



NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU

Kia ora koutou

Mr David Bremner and Mr Fraser Bremner will play for us.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the second Alumni Meriti presentation for the year. I am delighted and proud to introduce to you Mr David Bremner. David is joined on stage with his wife Angela and his brother Fraser who should be familiar to you boys. Fraser played the Marimba a few months ago and spoke boldly and bravely around his own challenges in life. An inspiring and honest speech that I am sure you all remember.

Today, David is joined by family and friends (including some old boys). We are grateful to have you attend such an important and traditional ceremony here at school.

Alumni Meriti means 'distinguished old boy' and David you certainly are one. We have been blessed with business leaders and sports leaders, but now I am delighted to say we have our first musical leader to be inducted. Music is a very important and high-performing part of our school. Not just today, but over the decades, we have had outstanding musicians.

David your achievements are phenomenal. I simply cannot read them all but here are the highlights:

As a Soloist:

- Junior NZ Euphonium Champion - 3 times
- Junior NZ Trombone Champion
- Open NZ Trombone Champion - 4 times
- Junior NZ Champion of Champions - 2 times
- Open NZ Champion of Champions
- Soloist with National Youth Band of NZ (UK/US Tour)
- 2003 Soloist with National Band of NZ (European Tour) - 4 times

As a Conductor:

- Conductor of Wellington Brass
- NZ A Grade Champions 2013/14/15/16
- Australian A Grade Champions 2015

Orchestral Career:

- Principal Trombone - NZ Symphony Orchestra 2002-present
- Performed as Guest Principal Trombone, with Royal Philharmonic Orchestra - London, Melbourne Symphony, and San Francisco Symphony.

David is also, like most of our Alumni Meriti, he is someone who gives back!

- Founder of NZ Brass Foundation - educating brass players across NZ
- Trustee of Kia Ora Foundation - supporting young musicians studying overseas
- Conductor of National Youth Band of NZ
- Director of Education for Brass Bands
- He holds a Bachelor of Music (1st Class Hons) - Victoria University of Wellington - 1994-1997

and a

- Masters of Music - San Francisco Conservatory of Music - 1998-2000

David has also performed with many famous artists, with Crowded House and Sting, just two of those you might recognise. I know the staff will probably be more familiar with them.

David attended NPBHS from 1989 - 1993 and was awarded Best Performing Artist 1993. He was also selected as Most Outstanding Brass Player 1991/1992/1993 and was a member of multiple music groups, including the Black and White Jazz Band, which won at the National Jazz competitions in 1991.

David, like all our previous recipients, you are an honourable man, you are humble, understated, and uncommonly high performing in your field.

It is with absolute pleasure I award you the title of distinguished old boy and an Alumni Meriti.

What a great address David. Young men you have been fortunate to once again to hear from an amazing man. I hope you took in his messages and follow his example. Thank you to all of David's supporters.

School please stand.

PJ Verić
Headmaster

17 September 2018