

through the gates

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH
SCHOOL COMMUNITY



CIRC 6000



www.npbhs.school.nz

VOLUME 6/OCTOBER 2001

NPBHS Old Boys' Association news

Our annual Open Day for old boys was held on Saturday 28 July and it was great to see a good muster, especially some of our older former pupils, turn up for an update and tour of the school. Also in attendance were most of the 1961 1st XV who held a reunion over the same weekend.

And speaking of reunions, it is also pleasing to hear of the numerous functions held throughout the North Island during the year. Many, of course, were in conjunction with 1st XV matches but others were simply a result of former old boys wishing to get together to reminisce and have a mighty time. I managed to attend some of these functions, which I thoroughly enjoyed, but I couldn't match the efforts of the Headmaster who certainly clocked up some kms attending all such functions.

I note reunions planned for Auckland and New Plymouth in the coming months, details of which are included in this newsletter. Also, following on from the success of the 1961 1st XV reunion, it is pleasing to report that the 1962 1st XV is planning to get together next year. It is hoped the champion Maadi Cup Rowing team will also be in attendance.

Our annual golf tournament was held in March. The tournament was actually the year 2000 event that had been postponed from the previous year. Congratulations to; Tony Drew who won the Alexander Trophy for the best nett, Murray Dobson for the best stableford and Bob Thompson for the best gross score. Other winners on the day included Mathew Ander, Andrew Croad, Ryan Hill, Dean Magon, Baden Hildred, Richard Anderson, Allen Jones, Michael Chong, Murray Watts, Tony Jans, Bob O'Dowda, Todd Wolfe, Geoff Hall, Max Maaka and Francis Hill. All in all an excellent day, some 'interesting' golf and special thanks to our numerous sponsors.

The 2001 golf tournament will be held at Inglewood on Sunday, November 18th. Please place your entry with Carol Allen at the school Development Office, phone/fax (06) 759 8836, or (06) 753 9664 (after hours) before 10th November. As usual, the event is open to old boys, partners, and friends of the school.

Our annual dinner will be held on Wednesday 31 October with our guest speaker being Neil Walter (at school 1956-60). Neil has had a distinguished career in the Diplomatic Service and is currently Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Tickets are \$30.00 and available from NP branch committee members or Carol Allen at NPBHS development office, ph 759 8836. Last year's inaugural dinner was a great success and with your support this years will be even better. The dinner will be preceded by our AGM which will commence at 6.30 p.m.

All former pupils of the school are asked to make every effort to support the Old Boys' functions held in your area. Details will be included in the school's 'Through the Gates' newsletters, or, alternatively, contact Carol Allen at phone/fax 06 759 8836, or email development@npbhs.school.nz for further details of events in your area.

Graeme Earl, President NPBHS Old Boys' Association



Stuart Hayton, Alan Hayton, Paul Crichton



Bruce Weston, Jack Law, John Law
attending the NPBHS Old Boys' Open Day



Welcome

Welcome to our sixth edition of Through the Gates.

I have been involved with the NPBHS Development Office since March 1999, and in the past two and a half years I have enjoyed meeting a large number of interesting, talented and enthusiastic Old Boys.

I am delighted that the Development Office has been the catalyst for a number of successful and memorable reunions. This newsletter has provided the means to reinvolve a large number of Old Boys with their school and their former school mates. The friendships we form in our school days really do remain with us forever.

The database, of around 6000 old boys, has provided an effective means of establishing and maintaining links with all who wish to be involved with the school. This improved communication with the wider school community has increased interest and pride in our school.

A special thank you to Max Carroll for his continued support and enthusiasm, Graeme Earl and Ces Hill for the many photos; Terry Heaps for proofreading, and thank you to all the supportive staff of NPBHS.

Please phone me on 06 759 8836 or email development@npbhs.school.nz and please check out the school website at www.npbhs.school.nz

Carol Allen

NPBHS Old Boys' Assoc Annual Dinner & AGM

- Wednesday October 31st
- 6.30pm AGM
- 7.15pm Dinner
- Guest Speaker - Neil Walter
- Courtenay Room, Devon Hotel
- \$30.00 per person (includes wine at tables)

Please make cheques payable to NPBHS Old Boys' Association. Please send your cheque (together with names, including partners), no later than October 20th to:

Paul Anderson
Old Boys' Association Secretary
Govett Quilliam
1 Dawson Street
New Plymouth

From the Headmaster

The year 2001 has been full of the ups and downs that are part and parcel of life in a big vibrant school.

Our roll remains at about the 1200 level with a record number of 309 Form 3 (Year 9) boys and about 300 on the books for next year. These reflect most positively on the community's perception of the school. The staff and Board of Trustees must take great heart from this, but at the same time not sit on their hands. We must continue to move forward educationally, but take with us the traditions that impact on our unique culture. You will be pleased that great importance is placed on standards and values that seem to be lacking in many sections of our communities. I am continually worried about the "blame" mentality that we seem to have evolved in New Zealand where more talk is on rights and individuals rather than personal and collective responsibility.

It is a worrying trend that of course permeates to the values of many young people and their families. We are certainly working to ensure that our boys take responsibility for the way they act and assist them in every way we can to give them the range of skills needed for future success. In this I remain totally committed to our young people who give me great confidence in our future as a nation.

This year we have achieved some outstanding results in our co-curricula programme of sports, culture and music. From the 1st XV reaching the last 8 of NZ rugby knockout to the concert band taking the silver medal at the NZ concert band festival. We put great store on providing opportunities for all boys, no matter how big, small, slim or otherwise, to gain employment and pleasure. The holistic approach to developing the 'all rounder' is a reality but relies on many people. It requires a dedicated, willing, enthusiastic and committed group of staff, parents, old boys and senior boys to make it work. Without their goodwill and sacrifice we would not be able to talk so proudly on what has been achieved.

The last few months has seen a number of Old Boys' functions around the North Island. Napier, Rotorua and Palmerston North Super 8 games provided the ideal platform for meetings - it is always great to meet with you and share your feelings for our school. One of the most successful functions was the reunion of the 1961 1st XV with 'Squib' Henderson at the helm again - there was much merriment, story telling, lies, half-truths and most probably, some full truths as well. I see this type of reunion as wonderful fun and the way forward, in terms of Old Boy contact. Later this year we have another reunion in Auckland, next year - at school from 1937-45 and the 1962 1st XV and Rowing 8.

Old Boy events do not happen without the extraordinary dedication of a few individuals - they are conduits and the sparks required to get things rolling and take some responsibilities for maintaining the momentum - the Dick Stills', Max Strawbridge's, Max Carroll's, Graeme Earl's, Bob McCaw's, John Symes', John McIntyre's and so many others.

Men like Jack West - he has left behind a legacy of service, of commitment to NPBHS that would be hard for anyone to equal. Max Carroll has said it all in his obituary in this edition of 'Through the Gates' but I would like to add that the school is much richer for the selfless dedication of Jack West. He is the epitome of a past generation that were not consumed by the trappings of materialism and self-serving ideals, but had a calling to give service to an institution that they held dearly - in this case, NPBHS - we are all grateful that he did so. I was privileged also to know Jack for the past six years and to feel at first hand his passion for the school and its institutions - he was my source of intelligence on so many matters involving old boys of the school. He made a difference that could not be measured easily.

Finally, I thank the Old Boys who have made me feel so welcome wherever I have travelled and those who have seen fit to contribute in a monetary way to the school appeal. Your generosity will be well used in the school and I hope that others will see their opportunity to continue in their own way in the future.

L R French-Wright, Headmaster



Reunions 2001 Rotorua



Alan Perrott, Paul Vyver



Colin Maihi, Paul Adlam, Doug Martin, and Dennis Hutchings

Napier



Standing: Alan Grant, Shaun Murphy, Ross Bramwell, Syd Shotter, Callum Kirkpatrick, John Donkin, Jack Forward, Alex Kurta, Bob McCaw, Arthur Schultz, Dai Evans, Gordon Vogtherr
Kneeling: John Goudie, David Schultz, Richard Mathews, Bob Field

IN THE NEWS

Ross Allen: at school 1942 - 44

After a long and distinguished contribution to local government in Taranaki Ross was this year named as a Companion of the Queen's Service Order (QSM) for public service.

For the past twenty-seven years Ross has served on many local body committees and councils and has been Chairman of the Taranaki Regional Council since 1989 and Chairman of the former Taranaki County Council for six years before the change. He is not seeking re-election to the TRC.

Ross has supported a variety of community and sporting organisations, including the former Tourism Taranaki and the Taranaki Business Development Board. During the 1950s and 60s Ross made a significant contribution to Taranaki cricket as an umpire, a selector, and as an administrator.

by Max Carroll

Jack West

(23.06.1914 - 09.03.2001) At school 1927 - 1931

Few men, if any, have made a greater contribution to New Plymouth Boys' High School than Jack West. He held office in a variety of posts surrounding the Old Boys' Association and the school administration and to all he brought a wealth of integrity, understanding, humour, and experience.

Within the Old Boys' Association Jack held the positions of Secretary and Chairman, was voted a life member, and was for a period, the Patron of the Association (to my knowledge the only person other than a Headmaster to hold this position). As a member of the Centennial Committee Jack worked tirelessly and extremely methodically as our registrar, and by his example kept all of us on the committee on our toes and mindful of deadlines. Jack was later to serve as a Trustee of the Centennial Fund which he had been largely responsible for setting up. For a time Jack served on the Board of Governors and was Chairman of the Hostel committee.

Those of us who have read his book "Lest we Forget", which records the exploits of those Old Boys who fell in World War II, will be in awe of the time and effort Jack must have devoted to this self imposed labour of love. His gift will endure and is a fine testament to Jack's extraordinary service to NPBHS.

I am one who feels privileged to have had the opportunity to work on committees with Jack West.

by Max Carroll



John W Ewart

(1909 - 31.07.2001) At school 1923 - 1926

Born in Wellington in 1909, John was educated at NPBHS and then later at Canterbury University where he was awarded the NZ Diploma in Horticulture. He then travelled to England where he completed the Diploma course of three years at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and then prior to the outbreak of World War 2, he served a further year at the Berlin Botanic Gardens and was appointed Assistant Curator of the Singapore Botanic Gardens and later worked in both Straits Settlement and Penang, Malaysia, where he was appointed Curator.

Always interested in sport, John played rugby for NZ Universities, cricket and football at club level in England, and later, in Malaya played inter-state rugby and cricket, representing Malaya in games against Hong Kong, in both sports. Learning to fly with the Singapore Flying Club before the war, John joined the Malayan Volunteer Airforce in 1940 and was involved mainly in short range coastal patrols. After Singapore fell in 1942 he was posted to Ghana with the task of increasing the production of cocoa as part of the War effort. Two years later he was commissioned in the British army and posted to India before returning to Malaya. Demobilised in April 1946, from the Army Civil Unit, John resumed his civil service appointment in Singapore as Curator, Botanic Gardens, and Agricultural Officer.

He retired to Tauranga in 1957 where he grew carnations commercially and carried out valuable development and propagation in the then fledgling avocado industry. He was for many years a Member of the NZ Institute of Foresters, the International Dendrology Society, Secretary of the Singapore Gardening Society and Vice President of the NZ Society. He was a Charter member of the Otumoetai Rotary Club.

John is survived by his wife Mary, whom he married in Wanganui in 1942, two sons, one daughter and eight grandchildren.

Thank you to Murray Mander (at school 1938-41) for this obituary.



Notice of 1945-54 reunion

The idea of a reunion for Old Boys and wives, from the 1945-54 year group, was mooted recently and has received considerable support. A lunch has been arranged and we are hopeful of an attendance of at least 150 (including partners).

Details as follows:
**Alexandra Park Function Centre,
Greenlane, Auckland
Monday 26 November,
11.30am, with buffet lunch at
12.30pm, finish by 5.00 pm**

The Ellerslie Flower show runs 21-25 November and out of town Old Boys may wish to take advantage of combining the two events into one visit to Auckland.

Please contact Dick Still (1948-52) on 09 537 0274 or Dennis Swan(1951-55) on 09 522 0692 or Carol Allen at NPBHS on 06 759 8836, for further details /registration form.

Notice of 1937-45 Reunion

The possibility of organising a two or three day reunion in May 2002, for the above group of Old Boys (1937-1945) is being examined.

This could be held in New Plymouth on the proposed dates of 7, 8 and 9th May 2002.

Should you be part of this group, are interested and have not yet been contacted, please ring or write to either:

Max Strawbridge (1938-42)
7 Carey Street, Hamilton
07 847 5005 or

Peter Badley (1939-43)
143 Riddell Road, Glendowie
09 575 7646 or

Phone/Fax Carol Allen 06 759 8836
email
development@npbhs.school.nz

Stop Press 1st XI Cricket Teams 1961 and 1962

Ross Crow wishes to advise members of the 1961 and 1962 1st XI cricket teams of a reunion to be held at NPBHS, February or March 2002 (date to be confirmed). Please phone Ross on 07 572 0414 or 025 522 354.

Our new Board of Trustees

Earlier this year the elections for the school's Board of Trustees was held. NPBHS was fortunate to have a very strong field of candidates who stood for election. In all there were 15 excellent candidates - some from the previous Board and plenty of good calibre new hopefuls. This is surely an indication of the strength of the school community when we can attract a large field of strong candidates for the Board elections while other schools struggle to attract sufficient candidates to hold an election.

The successful candidates were Warren Batchelar, Murray Cochrane, Marilyn Davies, Meryn Feather, Stephen Harrop, Rob Mills and Stuart Trundle. John Warner was re-elected as staff representative and James Annabell is the newly elected student representative. Val Cameron was co-opted onto the Board to continue his previous work for the Whanau Wairoa. Fiona Bracken and Jeanette Rowlands have been appointed to the hostel committee as parent representatives and Eldon Peters has been appointed to the property committee. We have a strong Board with an excellent range of skills and abilities in various areas which has moulded together to form a good team.

Tribute is due to the previous Board members who finished their term at the last elections. Linda McIntyre, Doug Geraghty, Randal Gordon and Ken Holyoake have all given outstanding service to NPBHS. Their sound considered advice has helped steer the school into its present strong position. Worthy of special note is

the work of Geoff Ward who retired this year as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Geoff has given many years of service to NPBHS and has been involved in almost all aspects of supporting the school. His contributions to the school are many and varied and I acknowledge his input and support.

With the new Board established and settled in, we are now getting into the business end of being a trustee. There are undoubtedly challenges ahead and not the least of which is the development of the hostel and some redevelopment of the school buildings with the Gully Pavilion on our list of objectives. As with most others in the education sector however, we continue the struggle to perform miracles with insufficient resources and this is a significant hurdle to future developments. On a more positive note however, three new classrooms have recently been completed providing additional space for commerce and art classes.

In addition to the physical challenges is the challenge of maintaining the excellent academic results with the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) to be implemented next year. The new Board of Trustees maintains the expectation of high achievement in all areas of development for our young men. NPBHS has a proud tradition of developing well rounded young men with good life skills and the Board of Trustees supports the management of the school to achieve this.

Warren Batchelar, Chairman, Board of Trustees

2001 Student Leaders



Left to Right: Michael Gordon, Haaretaua O'Brien (Head Boarder), Mark Woolhouse (BOT rep), Michael Braggins (Head Boy 2001), Shanon Pasili, Nicholas Roughan.

Reunions 2001 Auckland



Ron Taylor (34-37), Neil Lobb (39-42), David Clemow (52-55), Peter Boon (49-53)



Peter Burford (59-62), John Syme (58-62), Neil Wolfe (55-58)



Richard Still (48-52), John Syme (58- 62), Bruce Fraser (58-61)



Graeme Brackebush (49-52), OB guest, John Scott (50-52), Peter Boon (49-53)



Ian Duigan, John Burford (54-58), Neville Duckmanton (Deputy Headmaster)



Richard Palmer (ex staff), Tim Irvine, David Armstrong (ex staff) and Jed Rowlands (ex staff)

Senior Students from decades past

Following on from the March newsletter, where we profiled students from 1931, 1941 and 1951, we now bring you profiles of school leaders from 1961, 1971, 1981, and 1991.

Our sincere thanks to those old boys who have contributed these valuable insights into their time spent 'Through the gates'.

Glenn Rush, Head Day Boy 1961



Standing on the seventh form balcony at assembly in 1961 and singing that familiar song, "Forty Years On" seemed an impossibly distant prospect. Looking back, the memories are many and vivid. If I had to choose one that has stayed powerfully with me it would be the sight of Noel (Hoppy) Lynch (Music Master and Rowing Coach) walking about the school engaged in conversation (presumably about rowing) with John (JJ) Stewart, who needs no introduction. For me, Noel exemplified the notion that to have both a passion for the performing arts and a passion for sport was as natural as breathing. He kindly loaned me his oboe for my years at school. I thought of his fine baritone this week while rehearsing Falstaff with the Chapman Tripp NZ Opera Company Chorus. I have been a member of the chorus for

the past two years.

Having studied the traditional maths and science combo at school I set out to become a metallurgical engineer at Otago University but decided after two years that it was not the career I wanted. I rode a surfboard for a year before heading for Auckland where I eventually completed a degree in Mathematics. This led to a position as a statistician within the Auckland City Council Town Planning Dept where my good friend from NPBHS Tom Fookes, was starting a career as a

geographer/ town planner. Attempting to analyse some of the valuable data accumulated during the De Leuw Cather Transportation Study of Auckland in 1963 (and sensibly stored on 130,000 punch cards in a basement loo at the Auckland Regional Authority) inevitably led to my developing skills in computer programming. This quickly led to a position with IBM in 1969 where I worked as a Systems

Engineer until 1975. After IBM I tutored in Computer Studies at the Auckland Technical Institute, eventually setting up a Software Support Business for the burgeoning IBM mini computer market. I sold my share of the business in 1982 and since then have enjoyed a variety of management positions in systems development and client services for various companies within NZ.

My family is enormously important to me. I met my wife Glenis in Auckland in 1965 and settled in Titrangi amongst the wild and beautiful Waitakeres, a perfect place to bring up our four daughters with the magnificent surf of Piha close by. My daughters shared my passion for swimming and in supporting their development as young athletes I become involved in swimming administration. I was appointed Venue Director for the 1990 Commonwealth Games Swimming, a marvellous sporting festival, the memory of which I shall always treasure.

The past decade has been a time of extremes. The joyous occasions of two daughters marrying have been tempered by tragedy. My youngest daughter, Andrea, survived a shark attack in Vanuatu in 1992 which left her with permanent leg injuries. In 1994 my wife Glenis was diagnosed with ovarian cancer which she fought bravely but eventually succumbed to twenty months later. It was my love of singing and theatre that has helped me cope with that loss. These days I live in Wellington with my new partner Pauline. The recent births of my first two grandchildren have provided a rich new experience, and I look forward to the coming years with enthusiasm.

Reunions 2001 Palmerston North



Grant Fabish, Phillip Whitaker, Paul Gibbs



Don Elliot, Lyal French-Wright, Brent Gracie

Hamilton



Max Strawbridge, Gary Hayes and Roger Torrens



David Bryant and Michael Bryant



Geoff Miller, fellow old boy and Grant Oliver

Old Boys at golf in NP



Chris Harrop, Max Carroll and Jed Rowlands golfing at Ngamotu during Chris's brief visit from Sydney.

John Bone, Head Boy 1981

It is nearly twenty years since I passed through the gates. I have fond memories of the tradition and physical environment that is Boys' High. My time there is marked by a significant friendship, masters of character or colour and all the angst that manifested under the guise of punk rock but was merely the hormonal course we all run through those emerging years.

The thing about Boys' High is its physical beauty and juxtaposition to that beautiful mountain. Nothing will ever surpass the Gully ground as an arena of history and atmosphere for playing out boyhood ambitions of being an All Black or similar.

Of the masters, I remember Lyn Bublitz for his consistency, compassion and never-ending sense of appropriateness when it came to meteing out justice. I could not pass through the school without having Tom Ryder make an impression on me. In fact, speaking of impressions, I even opted as Head Boy, for him to cane me for a free period or two. Unfortunately my mana was not enhanced by the offer to be whacked, as Tom came up with some cunning alternative which was more time consuming and tedious to boot. I remember Tom for his energy and passion. His vision for a school that was strong in sport, arts and academia was a driving force for bringing the school back from the wilderness. Fish was present in my earlier years at the school and whilst not ever having been taught by the legend, I did suffer the odd fingernail inspection. As a fourth former, I recall a witless fellow classmate who managed to accidentally screw a tap off the sink in the old science block mid-class. As I remember the old block had quite good pressure.

In my seventh form, we enjoyed a healthy relationship with our peers at Girls' High (believe it or not, I married the Head Girl of the same year... we did manage nearly a decade apart before taking the plunge). During that year we managed to reinstate the school ball and take each other's assembly, each dressed in the attire of the host assembly on April Fools' Day.

Since leaving the school, I went to Massey University and completed a BSc in Botany. On moving to Auckland to pursue sailing recreationally, I fell into the chemical industry where I spent the best part of ten years in various sales and marketing roles with several organisations, including Ciba-Geigy, Robert Bryce & Co and BP Chemicals. During that time I also spent 16 months abroad completing my OE, largely in the US and UK. On my return to NZ I completed a Diploma in Business in Marketing at Auckland University.

I most recently shifted to a technology career. This started with BP Oil as their Card Marketing Manager focusing on card technologies such as EFTPOS and smart cards. From BP, I have had a brief stint with the 2nd Largest ISP in a business-to-business marketing role. Today I have a role as GM - Interconnect Services for Datamail. Datamail is in the business of integrated document management. This role focuses on the IT infrastructure and its support whilst also providing e-commerce governance.

As I mentioned earlier I did marry my NPGHS counterpart, Head Girl Jane Tuson, and we now have three children, Greta (8), Jack (6) and Bryn (2).



Ian C Holyoake, Deputy Head Day Boy 1971

I am very grateful to have received the opportunity of leadership whilst at school.

Some of the skills that I now possess can be

attributed to participation in Cadets, which was a very good way to learn and practise the leadership skills necessary to be self-employed and manage a group of people.

I was a keen sportsman at school and still find the time to keep a 4 handicap at golf. I began playing golf at the age of 36 and became club captain at Whitford Park two years later. I keep more of a social golf calendar but do find the time to enjoy the odd championship haggie.

I have been in business since leaving school and currently own a business that manufactures exterior cladding for houses and commercial buildings. In the past 5 years there has been a great deal of interest shown in the building system that I have invented and patented. Licences throughout New Zealand are currently being set up with interest also shown from several overseas countries.

I believed the busy years of life were while setting up the family, but managing 50 staff and 6 licences in New Zealand has got pretty hectic. Fortunately, good health has prevailed.

Setting plans and getting other people to understand and help with them is so important - at least it makes things happen.

I've always been a chirpy type of person and this has not changed.

Be optimistic and go for it as we only live once.



Presentation to Development Appeal

The New Plymouth Club have recently donated a cheque for \$2000 to the Development Appeal.

Tony Hale (President New Plymouth Club), Max Carroll, Lyal French-Wright and Graeme Earl



Paul Veric, Head Boy 1991

When I was approached to contribute to this newsletter I was amazed at how quickly ten years have passed since my seventh form at Boys' High. The guidelines for contribution are that of explanation of my time at Boys' High and my career/life since leaving the school. Well, I don't know if true Old Boys' ever leave the school. I still feel part of the school and the great work through this newsletter and other Old Boy initiatives is encouraging, congratulations to all involved.

I always eagerly follow the media coverage, news of fellow pupils, sports results and initiatives. I get regular Daily News clippings sent to me, from family, to my home in Gisborne.

The thing that perhaps reinforces the impact New Plymouth Boys' High School had on me and other past pupils is when people I meet ask, "What school did you go to?" I always reply in a proud and resounding tone. The person I meet then proceeds to roll their eyes (due to them identifying with their school purely as a place to consume sandwiches) and say:

"You sound like my uncle (or employer or friend etc). He just goes on and on about New Plymouth Boys' High... You would get on well with him."

The person is talking like it is unusual to be proud of your school. Sadly, in the majority of cases this is the case but, I think, NPBHS will always be the exception.

My school days at NPBHS have, without a doubt, contributed to my present situation in life. The quality of teaching, education, values, discipline and sporting opportunities received could not be faulted. I was fortunate to teach along side my teenage adversaries. Many people commented, "Was it hard teaching at your old school with your old teachers?" Of course I replied, "Yes, it was a distressing time for me." The longer us teachers pretend we are inhuman and different from the rest of the world, the better!

Thankfully some things never change:

- I still want to tell students to pull their socks up.
- The hairs on the back of my neck (unfortunately bushier/ blacker and quickly spreading) still stand up when I see/hear the School Haka on the Gully.
- I still remember the fear of Meatball Alley in the 3rd Form.
- Mr Heaps is still shaking his head at my poor understanding of 'The Apostrophe' and 'Syntax Construction'.
- Elgar, Giddy, Sims, Russell, Hall etc
- Loudly proclaiming "I went to school with him", when watching Super 12/NPC.
- Arguing "my school was better than yours" to my friends.

An eventful and privileged last ten years

- 5 years at Waikato University. Double degree and a Diploma in Teaching.
- 2 enjoyable years teaching at NPBHS (PE Department).
- 1 year relief/part time work at Gisborne Boys' High School.
- 1 year at Sport Eastland - where recently I was appointed Manager.
- Selection into the NZ Flat Water Sprint Canoeing Team, giving me unbelievable sporting and travel opportunities.

I look forward to a new millennium of achievement and standards for New Plymouth Boys' High School and I welcome the continued **rolling of eyes** from the scholastically disadvantaged.



Advertiser's column

Opportunities for advertising in *Through the Gates* are available and if you are interested in discussing an advertising agreement please phone Carol Allen, Development Office Administrator, phone or fax (06) 759 8836, or development@npbhs.school.nz

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The Old Boys' Wall

Mr Cyril Henderson and Mr Max Carroll officially opened the Old Boys' Wall after the Super Eight 1st XV game on Saturday 28th July.



This wall is a place for Old Boys to formally list their part in the history of the school.

It is not just a list of those who have played sport, or had some cultural contribution, but a **place for all to be recognised**. Many names presently on the wall list just a name and date.

So far there have been well over sixty plaques sold with names ranging from the early 1930s through to the present year. Interest has continued to grow with many, having seen the wall positioned at the head of the Gully Ground, now wishing to be part of the venture.

If you wish to be part of the Old Boys' Wall, please feel free to contact the school, or complete and post the form below. Please give a return address to aid with receipting. **Please fill in the from below and return with your payment to:**

**New Plymouth Boys' High School
Private Bag 2028
New Plymouth
Attention: Brick Fundraiser**

Be part of the pride and passion that is New Plymouth Boys' High

NAME (as you wish it to appear on the brick)

.....

YEARS AT NPBHS (i.e. 1996-2000).....

COMMENT (i.e. 1st XV Soccer, NB only three such comments allowed per brick)

.....

.....

.....

ADDRESS (for receipting purposes)

.....

.....

PURCHASE AMOUNT (Please tick one and enclose a cheque payable to New Plymouth Boys' High School)

Option #1 - Standard brick - cost \$120

Option #2 - Prime brick (top two rows of the wall) - cost \$200

Option #3 - Family brick (can include up to three names and comments) - cost \$150

1961 1st XV Reunion

The 1961 1st XV celebrated their 40th anniversary on 28th July 2001. The team finished the 1961 season unbeaten in the College competition (continuing the record of unbeaten 1st XV teams, in the 1957 - 62 period.)

Cyril Henderson (Captain), assisted by Carol Allen from the Development Office, coordinated what was an extremely successful and enjoyable occasion.

The 1st XV team of 1961 kindly donated a new scoreboard for the Gully field.



40 years on - 1961 1st XV



30 1st XV teams between them - Coaches Max Carroll and JJ Stewart

Notice of 1962 1st XV Reunion

Lance McEldowney (Captain 1962 1st XV) is planning a reunion in July 2002 for members of the 1962 1st XV and Rowing Eight (Maadi Cup winners).

Those contacted have been supportive and keen to take part. Unfortunately we have been unable to locate the following team members:

Bryant J Allen, E Peter Hagan, Ray W McCullum, John R Smith, Craig W Walters and Clinton S Evans. If you can provide addresses for any of these old boys we would be grateful. Please phone/ fax Carol Allen on 06 759 8836 or email at development@npbhs.school.nz or contact Lance MacEldowney on 04 387 2070 or email at lance@dairymag.co.nz

Many thanks for the assistance from Graeme Earl, Michael Bryant and Ivor Jones in locating team members.