



## Arcady Hall—Where Students Thrive

The Hall is emerging in good shape from a challenging couple of years spent dealing with the impact of COVID-19 and repositioning the Hall to meet changing student expectations. Throughout these developments—including the name change (from Bishop Julius Hall)—we have held fast to the vision of Bishop Churchill Julius, whose generosity, concern for social equity, 'wide sympathies', and passion for education led him to establish an environment where all could flourish, not just the elite.

Arcady Hall is now a popular destination for first year University of Canterbury students as a 'home away from home'. It remains an inclusive, caring community that celebrates diversity, values academic success and enables students to form meaningful relationships and friendships as they progress through their study and beyond. Consistent with the Hall's core values we offer scholarships for academic excellence, community service, and 'first in family' scholarships for students, who otherwise might not be able to afford to attend university.

Over the 2022-2023 summer break, we hosted 13 conference groups including youth sports teams, academics, schoolteachers, and the University of Canterbury (UC) 2023 Emerging Leaders group. The summer months also provided an opportunity for us to undertake major facilities maintenance work relining and redecorating study bedrooms in Cranmer building, installing heat pumps in the dining room, upgrading the hot water system in Cranmer, and replacing the main entry doors to the Nancy Sims building.

In February, we welcomed the second cohort of Arcadians to the Hall—170 students in total, including our amazing team of seven, Residential Assistants (RAs). The RAs, who are also UC University of Canterbury (UC) students, are key members of our pastoral care team, helping residents to settle in and assisting with the running of Hall activities. This year's residential life programme includes diverse activities organised around four themes to support residents' holistic wellbeing and personal growth: Live (life skills); Learn (academic support); Connect (social events) and Support (volunteering and service). Popular events in term one included Study Skills 101, weekly tutorials, Cooking with the Chef, fitness HITT interbuilding workout, Casino Night, St Patrick's Day themed dinner, Pride Week drag queen fashion show, a Hall-wide chess tournament, and the annual Arcady Easter Egg hunt.

Meanwhile, the Hall's management team and Board members have been focused on strategic matters. In November last year, the Board endorsed a multi-year strategic plan to ensure that Arcady continues to be an attractive option for future students. Maintaining and upgrading our facilities and services will be critical in this regard, along with continuing to provide a supportive and inclusive learning community. Mindful of the

accelerating impact of climate change, we are also considering what actions we need to take now to minimise the Hall's carbon footprint and to help build a sustainable environment for future generations.

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