe captured by explorer, Rākaihautū. With his kō or digging stick, named Tūwhakaroria, Rākaihautū travelled south, digging out the lakes and rivers in Te Waipounamu.

Progress of Waimarie

Replacing Lincoln University’s former earthquake-damaged science buildings, Waimarie is the university’s flagship science facility, and will be a new fit-for-future learning and research centre located in the north-eastern corner of campus.

The university received $80 million in Crown funding for the Waimarie construction project, which kicked off with a ground-breaking ceremony in February 2021 and is due for practical completion in July 2023.

Waimarie will be home to Lincoln University’s Department of Pest Management and Conservation, the Department of Soil and Physical Sciences, AGLS professional staff including faculty administration, Bioprotection Aotearoa and other research partnerships.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards said Waimarie would be a science facility for the ages.

“Waimarie will be an epicentre for education and research in the land-based disciplines, as well as a hub for inter-organisational partnerships, industry-wide collaborations and centres of excellence.

“Waimarie will be a beacon for students, researchers, teaching and professional staff and other land-based sector leaders from all over Aotearoa and globally.

“The challenges facing today’s food and fibre producers are manifold and profound, and we are proud to deliver this new facility where we can further advance our commitment to equip future generations with the skills and knowledge to shape a better future.”

Waimarie will feature state-of-the-art teaching, research and collaboration spaces complemented by multi-use adjustable workstations and social zones, all set within a biodiverse park-like environment.

An expansive ground-floor café will form a central hub where Lincoln University staff and students will be able to mix and mingle with campus visitors and employees from the co-located AgResearch facility, also currently under construction.

In line with the university’s sustainable infrastructure goals, the new building will have a minimal environmental impact, incorporating roof and wall mounted solar arrays, a ground-sourced heating/cooling system and a rainwater-fed toilet flushing system in the design.

The new science facility is part of Lincoln University’s wider Campus Development Programme, which has delivered major projects such as a vibrant and bustling new student hub, the redevelopment of Whare Hākinakina Lincoln University Gym and the opening of an agricultural science building in July 2021.

Further campus projects are in various stages of development, including an ambitious and extensive decarbonisation programme supporting the university’s goal to be carbon neutral by 2030 and to cease the combustion of coal by 2024, the restoration of Ivey West and Memorial Hall and an overarching visionary landscaping master plan.
Blues and Golds Awards

The annual Blues and Golds Awards recognise Lincoln University students who have shown determination to succeed, willingness to embrace personal growth and generosity in their contributions to society.

Blues are awarded to students who have achieved athletic and sporting excellence, while Golds are for those who have given to their communities by demonstrating cultural or service excellence.

Rainbow warriors Sophie Williams and Arabella Dudfield had their mahi towards greater awareness of the LGBTQIA+ campus community recognised at the 2022 Blues and Golds Awards.

They jointly won the Supreme Service Gold Award, after being instrumental in the development of rainbow crossings at Lincoln University, as members of the LGBTQIA+ student club SPACE.

They have organised a range of Pride events, and been voices and advocates for LGBTQIA+ students and in the wider community.

The Supreme Award – Cultural Excellence went to Sahiti Peddisetti, president of the Lincoln University International & Cultural Society Club. She devoted many hours to planning events and initiatives for Lincoln’s international students, ensuring they had a place to connect and support one another, especially during the Covid pandemic.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards, with Supreme Service Gold Award winners, Sophie Williams and Arabella Dudfield.

2022 winners of the Blues and Golds Awards.

Sportsperson of the Year was karate exponent Ella Harris, who was part of the Oceania Championship winning New Zealand women’s side, while the Turkey-bound 3X3 women’s basketball side won Team of the Year after their national tertiary championship victory this year.

Forming connections with future employers and celebrating academic achievement were on the menu for 160 students at Lincoln University’s Food and Fibre Awards and Networking Dinner in August.

Minister of Agriculture, Damien O’Connor, presented awards to the top academic achievers in selected study programmes, with 25 food and fibre sector organisations sponsoring tables and a range of industry representatives on hand to meet prospective employees.

The event, conceived by Lincoln University PhD student Laura Keenan, was more than 18 months in the making, having been postponed several times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards said it was exciting to have the chance to recognise student achievement and partner with industry to facilitate meaningful connections.

“Lincoln’s graduate employment rate is higher than that of any other university in the country, which reflects our commitment to producing work-ready graduates to help drive innovation in the food and fibre sectors.

“This event was a wonderful way to showcase potential career opportunities to our students and introduce employers to some of our best and brightest future industry leaders,” he said.

Attendees were also treated to a Q&A session with successful Lincoln graduates, Kate Macdonald and Jake Jarman.

A fifth-generation farmer at Davaar Station, Kate completed her Bachelor of Agribusiness and Food Marketing at Lincoln in 2017 and has gone on to found Davaar & Co, a luxury farm-to-fashion brand.

The business uses crossbred sheep wool grown exclusively at Davaar Station to produce and manufacture woollen jerseys, with the entire production process completed in New Zealand.

Sustainable and ethical practices are at the core of the brand, which Kate runs full time as its Creative Director.

Jake completed his Bachelor of Commerce (Agriculture) at Lincoln in 2018 and won the FMG Young Farmer of the Year competition in 2021. He now works for ANZ, recently moving into an Agri Relationship Manager role after spending the past 18 months as an Agri Relationship Associate.

The duo answered pre-submitted questions from attendees and discussed their career paths, both saying their journeys were not linear or planned and neither had any idea five years ago that they would be where they are today.

Their advice to the students was to be open to opportunities, work hard to expand their networks and try different avenues in their pursuit of success.
Manaaki Scholars celebrated in Completion Ceremony

Lincoln University’s 2022 Manaaki New Zealand Scholars were congratulated and farewelled in a Completion Ceremony last June. The students came from Indonesia, Vietnam, Ghana, Cameroon, South Africa and Papua New Guinea to study at Lincoln on scholarships administered by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as part of the New Zealand Aid Programme.

The 2022 group included five new doctors, as well as master’s and undergraduate students. In front of friends, family, and their lecturers and supervisors, they were presented with certificates by Lincoln University Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards, and gifted mementos from other Lincoln University staff.

The annual Completion Ceremony is a celebration for those completing their qualifications, as most scholars tend to return to their home countries prior to the full Lincoln University graduation event. The ceremony enables them to celebrate their achievements on campus.

The Manaaki programme encourages scholars to gain leadership and practical skills that can assist in identified areas of need in their home countries, while also building enduring links with New Zealand.

No other university combines commercial aspects and sustainability in a degree, making it a unique qualification at the leading edge of knowledge and learning. Sustainability is one of the major driving forces of the 21st century. The degree will integrate people, planet and profit in a coherent and workable relationship, protecting and enhancing not only the environment but the wellbeing, social and cultural elements of people, while returning a fair and equitable profit to individuals, organisations and the community.

It also presents a bicultural perspective, recognising both the history and future of sustainability in Aotearoa New Zealand. Students will gain a sound understanding of value creation and general commercial activity in a land-based context and be able to drive integrated sustainability initiatives and goals at local, national, and global levels.

Career opportunities range from roles in local government to consulting firms, from agribusiness organisations and cooperatives to manufacturers and tourism.

New programmes

Bachelor of Commerce (Sustainability)

Lincoln’s new Bachelor of Commerce (Sustainability) gives students the skills to conduct business in a way that protects and enhances the environment and the wellbeing of communities.

No other university combines commercial aspects and sustainability in a degree, making it a unique qualification at the leading edge of knowledge and learning. Sustainability is one of the major driving forces of the 21st century. The degree will integrate people, planet and profit in a coherent and workable relationship, protecting and enhancing not only the environment but the wellbeing, social and cultural elements of people, while returning a fair and equitable profit to individuals, organisations and the community.

It also presents a bicultural perspective, recognising both the history and future of sustainability in Aotearoa New Zealand. Students will gain a sound understanding of value creation and general commercial activity in a land-based context and be able to drive integrated sustainability initiatives and goals at local, national, and global levels.

Career opportunities range from roles in local government to consulting firms, from agribusiness organisations and cooperatives to manufacturers and tourism.

Organisations of all types are looking for new employees with a sound background in sustainability.

Learn more at https://www.lincoln.ac.nz/study/study-programmes/programme-search/bachelor-of-commerce-sustainability/

Master of Water Science and Management

Master of Science in Water Science and Management

Lincoln University and the University of Canterbury are the first New Zealand tertiary institutions to run postgraduate degree programmes as jointly awarded courses.

Lincoln University Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards and the University of Canterbury (UC) Tumu Whakarae | Vice Chancellor Professor Cheryl de la Rey signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2022 to continue a long-standing partnership in freshwater science and management.

The agreement builds on the strongly interdisciplinary focus of the universities’ existing programmes specifically relating to freshwater, while aligning the shared strategic goals of both universities.

Professor Edwards said the MOU built on the strongly interdisciplinary focus of the universities’ existing programmes while extending scientific and technical training.

“We can also help provide the bicultural competence and confidence necessary to manage water in Aotearoa New Zealand and abroad.

“This will help create opportunities for students to learn and contribute to resolving global sustainability challenges,” he said.

The two new qualifications are jointly awarded by UC and Lincoln University and consist of a 180-credit Master of Water Science and Management and a 240-credit Master of Science in Water Science and Management. Both qualifications are taught at the UC campus.
Lincoln researchers help solve kākāpō mystery

Lincoln researchers helped solve a three-year-old mystery surrounding the death of almost 10 per cent of the endangered kākāpō population.

Professor Travis Glare co-authored a Science Direct paper that looked at how, unusually, a fatal mass aspergillosis outbreak was caused by a single fungal black mould strain, allowing the epidemic to be traced back to its source.

In 2019, during a highly successful nesting season, the outbreak affected 21 individuals and led to the deaths of nine, leaving a population of only 211 kākāpō.

Aspergillosis is a respiratory disease caused by inhaling spores from fungi, with the lung physiology of birds making them susceptible, even if they are otherwise healthy. The study identified the possibility that the strain was brought to the birds’ five offshore sanctuary islands by humans through supplemental feeding.

However, it also suggested the outbreak may have been a ‘black swan’ event, in which multiple variables combined to cause the disease.

“These may include a more virulent strain of A. fumigatus in the island environment, and a warm, dry summer favouring fungal spore production in soil and leaf litter, as well as causing dusty conditions that increase airborne spore densities,” the paper stated.

Using whole-genome sequencing data to identify the strain and understand the epidemic allowed the researchers to suggest procedures to detect and mitigate future events.

The paper also sounded a warning.

“The warm dry summer conditions which may have contributed to this outbreak will become more common with global warming, making genetic surveillance for disease-causing strains a crucial tool for managing the conservation of threatened species.”

Lincoln researchers have been adding a hint of silicon to the scents of game, leather, cherry, plum, and raspberry redolent in the aroma of New Zealand Pinot noir.

They are working on artificial intelligence techniques to identify the quality of wine without the need for tasting it, which will help the wine industry to automate a time-consuming and costly process. The recent paper, A machine learning application in wine quality prediction, published in Machine Learning with Applications (an Elsevier journal), showed that by generating synthetic data, the researchers were able to increase the accuracy of a machine learning model.

This helps their progress towards developing a web application that wine researchers and growers can use to predict wine quality based on chemical and physio-chemical compounds.

The research utilised 18 Pinot noir wine samples with 54 different characteristics (seven physicochemical and 47 chemical features), and generated 1381 data samples.

Co-author Professor Don Kulasiiri, head of Lincoln’s Centre for Advanced Computational Solutions (C-fACS), said the generation of synthetic data, making genetic surveillance for disease-causing strains a crucial tool for managing the conservation of threatened species.

New research harnesses soil fungus for environmental mitigation

A major new research programme promises to reduce the environmental impact of New Zealand agriculture, with naturally occurring soil fungus shaping as a new hero.

N-Vision NZ, led by farmer-owned nutrient co-operative, Ravensdown, and co-funded by the Government’s Sustainable Food and Fibres Future (SFFF) initiative, aims to help farmers reduce nitrogen loss. Lincoln University is a research partner for the $22 million seven-year initiative.

One of the N-Vision projects, led by Lincoln researchers Dr Hossein Alizadeh, Professor John Hampton and Dr Wadia Kandula, will harness the power of humble natural strains of soil fungi to increase the efficiency of nitrogen use by plants.

Ravensdown General Manager of Innovation and Strategy Mike Manning explains: “The Lincoln University researchers have discovered natural strains of fungi that can be applied to soil to reduce the activity of specific microbes, which are involved with nitrogen cycling and losses. This has a strong potential to mitigate both greenhouse gas emissions and reduce nitrogen loss to waterways,” he said.

N-Vision NZ will apply leading-edge science and technology to create tools that can be used on farm. Importantly farmers will have options to maintain profitability while minimising the environmental impact of their land use.
Alumni, students and staff from Lincoln University are all playing key roles in an ambitious project to eliminate pests from Banks Peninsula and Kaitōrete Spit by 2050.

Pest Free Banks Peninsula/Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū (PFBP) is a collaborative programme to protect biodiversity on the peninsula through the widespread eradication of animal pests.

Led by PFBP operations manager Tim Sjoberg and project manager Sarah Wilson (both Lincoln alumni), rangers laid the first traps at Kaitōrete in March 2022.

Sarah, who has a Master of Science in Resource Management, says her Lincoln studies taught her to take a holistic approach that draws on quantitative and qualitative science.

“This elimination project is complex and has many aspects, both in terms of community and social science, as well as ecology. Taking a holistic approach is the foundation for success.”

Sarah says it is amazing to have Lincoln University’s Department of Pest Management and Conservation “on the doorstep of the programme” and to enjoy “a great working relationship with staff and students”.

As part of her thesis, Master of Science (Conservation and Ecology) student Mel Barnett is researching the use of ZIP motolures with ground-based traps, to see if they will increase capture rates for hedgehogs, mustelids, possums and feral cats at Kaitōrete.

The motolures dispense a preset amount of fresh mayonnaise to lure pests to traps.

“We are always looking for opportunities for students to apply their studies to a real-world research project that makes a huge difference.”

Given the long-term nature of the programme, these opportunities will continue to arise throughout the decades.

Research Master’s project

As part of her thesis, Master of Science (Conservation and Ecology) student Mel Barnett is researching the use of ZIP motolures with ground-based traps, to see if they will increase capture rates for hedgehogs, mustelids, possums and feral cats at Kaitōrete.

The motolures dispense a preset amount of fresh mayonnaise to lure pests to traps.

“We are hoping that a motolure will be less threatening for a predator to want to check out, rather than entering a trap or foreign object,” Mel says. “Perhaps this will catch more shy or cautious individuals who would otherwise not interact with a trap.”

The motolures are being set up as part of a network of 280 traps at the western end of Kaitōrete, then Mel will replicate her study further east as more traps are set.

Concussion research on young women rugby players first in field

Nicole Spriggs is enlisting the help of the Prebbleton U17 Girls team to make rugby a safer sport.

The Lincoln University Kinesiology and Exercise Science PhD candidate has been researching the impact of the collisions experienced by the team over a whole season, deliberately focusing on players who may normally be sidelined in studies.

“Most of the research on collisions and concussions in rugby is male dominated and on elite athletes, even though research suggests that concussions are worst in females and youth players,” Nicole said.

“Additionally, youth players’ brains have not fully developed, so it’s important to see if their brain health is affected by repetitive sub-concussive impacts (which are head knocks not heavy enough to result in a concussion).”

She has been collecting data across the 2022 and 2023 seasons, with results expected in 2024.

The players wear mouth guards containing three accelerometers and a gyroscope to record the impacts above an 8G (gravitational force) threshold.

Using MRI scans and a cognitive test, Nicole is investigating whether the collisions affect brain structure and function.

“The hope is to see if sub-concussive impacts across the season affect players and if concussive impacts affect their brain function and structure.”

Nicole is also part of a wider study with the University of Canterbury which focuses on the usage of head gear to reduce impacts. The Waihora U16 boys’ team is part of that research.

“Hopefully we’ll get some interesting data where we can compare the boys and the girls.”

Nicole, whose whakapapa is Kāi Tahu, received a Lincoln University Aoraki Doctoral Scholarship last year, which has provided great support for her to complete her PhD.
Philanthropy

Lincoln University Foundation
Message from the Chair

Thank you to all those who supported the university and the Lincoln University Foundation in 2022.

The Lincoln University Foundation is the philanthropic vehicle by which to receive donations and bequests which support the University.

The Foundation exists to receive, invest, grow, and distribute endowment income and philanthropic funds intended to advance the aims and objectives of the University. The Trustees oversee both the Lincoln University Centennial Trust and the Lincoln University Foundation.

The Lincoln University Centennial Trust was established in 1977, at the time of the centenary, to support NZ agriculture education, training and research.

The Lincoln University Foundation is the main vehicle for the receiving of donations to the university, including scholarships. Lincoln University Foundation (the Foundation) helps the University to achieve its vision of being a globally ranked, top-five land-based University.

The Foundation trustees are deeply mindful of the responsibilities they hold as custodians of donated funds. The Foundation trustees thank all donors who gave so generously in support of the university throughout the year, particularly through Giving Day.

Giving Day 2022

In 2022, Lincoln University held its first ever Giving Day, offering an opportunity for Lincoln’s entire community – both past and present – to come together to support the next generation.

The campaign was an overwhelming success and we are incredibly grateful to alumni, staff and students from across the country and around the world for the philanthropic gifts they have bestowed on the university.

Giving Day was held over a 24-hour period and all gifts made during that time were doubled thanks to the generosity and support of matching donors.

More than $136,000 was raised, which will go towards scholarships for industry-leading study programmes, providing excellent teaching and learning in a research-rich environment, and delivering some of the finest graduates into the sector.

Giving Day included an online countdown throughout the 24 hours, with students and staff contacting alumni in a makeshift call room.

Student volunteers loved talking with alumni during this time, especially hearing about their memories of Lincoln, and were humbled by the generosity of donors.

Development Officer Penny Curran described the event as extremely exciting and said the involvement of generous matching donors was a unique feature of the Giving Day.

“We would like to say thank you to all our donors including our matching donors.”

Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards, who addressed alumni during Giving Day, said he believed the generosity directed to Lincoln students and the university was also for the sector.

“We recognise that and look forward to updating alumni on the use of funds and the impact of their giving.”

New Sports Fund for Lincoln University

A new initiative aimed at fostering participation in sport at Lincoln was launched in 2022 following a suggestion from LU Rugby Club and Foundation Trustee, Andy Borland, to initiate a university-wide sports fund.

The timing of his idea coincided with the conclusion of a comprehensive review of sport at Lincoln University, which fully supported the recommendation.

This led to the creation of the Lincoln University Sport and Healthy Living initiative, which focuses on developing a wide range of existing key sporting codes, as well as creating other competitive sporting opportunities and promoting participation, adventure and wellbeing across the campus.

The initiative has attracted a number of corporate supporters and the first distribution of funds was made in time for semester 1, 2023. It will support a range of new activities, including Frisbee Golf, Futsal, the tramping and climbing club, hunting club and swimming pool entries.

Sponsors of the fund were invited onto campus in November 2022 for a university update and research highlights from key Lincoln staff. Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards commented at the time that “sport, recreation and healthy living are key to students’ success at university”.

“Corporate supporters of Lincoln’s Sport and Healthy Living Initiative are helping grow great graduates for industry. And we see this as a partnership that involves not only supporting the next generation but sharing ideas, knowledge and industry experience through events and networking opportunities.”

As Managing Director of Scales Corporation, a key funder, Andy Borland says the company is excited to partner with Lincoln University on the Sport and Healthy Living initiative “to support the next generation, helping grow great graduates for industry. And we see this as a partnership that involves not only supporting the next generation but sharing ideas, knowledge and industry experience through events and networking opportunities.”

“Scales Corporation is supportive of competition, healthy living and wellbeing.”
Friends and family offer fitting tribute to celebrated winemaker

A group of friends and family of the late Andy Anderson, a talented winemaker and Lincoln alumnus, have released a world-class Central Otago pinot noir in his honour.

Proceeds from the sale of the wine – labelled “Andy” and made of grapes sourced from some of his favourite Central Otago vineyards – will go towards a Lincoln University viticulture and oenology scholarship to help foster talented, enthusiastic winemakers.

The official launch of the wine took place during two evenings in Cambridge on 18 November and Queenstown’s Bespoke Kitchen on 25 November, with Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards and representatives from Lincoln’s Alumni and Development Team attending the latter event.

Andy, who died of cancer in 2019 at the age of 50, was one of the first graduates of Lincoln’s Bachelor of Viticulture and Oenology in 1998. He went on to gain many accolades in the winemaking field, working for wineries in several different countries.

As head winemaker at Waikato’s Takapoto Estate vineyard, Andy was the first New Zealander to win the International Wine and Spirit Competition Pinot Noir Trophy and the first person in the world to win it twice (in 2017 and 2018).

For this reason, Andy’s friends said via The Wine for Andy website that creating a tribute for their mate had been no easy task, given his illustrious background.

However, they came up with a wine that they hoped “he would proudly hold on the international podium and call his own”, describing the limited-edition pinot noir as “a fitting tribute to the life, legacy and talent of beloved Central Otago winemaker Andy Anderson”.

“The fruit was handpicked from selected blocks in Gibbston Valley, the coolest of the Central Otago subregions,” the website explained. “Andy’s old stomping grounds proffered grapes, with Matapari, Brennan and Takapoto Vineyards contributing the fruit.”

Timbo Deaker, who graduated with Andy in 1998, told Business Desk recently that the wine had been “made for love”.

“It’s a loving tribute to a legendary winemaker and everything from the grapes to the winemaking, bottling and packaging has been done for free,” he said.

The pinot noir has received extraordinary reviews so far, with Kiwi masters of wine, Cameron Douglas and Bob Campbell, rating it 95 and 94 points respectively.

And “true to his infectious enthusiasm and generous spirit”, the annual Andy Anderson Memorial Scholarship in Viticulture and Oenology will enable a third-year Lincoln student to experience a Central Otago vintage each year for a decade. Application details will be available soon.

The Andy Pinot Noir 2020 is available for purchase via the Wine for Andy website (www.wineforandy.nz), which also includes more information about the winemaker’s life and achievements.

High country farmer leaves proud legacy for female students

A new scholarship programme has been established this year to support female Lincoln University students to pursue careers in the wool industry.

The Ann Scanlan Scholarship pays tribute to a passionate high-country farmer who serves as a fantastic role model for young women working in the farming industry.

Ann first honed her stock and dog skills as a young shepherd at Tautane in the North Island, and from that point on, she pushed the boundaries in farm management, sheep handling and wool production.

Following her shepherding stint, she was recruited by Bendigo Station’s John and Heather to manage Omatapatapo Station, which the couple had bought in partnership with the Botto family from Italy and the Lepriere family from Australia.

The Botto family were initially sceptical about appointing a woman to manage their investment, but Ann soon proved them wrong with her dedication to the property.

The three families eventually teamed up to buy Rugged Ridges in the Waikaui Valley and Glenrock Station in the Mackenzie, with Ann moving into the General Manager’s role and overseeing the three properties.

Francesco Botto, a member of the Italian family who was involved in purchasing the properties, said he and his relatives would always be grateful for the job she had done.

“Ann has been an important person to the evolution of our farming in New Zealand. She took on a big challenge working with a wide range of people, and she won because of her passion for wool and sheep.”

A particularly noteworthy occurrence in Ann’s career took place during the 2004 autumn muster at Bendigo Station, when she found a wool-blind merino wether who had evaded being shorn for six years. Named Shrek and sporting a huge 27kg fleece, he became the most famous sheep in New Zealand, attracting international media attention.

In record time, Ann developed one of the best merino flocks in New Zealand and won the Otago Merino Wool Association Clip of the Year title. She was also chairwoman of the Otago Merino Association and a recipient of the Heather Perriam Memorial Trophy for services to the merino industry.

Ann passed away in 2014 after a determined fight against cancer.

Gendie Woods of Alexanders, Accountant to the Ann Scanlan Trust, said Ann had always aspired to encourage more women into the wool industry.

“It was certainly something she was very passionate about and we often talked about why more women weren’t working in the wool industry.”

The Ann Scanlan Scholarship will be offered annually to a full-time female student entering their second or subsequent year of study towards a Lincoln University bachelor or postgraduate degree, with a focus on wool.
Artwork bequeathed by renowned ecologist

Gifting an artwork or making a collection bequest is an enduring way to create a legacy and provide ongoing inspiration for future generations. Former Lincoln staff member and celebrated avian ecologist, Kerry-Jayne Wilson, who died in 2022, was one such donor, leaving five artworks to the university.

Three of the five pieces include birds, reflecting Kerry-Jayne’s lifelong fascination with natural history and her distinguished career as an internationally recognised conservationist. She was also interested in art, having been a member of the Art Committee on campus during her time as an ecology and conservation lecturer at Lincoln from 1986-2009.

Following her departure from the university, she spent 12 years on the West Coast as an ornithologist, natural history writer and educator. She received numerous awards in her lifetime for her work on bird research and conservation, and in 2019, she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to seabird conservation.

A prolific author of scientific papers and books, Kerry-Jayne’s 2004 book Flight of the Huia: Ecology and conservation of New Zealand’s rarest bird won the 2005 Montana Book Awards. Four of the works commissioned for the book were gifted to the university, and can be seen as part of the art collection on campus. Browse the collection on Lincoln University’s Living Heritage website at https://livingheritage.lincoln.ac.nz/.

Lincoln University’s rich and varied collection of over 300 artworks includes paintings, prints, sculptures, and ceramics. To find out more about the art collection or to discuss gifting artworks or making an art collection bequest, please email the university’s Art Curator, Fiona Simpson, at fiona.simpson@lincoln.ac.nz.

Ben Reid, A bird in the hand 2009 (detail). This is one of the bequests of Kerry-Jayne Wilson.

In April, Erin Eyles joined the team in the role of Alumni Engagement Officer and Penny Curran moved into the role of Alumni and Development. Erin has been a wonderful addition to the team, and joined us in time to assist with hosting a very special event – the renaming of the Commerce Building as the Bruce and Gill Ross Building. The event was livestreamed, allowing for Bruce and Gill Ross and their family to join virtually from Wellington.

In her new role, Penny took the lead in delivering our first Giving Day and we have been overwhelmed by the response of alumni and friends of the university in their support of Lincoln.

A number of new scholarships were established in 2022, including the Ann Scanlan Memorial Scholarship, and the Andy Anderson Memorial Scholarship in Viticulture & Oenology. It has been a privilege to work with alumni on some special scholarships and new projects and we look forward to reporting back on the impact of those gifts.

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A very big thank you to our alumni and friends of the university; we were humbled by your generosity during Giving Day and greatly appreciate the ongoing support that you show our students and staff.

We are constantly amazed at our alumni’s involvement with Lincoln, from attending farm visits to guest speaking at events, offering industry advice, facilitating internships, funding scholarships and more.

2022 was a big year for the Alumni & Development Office, and although the first few months were partly disrupted by Covid, the situation allowed for online events instead, including a webinar introducing the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Grant Edwards.

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The Alumni Office Team, including Lisa van Vuuren (Database Coordinator and Researcher) and Jan Collins (Heritage Writer and Researcher), were delighted to be back with face-to-face alumni events in the main centres, as well as special events in Hawke’s Bay and Central Otago, and the locally-held Anzac Service.

2022 also marks the passing of several significant alumni, including Sir Allan Wright, Lincoln University’s first Chancellor; and Vernon Clark, former senior lecturer and co-founder of Coopworth breed of sheep, and a active Lincoln University community member.

We always enjoy catching up with our alumni and friends of Lincoln University. Please continue to update us with your news and please visit us on campus if you’re close by.
With the lifting of Covid restrictions, it was fantastic to be back supporting alumni events in person around New Zealand. The alumni team co-ordinated networking opportunities and gatherings with local alumni in Waitaki, Wanaka and Christchurch in the South Island, and we were lucky enough to visit the North Island with events in Auckland, Hawke’s Bay and Wellington.

In 2022, there was a big emphasis on introducing our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Grant Edwards, to alumni around the regions and to provide an update on the direction of the university.

Alumni events differ in format and formality, but they all involve connecting locally with other Lincoln alumni, catching up with old friends and making new ones, and offering networking opportunities between older and younger alumni who have common industry interests.

Key activities last year included gathering downtown at the waterfront in Auckland, wining and dining in Napier, meeting up at a local bar in central Wellington and enjoying drinks and nibbles at the Opera House in Oamaru.

Other more formal gatherings included an alumni dinner at the University of Melbourne’s historic University House and the annual Wellington Christmas lunch, held at the Wellington Club.

If you would like to help host an event in your area or have an idea for a local alumni activity, we would love to hear from you.
Anzac Day at Lincoln War Memorial

Formal recognition of a commemorative Gallipoli pine tree, planted at the site of the Lincoln War Memorial, was a feature of the 2022 Lincoln Community Anzac Day Service.

Ancestry of the memorial tree, an Aleppo Pine (Pinus halepensis), traces back to a cone from the Gallipoli Peninsula retrieved by an Anzac solider. Seeds from it were germinated in Australia and brought to New Zealand.

The project to have a Gallipoli pine tree growing by the Lincoln War Memorial was led by Lincoln University’s Vern Clark ONZM. Planting, management and husbandry of the tree has been in the hands of former local orchardist Bruce Tweedy, a Lincoln University Medal holder, who has visited Gallipoli.

Vern, attending his last Anzac Day service before his death, showed the tree and told its story to Selwyn MP Nicola Grigg.

The Lincoln Anzac Day service, a combined Lincoln University-Lincoln township commemoration, supported by Selwyn District Council, drew a public attendance of about 250. Lincoln University’s presence was led by Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards, who read the university’s Gallipoli Roll of Honour.

Lincoln University Soil Science PhD student Julie Gillespie sounded the traditional bugle calls of Last Post and Reveille at the ceremonial lowering and raising of the New Zealand and Australian flags.

Selwyn’s Deputy Mayor, Malcolm Lyall, was the MC, Nicola Grigg MP gave the guest address focussing on the Land Girls of WWII, and the Chaplain was Reverend Brian Fennessy, of Lincoln Catholic Parish, an Army Chaplain.

Hawke’s Bay alumni event goes to the Village Oenothèque

Alumni, partners and friends of Lincoln University were treated to the hospitality of former Chancellor Steve Smith at a Hawke’s Bay gathering in Havelock North on Tuesday 8 November.

The first alumni event in the region since the pandemic, it began with a visit to the Smith and Sheth Heretaunga Wine Studio.

Steve has a long association with the wine industry and holds the rare international qualification, Master of Wine.

Following the tour of the studio, the group enjoyed dinner in the Malo Restaurant.

Alumnus and well-known public speaker David ‘Toddy’ Todd (BCom(Ag) 1987) was the Master of Ceremonies and conducted the event’s traditional Best Story or Joke of the Night Competition.

Professor Grant Edwards provided a Lincoln University update for the gathering and was then invited to judge the coveted award. The winner was Mike Fleming (BCom(Ag) 1999), receiving the Ivan Martin Cup for 2022.

Tuesday Lunch Club and International Medallist Address

The Canterbury-based Tuesday Lunch Club (TLC) recommenced monthly lunch functions with enthusiasm after Covid disruptions. It is now not uncommon for 50 alumni ‘lunchers’ to come together in various venues in and around Canterbury. These events were held in Rangiora, Christchurch, Banks Peninsula, Darfield and south to Ashburton.

The Medallist’s Address, delayed from 2021 because of Covid restrictions, was delivered by the 2021 recipient of the Lincoln University Alumni International Medal, Tony Ryan (DipAgr, DipVFM, BAgCom). A special Christmas luncheon combining TLC and this address was held on campus to conclude the year. Tony Ryan addressed attendees on his incredible career in international aid and consultancy, in which he completed more than 100 assignments in over 20 countries.
Vice-Chancellor’s Invitational PhD Dinner

A group of 20 PhD graduates, along with their friends and family, had a very special evening at Larcomb Vineyard in Rolleston as part of Lincoln’s 2022 graduation celebrations.

In addition to enjoying dinner and drinks, graduates were celebrated individually, with the audience applauding enthusiastically as Postgraduate Supervisor Dr Andrew Holyoake called them one by one into the main dining area. Associate Professor Carol Smith was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards was in attendance to welcome the group, congratulate the graduates on their achievements, and wish them the best for their futures.

Guest speaker for the evening was Environment Canterbury CE Dr Stefanie Rixecker, who spoke about the immense value of a Lincoln PhD and the wide-ranging career opportunities that would be available to the new graduates. Dr Rixecker also discussed the advantages of a Lincoln education and emphasised the accessibility of Lincoln’s alumni network in New Zealand and internationally.

Following these inspiring words, Associate Professor Carol Smith invited graduates to address the audience from the podium, giving them the opportunity to thank family, friends, supervisors and university staff for their support.

The entire Lincoln community is immensely proud of the graduates and the team thoroughly enjoyed celebrating with them on this special occasion.

Alumni plays ‘Piano for Hope’ concert

Lincoln staff and students were treated to a lunchtime concert by alumnus and pianist, Sam Cooper (Bachelor of Environmental Policy and Planning (Hons)), on 28 September to mark Mental Health Awareness Week. The concert took place in the Stewart building foyer, which provided fabulous acoustics for Sam’s own compositions, as well as familiar tunes such as Wagon Wheel and Rocketman.

Toni Lubbers, of Lincoln’s Wellbeing and International Support team, also led a Q&A session between music pieces, giving Sam the opportunity to discuss his own mental health journey. He shared with the audience that he had experienced some life challenges during his time as a student, but his recovery was aided by the creative outlet of piano playing and composition, as well as the invaluable support of friends, family and Lincoln staff members.

Reunions

With a notable gap in the calendar in terms of reunions, we welcomed the first one back on campus in October, with the 1970 BAgrSc Reunion Group enjoying a lecture, tour and university update over lunch. Up north, the 1971 VFM Reunion was held in Napier in early November, with a great catch-up and tours around the area.

Reunions are all back on for 2023, and at least eight took place in March and April. We now call this part of the year “Reunion Season”!
It’s been a great year for sport, with the World Cup success of five of our alumnae celebrated, a host of young sports scholars making representative teams and taking part in prestigious events, and the university continuing to back local sport.

**Netball**
Our premier side were once again crowned Christchurch Netball Centre champs, overcoming UC in the final in August, with Andrea Cousins made coach of the year. Our B side was also promoted to top division in 2023. Kate Lloyd made the Tactix, while Jane Watson returned to the Silver Ferns.

**Cricket**
Kate Sims, Abigale Gerken and Abigail Hotton were part of a Canterbury Magicians team, which won the Super Smash in 2022, along with alumna Amy Satherthwaite.

Abigale was also selected for the NZ Development Squad to play India and West Indies Under 19s in Mumbai, while Abigail was selected for the first-ever New Zealand Under-19 120 World Cup squad.

Fraser Sheat and Zac Foulke both continued to do their own magic for the Wizards.

**Hockey**
Lincoln University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Grant Edwards, found himself in the unique position of running a university and a provincial sporting side at the same time, as he took charge of the Canterbury Cavaliers side, which finished third in the national champs.

He has held the role of head coach since 2019, after a previous stint from 2007-2011 and decided to stick with it after stepping up to Vice-Chancellor from his deputy position in January last year.

Sports Scholars Sam Lints, Charlie Morrison and Louis Beckert were part of the side with Charlie and Louis playing for the Black Sticks.

Alumna Olivia Merry was named co-captain of the women’s Black Sticks.

**Rowing**
Will Gilbert won a silver medal in the U23 Men’s Coxless Four at the 2022 World U23 Rowing Championship, while Matthew White won silver medals in the senior pair and the four, and a bronze in the senior eight at the national rowing champs this year.
Basketball

Lincoln’s 3x3 women’s side travelled to Turkey for the world tertiary champs following their national tertiary championship victory this year, where they finished fifth and claimed team of the year at the Blues and Golds awards.

Kate Herman was part of the U18 New Zealand team at the Asia Cup in India.

Lincoln University is also proudly backing Canterbury’s young basketball talent by sponsoring the flagship high school competitions this season.

Commonwealth Games

Current elite scholar, wrestler Matthew Oxenham, and hammer thrower, alumna Lauren Bruce were both selected for the New Zealand team to travel to Birmingham.

Karate

Sportsperson of the Year was karate exponent Ella Harris, who was part of the Oceania Championship winning New Zealand women’s side.

Another fantastic year of sport for Lincoln University.
Early Lincoln links with NZ Women’s Rugby

Women’s rugby in New Zealand is on an unprecedented high, and Lincoln University can claim an authentic early connection with the game’s evolution to its present peak.

The link is with the Women’s World Rugby Festival, held in New Zealand in 1990, and the forerunner of the first Women’s World Cup Rugby Tournament, held the following year in Wales.

Players from five nations took part in the 1990 festival – New Zealand, the Netherlands, USA, USSR, and two teams from Japan (All Tokyo and Nagoya). Most of the 62 games, including the first, were held at Lincoln University.

The festival was planned and initiated by Sam Leary, Lincoln University’s Recreation Officer at the time, helped by close friend and rugby teammate, Laurie O’Reilly. It laid the foundation for competitive international women’s rugby in New Zealand, of the sort we now know and enjoy.

The Team Leader of All Tokyo was Emiko Shiozaki, now of Kaikoura. In October, Emiko re-visited the Lincoln University grounds on which she played.

“It was a pleasure playing on the beautiful green grass at Lincoln after some of the hard, sandy grounds in Japan,” she says.

“Our team lived on campus and we were well looked after. I remember bacon for breakfast in the morning. Players weren’t as diet conscious as they are now.”

The visit had a memorable personal outcome for Sam and Emiko who met through the festival and subsequently married.

“Sam and I had a date at the festival and we’ve been married for 30 years now,” she says.

Sam Leary and Emiko Shiozaki at the 140 Years of Rugby celebrations at Lincoln in 2021.

World Cup winners visit campus

Welcoming the players to the campus, Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards, himself a former New Zealand sports representative in hockey, said Lincoln University was tremendously proud of its five Black Ferns and he congratulated them on their success.

“The value of sport in the mix of everything else we do in life cannot be overstated,” he said. “Lincoln had long recognised this through its Sports Scholarship Programme.”

The players who attended were Alana Bremner (Bachelor of Agribusiness and Food Marketing 2019), Chelsea Bremner (Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science 2017), Georgia Ponsonby (Bachelor of Land and Property Management 2022) and Amy Rule (Bachelor of Sport and Recreation Management 2019).

The fifth Black Fern alumna, halfback Kendra Cocksedge (Bachelor of Recreation Management (Sport) 2012), was unable to attend.

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Alana, Amy and Georgia all attended Lincoln on Rugby Scholarships, and Kendra had entered on a Cricket Scholarship, later being awarded an elite Prime Minister’s Scholarship in acknowledgement of her rugby excellence.

A panel interview with the four was conducted by Dr Catherine Elliott, Senior Lecturer from the Department of Tourism, Sport and Society. Questions were then taken from the floor, and finally the players mixed informally with rugby club members and university staff.

Dr Catherine Elliott with Black Ferns alumnae Georgia Ponsonby, Amy Rule, Alana Bremner and Chelsea Bremner.

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Sam Leary and Emiko Shiozaki at the 140 Years of Rugby celebrations at Lincoln in 2021.
Obituaries

Sir Allan Frederick Wright
29 March 1929 – 27 November 2022

The prominence of Sir Allan Wright’s name in the history of Lincoln University is assured, but not for the impressive dates alone. He was a Lincoln College Council member 1973-1994; Council Chairman 1986-1989; and Chancellor of Lincoln University 1990-February 1994.

Beyond these dates, the ‘undoubted highlight’ of Sir Allan’s long service, and those are his own words, was the day of 24 February 1989 when Deputy Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer announced autonomous and independent university status would be granted to Lincoln College the following year.

Behind that announcement was a long campaign of advocacy led by Sir Allan, supported closely by the College Principal Professor Bruce Ross, with wider backing from members of the primary sector, the business and commercial worlds, and government and political circles.

While a contrary view did exist, politically there were six women on the University Grants Committee, Sir Allan saw this as a challenge to be defeated by sound argument, and he took it up.

Although autonomy for Lincoln is clearly the pinnacle of achievement for Sir Allan, who died at home in Sheffield, Canterbury, on Sunday 27 November 2022 aged 93, his legacy stretches over many other areas of Lincoln’s evolution during his time on Council and for which he provided guidance, support and influence.

That legacy includes growth in student numbers to a permanent level of between 2500 – 3500. It was always less than 2000 up until 1989.

Other developments include increasing Lincoln’s marketing activities, ensuring a progressive policy of capital development and broadening the focus from agriculture to natural resources and commerce. Study programmes were also expanded to include degree-level qualifications in areas such as Landscape Architecture, Parks and recreation management, Resource Studies Transport and Hotel Management.

The increasing participation of women at Lincoln as students, staff members and Council members was also a development during Sir Allan’s time as leader. On his retirement, 40 percent of Lincoln’s student roll were women, there were six women on the University Council and at the time of Lincoln’s independence, the Pro Chancellor (Chancellor’s deputy) was a woman.

In addition to his prominence as a practising farmer, Sir Allan had a huge number of company directorships, such as with Mair Astley, the Rural Bank, Alliance Textiles, Southpower, NZ Rail, FMG Finance.

Recreationally, cricket was his huge passion. He captained North Canterbury, which won the Hawke Cup in 1967, managed the NZ Cricket team on its UK tour in 1983; and was President of NZ Cricket 1993-1994.

When he was awarded a Lincoln University Doctor of Commerce honoris causa in 1997, it was mentioned how propitious it was that Sir Allan became Chancellor with such a strong combination of farming background and urban commercial and business experience. It matched perfectly Lincoln’s growth from its rural/ farming roots to a broader based institution meeting urban tertiary education needs as well as rural ones.

Adding this was the university’s willingness to go outside the Canterbury area to seek Council members from throughout New Zealand. Sir Allan saw this as helping to emphasise the institution’s ‘national’ role which in turn improved its ability to attract students from throughout the country.

The citation noted, accurately, that a great deal of Sir Allan’s work for Lincoln was done “behind the scenes, not exposed to public gaze, utilising his extensive network of contacts”.

Professor Bruce Ross, who was last College Principal and first University Vice-Chancellor, worked very closely with Sir Allan and recalls the importance of his “wide range of agricultural and commercial connections”.

“Sir Allan’s connections proved invaluable in the long-running negotiations which culminated in Lincoln becoming an independent university.”

“At head of Lincoln at the time, I greatly valued the support that Sir Allan provided for the autonomy cause and for me personally.”

Sir Allan is survived by wife Lady June, sons Stuart, Quentin (both Lincoln alumni), and James, and daughters Janne and Adie. His memorial service was held at The Larches, Sheffield, on 3 December 2022. Former Chancellors Hon. Margaret Austin and Tom Lambie, plus Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Edwards were among those attending.
Vernon Raymond Clark
14 February 1923 – 13 December 2022

Centenarians are rare in the ranks of Lincoln University’s alumni, but Vern Clark, who died on 13 December 2022 at 99 years and 10 months, almost made it!

It would have added another distinction to a life already full of notable achievements, but no need, Vern’s name and reputation stand tall whatever the measure.

He was, for example, one of the few alumni and former staff members to hold the trifecta of the Bledisloe Medal, the Lincoln University Medal, and a medal within the New Zealand Order of Merit, ONZM.

Vern’s Bledisloe Medal, awarded in 1989, was for distinguished services advancing New Zealand’s interests and bringing credit to the university. The Lincoln University Medal, awarded in 2012, was for meritorious voluntary contributions supporting the fabric, culture and reputation of Lincoln University, and the ONZM, awarded in 2005, was for services to agriculture and the community.

Vern joined the staff at Canterbury Agricultural College in 1940, after secondary schooling at Papanui Technical College. He joined the Animal Husbandry (later Animal Science) Department as a Research Assistant working with the celebrated Professor C.P. McMeekan.

War Service intervened, initially in the Army’s Medical Corps, then in the Air Force as a meteorologist serving in the Pacific, at one stage flying as an airborne meteorologist with an American task force. He was severely wounded and carried the legacy of his injury for the rest of his life.

McMeekan was one of three Lincoln professors who loomed large in Vern’s life story. The others are Professor Ian Coop, with whom Vern worked on sheep breeding and the development of the Coopworth breed, and Professor Eric Hudson, Director of Lincoln College, by reputation an austere man, who readily threw his protective arm and understanding attitude (he had been wounded himself in WWI) around Vern and other war-injured staff members returning to the College.

The Coop-Clark partnership in sheep research began in 1948 and continued for 30 years, culminating in the development of the Coopworth breed.

The Coopworth Sheep Society of New Zealand awarded Vern a Life Membership in 1977, acknowledging his vast service, which included the position of Society Secretary 1970-1991. Vern was also President of the NZ Society of Animal Production and was awarded a Life Membership of that organisation too.

Postwar, Vern enrolled in BAgSc study at Lincoln and was also the first New Zealander to qualify as an Associate of the Institute of Science and Technology at the University of London.

The memory of Vern’s service to Lincoln township, where he played leading roles in everything from construction of the first Community Centre to the establishment of the War Memorial, is perpetuated in the name ‘Vernon Drive’, one of the main local thoroughfares.

Vern was at heart a family man as husband of Thelma, father of Kingsley (a Lincoln alumnus) and Richard, and a grandfather and great-grandfather. Eulogies at Vern’s funeral service in Christchurch on 22 December strongly reflected Vern the family man.

Kingsley described Vern perfectly when he said: “Dad was a humble, practical man of science.”

With the passing of Vern Clark, it is thought that Lincoln University’s oldest former student is now alumna Jill Mackenzie (nee Sams) of Kaikoura, who will be 100 in August this year. Jill completed the Land Girls’ course at Lincoln in 1941.
In Remembrance
Lincoln University remembers with the following alumni and former staff members, whose deaths have been notified since the last edition of Landforms.

William (Rex) Austin MBE (Dip Ag 1957), Invercargill, 23 June 2022, aged 91
Robin Bagley (nee Burgess) (DipHort, 1947) at Auckland, 15 November 2022, aged 94
William Michael Baird (Intensive Course, 1957), at Dunedin, 6 March 2023, aged 86
Derek Charles Barton (DipAg, 1964) at Timaru, 29 January 2023, aged 81
Andrew William Bignell (BHortSc, 1979), Whanganui, 27 July 2022, aged 69
John Anton Bradley (BHortSc, 1965) at Stoke, 12 December 2022, aged 82
Peter Alexander Burnett (BAGSc, 1968; MAGSc, 1971), at Winnipeg, 18 March 2023, aged 78
Michael Guthrie (Mike) Bradley (DipAg, 1962, Dip VFM, 1963), Christchurch, 19 September 2022, aged 82
John Douglas Brier (BAGSc, 1973) at Te Awamutu, 12 November 2022, aged 73
Judith Alison Buckingham (nee Simpson) (BCOM VPM, 1988) at Tokanui, 15 March 2022, aged 54
George Vincent Capes (DipAg, 1985; DipFM, 1987) at Pahiatua, 30 November 2022, aged 71
Vernon Raymond (Vern) Clark (BAGSc, 1951) at Lincoln, 14 December 2022, aged 99
Paul Somers (Hatt) Cox (BAGSc, 1960), Martinborough, 5 July 2022, aged 85
Ruth Ingleby Coxe (MAPPSc, 2000) at Auckland, 20 April 2022, aged 83
Rodger Frederick Cullen (BCom, 1984) at Christchurch, 29 November 2022, aged 81
John Eades Dickson (DipAg, 1959) at Hamilton, 9 November 2022, aged 83
Peter Stuart Ferens (DipAg, 1950) at Auckland, 5 February 2023, aged 93
Neil Donald Fleming (Former LU staff member), Christchurch, 16 June 2022, aged 82
Caitlyn Rose Foran (GCAppSc, 2022) at Auckland, 29 November 2022, aged 29
Mrs Catherine Aline (Kate) Gow (LU Supporter, Lincoln Women’s Group) at Christchurch, 1 June 2022, aged 81
Alan Graham Grant (DipAg, 1970; DipVFM, 1971; Kellogg Leadership Programme, 1985) at Ashburton, 21 February 2023, aged 75
Donald Graham (Don) Grant (DipAg, 1972; DipVFM, 1974) at Ashburton, 25 April 2022, aged 71
Nicholas James (Nic) Greenwood (BCM, 1995), at Christchurch, 27 February 2023, aged 52
Catherine Margaret Haddock (RMPP, 1998), Lower Hutt, 10 September 2022, aged 65
Susan Patricia Harnett (nee Beleski) (DipHort, 1988) at Auckland, 27 September 2022, aged 54
Dale Simon Harrop (BLA, 2012; MLA, 2015) at Auckland, 17 December 2022, aged 33
Dr Allan Edward Hewitt (DipAGSc 1974), Bledisloe Medal recipient (2019), Rolleston, 24 March 2022, aged 72
Norman Arthur Hobbs (Farm Trainee, 1955; DipAg, 1957) at Blenheim, 4 February 2023, aged 90
Colin Osborne Howie (DipAg, 1953; DipVFM, 1955) at Christchurch, 15 February 2023, aged 89
Lynda Suzanne Inglis (nee Burrowes) (BComMgt, 1985) at Christchurch, 26 April 2022, aged 65
David Lawrence (Dave) Janett (RFC, 1953; DipVFM, 1958) at Rotorua, 3 February 2023, aged 87
Alexander Keith (Lex) Jocelyn (DipAg, 1977) at Wanaka, 25 November 2022, aged 66
David Alexander Kerse (DipAg, 1967), Opiki, 25 February 2023, aged 75
Trevor William Kitchin (BComAg, 1962), Napier, 10 September 2022, aged 89
William David (Bill) Latham (Cert in Wool, 1964) at Christchurch, 6 November 2022, aged 78
Prof Ralph Gerard John Lattimore (BAGSc 1968), former AERU Director, AGMARDT Professor in International Trade Policy at Lincoln University, former LUAA President, Christchurch, 21 March 2022, aged 76
Peter Stevenson Little MNZM (RFC, 1962; DipAg, 1966, Dip VFM, 1967), Carterton, 30 August 2022, aged 78
Murray Raymond Mander (RFC, 1942; DipAg, 1947; DipVFM, 1948) at Taumarua, 3 January 2022, aged 98
Mr Lindsay Alexander (Alex) Maunsell (DipAg 1965; Dip VFM 1967), Lincoln, 22 April 2022, aged 79
John Sinclair (Joe) McCreadie (DipAg, 1971, DipVFM, 1972) at Taupo, 13 January 2023, aged 74
Sally Hariata McKeen (Former LU staff member), Christchurch, 5 June 2022
Munro McLennan (BAGSc, 1970), Havelock North, 12 September 2022, aged 74
Russell Gray Moffitt (BHotSc, 1975) at Christchurch, 17 February 2023, aged 78
Brian Peter John Molloy (PhD, 1966) at Christchurch, 31 July 2022, aged 91
Professor John Lionel Morris (BAGSc, 1964, MAGSc, 1971, 2015 Lincoln International Alumni Medal recipient) at Rangiora, 26 February 2023, aged 80
Shona Ann Noble (LU staff member) at Lincoln, 31 July 2022, aged 64
Bernard Patrick (Barney) O’Connor (DipAg, 1967), Opiki, 25 February 2023, aged 77
Mark Denis (Dinny) O’Connor (RFC, 1946; DipVFM 1946) at Hamilton, 16 October 2022, aged 94
James Dowling (Jim) Wilson (DipAg, 1959) at Barwon Heads and “Puunyart”, Camperdown, 7 June 2022, aged 84
Kerry-Jayne Wilson, former staff member, prominent NZ bird ecologist, West Coast, 29 March 2022, aged 72
Sir Allan Frederick Wright (Foundation Chancellor 1990 - 1994, Doctor of Commerce, Honoris causa, 1997), at Christchurch, 27 November 2022, aged 93

Peter Vaughan Rattray (RFC, 1961; BAGSc, 1966; MAGSc, 1967) at Hamilton, 9 January 2023, aged 80
Harry Alan Russell (DipAg, 1947; DipVFM 1951) at Hamilton, 24 October 2022, aged 95
Peter Gordon Shaw (DipAg, 1970; Dip VFM, 1971) at Wellington, 5 August 2022, aged 81
Brian Nisbet Smith (RFC, 1966; DipAg, 1970) at Auckland, 13 February 2023, aged 74
Derek Edwin Snow (CertAg, 1964; DipVFM, 1966) at Hastings, 22 September 2022, aged 79
Eric James Stonyer (BAGSc, 1957) at Wellington, 10 March 2022, aged 88
Ian Chester Taylor (RFC, 1954; Dip VFM, 1960), at Waikanae, 10 March 2023, aged 87
Peter Edwin Jeffrey Thomas (MSc, 1981) at Warkworth, 8 December 2022, aged 73
Roger Greville Warren (BAGSc, 1956) at Hamilton, 16 October 2022, aged 94
James Dowling (Jim) Wilson (DipAg, 1959) at Barwon Heads and “Puunyart”, Camperdown, 7 June 2022, aged 84
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Landforms

The last word

Learning Experiences in Sport

Kendra Cocksedge MNZM graduated with a Bachelor of Recreation Management (Sport) in 2012 and received the Lincoln University Medal in 2018. Among a host of other accolades, she was World Rugby Women’s Player of the Year in 2015 and NZ Rugby’s Player of the Year in 2018. A former Captain of the Black Ferns, she has the distinction of being the most capped Black Fern of all time.

Rugby, like most sports, is full of lessons for life, says the recently retired Black Ferns halfback, and the 2022 team’s most experienced player.

In a long and illustrious sporting career, in which representative level cricket once loomed as large as rugby until she chose to forsake the former for the latter, Kendra has drawn much wisdom and many insights to life from her years of intense involvement with New Zealand’s top sport.

“The sport and the level of rugby that I have had the privilege to experience is huge in terms of what it can teach you,” she says.

“You learn all of these along the way in your playing career, and in my case, I was fortunate to have the added learning experience of holding a Lincoln University Sports Scholarship and taking part in the excellent Sports Scholarship programme under the direction of the likes of Peter Magson.

“For me personally, rugby has given me confidence. It’s given me a purpose in life. And while people say that sportswomen and men should always prepare for ‘life after sport’, there really is no ‘after sport’. It remains part of your life forever, and you just pursue it in different roles.”

Kendra is Women’s Rugby Participation Manager for New Zealand Rugby, a role she took up in 2016, the year after she was named World Rugby Women’s Player of the Year.

“I want every girl to live the dream that I have lived,” she says. “I hope that through my playing career, I might be a role model for young girls thinking about taking up rugby.”

Sport and the level of rugby that I have had the privilege to experience is huge in terms of what it can teach you.

The fact that the tournament was held in New Zealand certainly helped with visibility and the great media coverage too.

On the subject of the media, Kendra says there is another life lesson to be learned: dealing with public scrutiny and media attention.

“It can be intense and almost overpowering. I have found that you just have to not listen and not get caught up in it. I have survived through the resilience I have built up. But there are definitely hazards in what ‘keyboard warriors’ can do to players in any sport.”

In contrast, fellow sportswomen and men can provide a great inspiration for young players coming through in any sport, she points out.

“When I was a young player, the conduct and example of multi-Olympian boardsailor and medallist, Barbara Kendall, was a great inspiration among the sportswomen I admired. And All Black Andy Ellis, who also happens to be a Lincoln University graduate, was a great inspiration among the male players. I admired the way he conducted himself and approached his rugby.

“I am hoping that I can be something like Barbara and Andy to the new generation of female rugby players coming on through the schools and clubs. I hope I can share my experiences and help them with the lessons I have learnt in my playing career.”

Alumni Kendra Cocksedge and Andy Ellis, sharing insights from their sporting careers with school pupils at a 2023 SailGP INSPIRE event.

Victory in her hands. Kendra with the World Cup trophy and gold medal at Eden Park.
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