

through the gates



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NEWSLETTER FOR THE
NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH
SCHOOL COMMUNITY

VOLUME 7/APRIL 2002



Over the past seven years as Headmaster I have often been asked about what makes a successful school- what are the common characteristics of great schools? I have put pen to paper and have expressed my ideas on the balance of factors that combine to make certain schools special. In this edition of "Through the Gates" there is an extract from Sir James Parr's speech at the 1932 Jubilee celebration (page 6, From the Archives).

It proposes that great schools are not solely about bricks, mortar or wood because these are material things. Great schools have the right spirit, the right attitude to life, the right soul.

I would have to concur with this assertion and look to Boys' High as it is today to see how it measures up. What are we setting out to do? What would we like our young men to have gained in their time at NPBHS?

There are a set of core values that we work towards, such as:

- respect for other people's views and beliefs
- respect for elders and authority
- good manners and appropriate behaviour
- a corporate spirit
- sense of belonging and of occasion
- service to the community
- fronting up and telling the truth
- adherence to the rules
- to show enjoyment, fun and excitement openly
- to help others in need

The right spirit is about healthy competition and having a corporate responsibility for what happens at school. This translates to a very clear 'Boys' High' way of going about things, with a heart and soul that is characterised by the strong feelings that our boys and staff have for their school. I believe that we do a very good job, with most boys, in giving them the start that allows them to leave school secure in who they are and where they are going. By this, I don't mean exactly what job they will be doing but having the self belief and adaptability to go forward with confidence in whatever way the rapidly changing world will challenge them. They will find this much easier and be more secure if they have a well developed set of values or 'the right attitude to life'.

I remain a very strong advocate of belonging to a 'team' and having to work with others towards a common goal. This is certainly character building but more than this it allows individual contributions to be valued, leadership to flourish, rewards to be shared and for young men to experience the joys of teamship. In the past this was in rugby and cricket but now includes soccer, hockey, basketball, tennis, golf, surfing, Young Enterprise, kapa haka, concert band, school production, ball committee, and so much more. To me top class schools provide a full range of opportunities for this teamship to be nurtured and expressed. As a whole school the "teamship" comes out in its most obvious form in the school haka, special assemblies, swimming sports, athletics sports, tabloids, house music and ANZAC Day.

The right spirit, the right attitude to life and the right soul go far beyond school. The school community is fortunate to have many special people who continue to give service to the school long after their association as students or staff, or both.

My continuing thanks to Max Carroll for his unstinting contribution well and beyond the "call of duty"; and to Carol Allen for her very important work in providing a ready port of call for old boys and especially with reunions; to Tom Ryder who has breathed life in to the local Old Boys' Association and continues to work on our behalf in newsletter copy and Centennial Trust; and to Graeme Earl who has been a first class President with his common sense approach and great knowledge of old boys and what they are up to.



Lyl French-Wright

continued on back page

Reunions 2002

For old boys, parents and friends

New Plymouth Tue/Wed May 14/15
Reunion of those at school 1937-45. For details see page 4.

Taumaranui Mon, May 20
Meet with the Headmaster at the Taumaranui Club Inc. Manuate Street 5.30 - 7.30 pm. Old Boys and partners, parents of boarders, parents of potential boarders and friends of the school welcome.

Wellington Wed May 29
The biennial reunion of the Wellington Branch will be held at the Malt House, Willis Street, 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm following the St Pats game, Silverstream.

Wanganui Wed June 19
Informal get-together at the Commercial Club, 42 St Hill Street, following the 1st XV v. Collegiate game.

Bay of Plenty Fri June 21
A 5.30 - 7.30 pm get together of Old Boys, partners and friends of the school at the Mt Maunganui Golf Club. The 1st XV plays Tauranga BHS on Sat 22nd.

New Plymouth Sat Aug 17
"40 Years On" reunion of Lance McEidowney's 1962 1st XV and Peter Hagan's Maadi Cup Rowing Eight. See Page 4.

New Plymouth
Annual Golf Tournament and Annual Dinner - To be advised

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NPBHS Old Boys' Association

Kevin Taylor is the new President of the New Plymouth Branch of the Old Boys' Association. Kevin was a Carrington House boarder, played for the 1st XV and later represented both Manawatu and Taranaki at rugby. While Headmaster of the Toko primary school, Kevin played a leading role in Taranaki primary school rugby.

Kevin and wife Ayleen (nee Middleton) put their three sons Craig, Richard and Brad through NPBHS as boarders. All three prospered academically and all played for the 1st XV and went on to play rugby at higher levels.

In more recent years Kevin has moved closer to New Plymouth and is currently Headmaster of Tikorangi Primary School.



Kevin Taylor

Our parent body of the Old Boys' Association has enjoyed an active past two years with Graeme Earl at the helm, backed by an enthusiastic committee keen to promote a vital link for Old Boys of NPBHS. Sincere thanks to Graeme for the leadership and drive in getting us all up and running again and long may this continue.

An extremely successful AGM and Annual Dinner held at the Devon Hotel on Wednesday 31 October 2001 elected the following executive committee - Patron Tom Ryder, President Kevin Taylor, Senior VP Geoff Hall, Junior VP Todd Wolfe, Secretary Paul Anderson, Treasurer Brian Bellringer, Headmaster's Rep Murray Dobson, Members - Brian Sykes and Kevin Gledhill. We get excellent support from Headmaster Lyal French-Wright and Development Office Administrator Carol Allen.

The Annual Dinner appears to be gaining a wider interest with over 80 in attendance and we were privileged to have an address from Neil Walter (Secretary of Foreign Affairs & Trade) and Boarder at NPBHS 1956-60.

Brian Sykes was organised the annual Golf Tournament in November, 2001. The Inglewood course was in top condition and the perfect weather was enjoyed by a field of over 70. The Best Nett was won by visitor, R Fleming, but as he was not an old boy he did not qualify for to win the McNaught Cup. Congratulations to the winners; R. Brine - McNaught Cup, B Hildred - Alexandra Tray and P Shearer - the Powell Cup. The Old Boys' Association is committed to maintaining the Golf tournament as an annual fixture. Many of the older old boys will recall that the tournament used to be the "Big Day Out" for the Association.

It was great to hear and see reports along with photos of the many Old Boys' gatherings from around the North Island branches. Hopefully, with school fixtures reaching into the provinces during the year, we will see many old boys continuing to attend reunions.

The Old Boys' database is striving to improve information and communication links between the school and old boys through the Development Office Administrator, Carol Allen. We certainly look forward to the ongoing development and encourage all Old Boys and branches to maintain contact.

To those old boys who would like to become financial members of the Old Boys' Association please contact the Secretary, Paul Anderson C/- Govett Quilliam, Private Bag 2013, New Plymouth. Further reunions, Annual Dinner (October) and Golf Tournament (Nov) are planned for 2002 so that we may continue together to keep in touch.

Kevin Taylor, President NP Branch NPBHS Old Boys' Association



Baden Hildred receiving the Alexander Salver for best stableford at the annual Golf tournament



Rendall Brine receiving the McNaught Cup for best nett at the annual golf tournament

MA (Tim) Besley at school 1940-44

MA (Tim) Besley moved to Australia in 1950. He held positions in the Commonwealth Public Service and the Australian Treasury before becoming Head of the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs.



From 1982- 87 he held the position of Chief Executive of Monier Limited. During this period he completed his law degree and was admitted to the Bar in 1985.

In 1988 he was appointed Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank and during his eleven years as Chairman he oversaw the transformation of a wholly owned government bank to a privatised publicly listed company.

From 1989 until his retirement in 2001 he was Chairman of Leighton Holding Ltd, the largest construction and project development company in Australia.

Tim was Chairman of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. He was Chancellor of Macquarie University for eight years from 1994 and is currently President of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

In 1986 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia and was promoted to Officer of the Order in 1992. In the Australia Day Honours, 2002 he was made a Companion of the Order "for service to the community through the promotion of economic and social development, the advancement of science, innovation and education, and for distinction at the forefront of government and corporate responsibilities."

Award for Old Boy Frank Larking (1939-44)

Our congratulations to Frank Larking (Beach Haven) who has worked tirelessly in the community for over 50 years. He has been prominent in organising facilities at the local beach for boats and Sea Scouts, together with beautification of the beach area. Frank's commitment to the community has been recognised with the naming of 'Larkings Landing' at the Beach Haven wharf. He is a 'Paul Harris Fellow' of Rotary International and has also been awarded the QSM.

Board of Trustees report

Another year is now well under way and there is already a lot happening for the Board of Trustees. NPBHS has a larger than expected roll which is good news both in terms of how NPBHS is viewed by parents as "The" school to send their sons to and also from a funding perspective. Like all schools NPBHS continues to face insufficient funding while trying to provide the very best all round education for our young men. Late last year we had a very productive meeting with the Centennial Trustees and there is an opportunity for the long term financial security of our school to be improved significantly with wise investments and management of existing funds. This would seek to capitalise on the awareness raised during the fund-raising campaign of 1999/2000 and while it would provide little benefit at present it could give real optimism for the future. The BOT will continue to pursue these opportunities for a secure future for the school.

We have recently been advised by the Ministry of Education that our 10 year Property plan has been accepted and we should soon be receiving official confirmation. This is pleasing progress to an extent however we still need to have a decision on structural mitigation before we can commit to a much needed building and upgrading programme. There is a lot that can happen over the next 2 years on the property front and we expect this year to be very busy indeed. Already we have approved use of the Bree Trust funds to develop a first class recording studio for the music department which we expect will be the best in the region.

One of the really great things about being involved in the BOT is the opportunities we get to share in the celebrations of achievement that happen at NPBHS toward the end of the year. Awards dinner, leavers dinner, hostel Christmas dinner and prize giving are all events we are privileged to share with the school. We never cease to be amazed at the calibre of young men produced by NPBHS every year. Just when we think we have seen the best there is, another fine young man comes along. Recently I have had the pleasure of being associated with some of our finest young old boys and it has been cause for real pride to hear others in business remark on what fine young men NPBHS has produced.

Without doubt the ability of a school to produce such fine men comes down to the staff both management and teaching. NPBHS is very fortunate to have a dedicated and committed staff who consistently give freely of themselves to provide an exceptional all round education. The industrial action by the PPTA late last year was a trying time for everyone. The BOT has taken every opportunity to declare and demonstrate our support for the teaching staff of our school. What we do not support is the industrial action the PPTA has imposed upon them. In addition to letters to the Minister of Education we are joining forces with other schools in the region to place a full page advertisement as a pro-active measure in support of our teachers. It is a difficult time for all those involved in secondary education and the sooner the Ministry of Education resolves the current dispute the sooner our staff can concentrate on what they enjoy doing - delivering the best education possible to our students.

Warren Batchelar, Chairman, NPBHS Board of Trustees

NPBHS Old Boys' Association Annual Dinner

With the revival of the local association came the restitution of what was once a highlight of Old Boys activity. In the year 2000 we had a most enjoyable evening with 50 in attendance and last October we built on that with an excellent turn out of 70. Our guest speaker was Neil Walter: Carrington House, 1956-60 and now Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade following a successful diplomatic career. Neil paid tribute to the education he received from teachers like Doc Allen, Tommy Atkin, Wit Alexander, Yank Kerr, Alaric Wilson, Noel Lynch, Dicky Baunton and J.J. Stewart. He reckoned he also learned dress sense after being paraded for having dirty shoes, judgement from having to select the right cane from the bamboo patch, and management and advocacy by learning the skills of persuasion in earning Friday night leave. "I used the time-honoured excuse of needing to replace my jockstrap, though initially it was difficult to persuade the housemaster that one warranted a jockstrap at all, let alone convince him they were wearing out at the rate of one a week!"

The Ministry has a major role in arranging the government's, and often the nation's, dealings with the outside world. NZ has a strong international tradition and is active in the UN, the Commonwealth, APEC and the Pacific forum. Kiwi's run the ITO, the Commonwealth Secretariat and our defence forces are involved in 13 peacekeeping operations around the world. We are but 0.1% of the world's population with only 0.2% of the global economic output so we rely on good people, fast footwork and teamwork and imagination to help secure our interests. We employ 1000 staff in Wellington and 47 high commissions and embassies around the world and the cost to the taxpayer is \$160 million p.a. We advise the government on economics, trade, politics and security. We run the NZ Aid programme of \$250 million p.a., handle all trade negotiations, are close to all environmental, disarmament and human rights and are available to NZers in trouble abroad.

Neil regaled us with amusing references to diplomats and diplomacy such as: "A politician approaches every subject with an open mouth, whereas a diplomat thinks twice before saying nothing." We were perceptively informed and right royally entertained and we challenge our organisers to prepare for more success in 2002.

by T.T Ryder (Patron of NPBHS Old Boys' Assoc)

Obituary

Owen 'Cappy' Masters (1920 - 2002)

Owen 'Cappy' Masters died on Monday February 4th, 2002. The Headmaster and many old boys attended his funeral service in St. Mary's Pro Cathedral.

'Cappy' was born in Stratford in 1920 and played rugby in the 1st XV while at NPBHS. He began studying at Victoria University, but in 1941 joined the Fleet Air Arm, piloting Seafire fighters (the naval version of the Spitfire) off the coast of Italy. He also served in the Philippines. After the war, he completed a Bachelor of Commerce degree before returning to the family business in both Stratford and New Plymouth. 'Cappy' and his sons Richard and Nigel were part of a family dynasty that has supplied Taranaki with a wide variety of hardware goods over the last 104 years.

He took a very active part in the affairs of NPBHS. As his sons passed through the school he was a founder member of the Parent Teachers' Association and later, as a Governor helped the transition from the composite New Plymouth High Schools' Board to the single New Plymouth Boys' High School Board.

'Cappy' gave long and valued service to the school and to the Old Boys' Association. He played a key role on the Centennial committee.



*Neil Walter flanked by
Joan & Tom Ryder*

AT SCHOOL 1937- 45?

Have you enrolled for the May reunion? The reunion will be held in New Plymouth 14-16 May 2002. If you have not received an enrolment form and you were at school during 1937-45 or around these years and you wish to take part, please contact -
Max Strawbridge (1938-42), 7 Carey Street, Hamilton (07) 847 5005
Peter Badley (1939-43), 143 Riddell Road, Glendowie (09) 575 7646
or **Carol Allen** phone/Fax 06 759 8836 Email: development@npbhs.school.nz

Max Strawbridge is the principal initiator of the 1937-45 reunion. While a young teacher in South Taranaki, Max played rugby and cricket for Taranaki and later moved to become the principal of intermediate schools in Te Kuiti and in Hamilton. After a



Local old boys Brian Sykes and Ian Dalgleish "fine tuning" details of the May 14-16 reunion.

Rugby Park 24th May 1941
Winners of the Taranaki Senior 10 aside tournament (because of the effect of WWII on local rugby, school that year played in the Senior division).
Standing - JJ Caldwell, JD Ridland, MR Mander, RA Roper (Capt.), SA Hunter, VF Hill, AV Kurta, WT Broughton
Kneeling - MM Strawbridge, W Dean, K Buttimore, D Smeaton

very successful reunion dinner in Hamilton in 2000 Max is spearheading the pending 1937-45 reunion in New Plymouth.

The response to the proposed reunion has been very enthusiastic with over 100 old boys plus many partners indicating their interest in attending.



Max Strawbridge



'Forty' years on reunion in August

A '40 Years On' reunion of the School's 1962 1st XV and 1962 Rowing Eight will be held in New Plymouth during the weekend of 17-18 August. Following an excellent reunion last year of the 1961 1st XV, a positive response has been received from most members of the 1962 team and crew, who are now scattered throughout New Zealand, Australia and Fiji.

The late 1950s and early 1960s form a unique era in the School's rugby annals, with successive 1st XV's remaining unbeaten in college game during 1957 to 1962. The 1962 1st XV at the end of that era was the only team, since the 1958 team, to win (without a draw) all college games. 1962 was, without doubt, the most successful in the School's rowing records, with the Rowing Eight that year winning the coveted Maadi Cup, premier trophy for schoolboy eights rowing.

Planned activities during the weekend reunion are: an Open Day at the School hosted by Headmaster Lyal French-Wright; the 1st XV game between the School's 2002 1st XV and Rotorua Boys' High; an aftermatch function; dinner at a New Plymouth restaurant on Saturday evening; rowing on the Waitara River on Sunday morning; and touch rugby on Sunday afternoon. (Touch rugby in sneakers has been advised, as excessive physical contact or exertion for those in their 50s could be unwise).

The touch rugby game will feature the 1962 FOYOs (Forty Years On) team who will play the 1962 BAAs (Before and After) team which may comprise any member who was in a first rugby group at the School in the late 1960s/ early 1960s.

It is hoped there will be plenty of substitutes available for both sides. Volunteers are being called for the BAAs team, as well as for crews to paddle on the Waitara River earlier in the day.

Anyone interested in attending (with or without wives/ partners), or wishing to participate for the 1962 reunion, including dinner on Saturday evening, please contact Lance McEldowney c/-9 Bella Vista, Melrose, Wellington, lance@dairymag.co.nz or Carol Allen, NPBHS Development Office, Private Bag 2028, New Plymouth 06 759 8836

A list of those who have expressed an interest in attending the 1937-45 reunion -

George Allen, Rash Avery, Peter Badley, Des Beatty, George Beatty, R. Bilkey, L. Bint, Christopher Bottrill, Barry Boon, Alan Boulton, Bruce Brown, John Campbell, Max Carroll, Lester Cartwright, John Church, Maurice Crow, Bruce Crowley, Ian Dalgleish, Trevor Davies, Brian Dee, Brian Dickinson, JH Dunning, Russell Dreadon, Peter Dixon, Phillip Elley, RE Foster, Alan Fowles, Peter Fraser, Bruce Gatland, Eric Gatland, Barton Gillespie, Don Gillespie, Douglas Hamilton, Gerry Harkness, Brian Harkness, Ron Harrison, Toby Hawken, Donald Hendry, Owen Henry, Glen Hine, Alistair Holder, Harry Honnor, Bill James, Leslie James, Barry Johnston, Ian Jones, LH Kay, Andrew Kay, Tony Kay, Noel Kitchingman, Alex Kurta, Frank Larking, David Levene, Leo Leuthart, John Little, Tom Logan, Colin Lovegrove, Vic MacLennan, SR McKeon, Murray Mander, Jeff Marsh, Angus McDougall, Peter McWilliam, Edgar Meuli, Ray Miller, Jack Mills, John Miln, Alec Milne, Brian Milne, Jack Morgan, Doug Morris, Graham Mount, David Musker, Edwin Okey, Leo Palmer, John Pybus, Selwyn Rawson, Warwick Revell, Tom Roberts, Roy Roper, Robert Scott, Ian Scott, Bradley Shaw, William Sheat, Kevin Simpson, Donald Smart, Douglas Smeaton, Wilson Still, Allan Stormont, Max Strawbridge, James Sutherland, Brian Sykes, Frank Tatham, Ron Taylor, Robert Thompson, Harold Titter, Roger Torrens, Brian Trembath, Maurice Twomey, James Vale, Gordon Voghterr, Doug Ward, David Weir, FC West, Alaric Wilson, Owen Winstanley, John Wood, Peter Worth.



1962 1st XV



1962 Rowing Eight

Fifty Years On reunion - 1945-54

Dick Still (1948-52) and Dennis Swan (1951-55) were the organisers of the recent reunion of old boys from 1945-54.

What a marvellous day! 127 old boys from the 1945-54 era plus 58 wives/ partners got together at Alexandra Park in Auckland for an afternoon of reminiscing and talk. Many had not seen each other since school, but a large number had obviously kept in contact over the years.

The organisers were delighted at the number of out of Auckland old boys that attended - from Wellington, Hawkes Bay, Wanganui, Taranaki, Bay of Plenty, Taupo and the Waikato. Also Bill Linn from Queensland and Jeremy Lys from California.

Bill Moore opened the formalities with anecdotes about his grandfather Bill Moyes, Alan Poletti entertained with memories of the teachers of the time, and Neville Duckmanton brought us all up to date with the school of today. Dennis Brown and Bob McCaw led the singing of "Forty Years On" and the "School Song".

It was a great day and beyond all expectations - we are tempted to try a repeat in 2005 (55 Years on) as a preliminary to us all meeting in New Plymouth in 2007 for the 125 years celebrations.

by Dick Still



Toni Osborn, Colin Osborn (49-52), Dick Still (47-52), Diana Still, Dennis Swan (51-55)



Gordon Collier (48-52), Dick Still (47-52) Barry Kerr (48-53), Alan Fleming (48-52) Annette Collier



Noel Skinner (50-53), Bruce Smith (52-56)



Graham McGlashan (51-54), Bill Linn (51-52), Michael Black (50-53), John Wood (51-56)



Frank Elliot (50-52), Jeremy Lys (50-54), Frank Lys (49-52), John McNelce (50-52)



Bill Taylor (53-56) and Christine Swan

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AROUND THE TRAPS *by Max Carroll*

Dave Bennett was recently selected to represent the Bay of Plenty at bowls and Warren Murdock is a very successful skip in Taupo.

Farrell TeMata's successful record as a rugby coach sees him elevated this year as the Assistant Coach of the Waikato NPC side.

In December David Bublitz made a brief return from London to be married on the beach at Mokau where he, Daryn Bride and David Maxwell each separately pulled a swimmer out of the rip.

Congratulations to Noel Lynch whose contribution to rowing was acknowledged in the recent New Year Honours.

All things being equal, when the Hurricanes meet the Crusaders in this years Super Twelve clash old boys Gordon Slater and Reuben Thorne will be the opposing captains.

Well known golfer Robert Rookes shortly leaves the Mt Maunganui Golf Club with his family to take up a coaching role in Germany.

Very recent old boy Jimmy Gopperth has just completed a successful tour of the UK with the New Zealand Secondary Schools' side.

Jed Rowlands is a newly elected New Plymouth District Councillor and begins this year back at NPBHS as Head of the Mathematics department.

Gareth West is a regular member of the CD team.

Congratulations to Lynn Bublitz, New Plymouth District Council Deputy Mayor and recently retired Headmaster of Inglewood High School.

Chris (Springs) Marshall now manages a farm in Colorado but was home for Christmas. Coaches rugby and still plays the occasional game.



Three Cricket Coaches on a wet Wednesday at Webster Field - Gordon Giddy (from 1981 and still current coach) , Max Carroll (59-65) , Ted Meuli (1965-74)

120 Years On From the Archives 1882-2002

1882 The beginning.

The initial steps towards the establishment of a secondary school in Taranaki were taken in the year 1887 by the Hon. T Kelly, member of the House of Representatives for New Plymouth. The New Plymouth High Schools Act, 1878 allowed the endowment of land to the value of 10,000 pounds and a grant of 1,730 pounds towards a building fund.



The First School. Built 1881 and destroyed by fire 1916

The new school was completed on December 2, 1881, could accommodate fifty children and was described as "a most handsome structure, both in internal and external design". The school opened on January 30, 1882 with Mr E Pridham, Principal, a position he held for thirty years.

1932

Fifty Years on. Over 400 Old Boys attended the 50th Jubilee celebrations which included the official reception and roll call, various sporting events, dinner, church service, and jubilee ball. Sir James Parr (High Commissioner for NZ) was the principal speaker. An extract from his speech reads "What is a great school? Is it bricks, is it mortar, is it wood? No! These are mere material things! A great school is one that has the right spirit, the right attitude to life, the right soul. That constitutes a great school."

In 1932 the roll stood at 487, 101 of whom were boarders. Dinner was provided for days boys at a cost of 3 pound per term, the tuition fee per term was 4 pd and a fee of 18.10s was charged for weekly boarders. The new boarding establishment and new school baths were a welcome addition having been completed at the end of 1931.

1982

The Centennial year. The Centenary reunion celebrations stretched over five days at Easter and involved nearly 2,000 Old Boys. Lynn Bublitz, Jack West and the Centennial committee organised a fitting celebration that began with the laying of the foundation stone to the Centennial Gymnasium by his Excellency Sir David Beattie, Governor General of New Zealand. At the assembly before the Easter Celebrations the school had the privilege of being addressed by distinguished old boy Albert Wendt. Professor Wendt spoke of his early experiences at Boys' High and of his love of words instilled in him by two of his English teachers, Terry Sweeney and Wit Alexander. During the Centennial Parade the battalion was inspected by Air Vice-Marshal Jamieson. He later laid wreaths at the School's War Memorials and paid tribute to the school. The festivities included a cocktail party, concert, photographs and speeches, dinner, a ball, various sporting events and an Easter church service. Contributions to the Centennial Trust Fund reflected the enormous goodwill and respect of all those who have walked beneath the Memorial Gates.

In the Taranakian magazine Tom Ryder (Headmaster, 1979-95) wrote about the debt owed to our founders and noted the contribution that history has played in shaping the school's identity. Head boy was Clyde Haldane and the roll was 913. Teachers Jed Rowlands and Murray Watts were selected for the Taranaki Rugby Team and Terry Heaps was again selected as a Commonwealth Games badminton umpire. The school received visits from many prominent New Zealanders, not only during the celebrations but throughout the year. Hone Tuwhare visited the school in March and shared a number of poems with staff and pupils; Glenn Dodds (at school 1971-74 and NZ soccer rep) urged students to strive for excellence, when he spoke at a special assembly in May. The Prime Minister was the guest speaker at the Senior Prizegiving. This year for the first time in the school's history, boys sat School Certificate in Maori and Horticulture.

Wednesday Club at Ngamotu

To be found most "Wednesday Club days" at Ngamotu.



Rick Webber, Ross Crow (visiting),
Dennis Little



Don Kruse, Russell Dee, "Tiny" Maine,
Bill Hunter



Barry Boon (visiting)



Neil Wolfe, Phil Barnes, Colin Croad



Tom Moorhead, Bob Thompson, Nathan Bennett

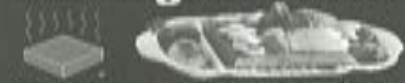
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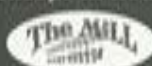
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Old Boy Comments

"I was in School House from 1937-1940 after two years at Auckland Commercial School. My book 'Trials at the Crossroads' was published in 1987 and I have also given another book 'From Plymouth to New Plymouth' to the school library. This I wrote in 1957, during a year's leave of absence in New Zealand. ... My wife and I attended both the 1982 and 1988 reunions and have kept in touch with old friends that we met there over decades."

Russell Wood 1937-40, Essex

"I asked to be put on the old boys distribution so that I may receive information as to 'get-togethers' etc of old boys. I was a boarder in Pilbeam House 1949-51 and I took an engineering course during my two years..."

AF Baker 1949-52

"I was a boarder at Myles House (1949-54) as my parents lived in Egl. The school headmaster was Mr McNaught. Mr (Jungin) Frost was the Housemaster of Myles and he was assisted by Mr Hetherly and Mr John Stewart. I had some great teachers: Frank Phipps, Mr Bennett who was exceptional in DEE - I still recall and can repeat many parts of his Latin lessons; Mr (Herby) Wilson and Mr (Ivan) Lelan for science. The 1st XV was coached by John Stewart (I recall his technique of having the hooker instead of the winger throw in to the line-out - he must have been one of a kind, the best in the dist). ... Another memory amongst many positive ones, was the usual cold showers each morning throughout the winter with snow to the lower slopes of Mt Egmont..."

Fyfe Bygrave 1949-54

Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Science, ANU, Canberra

I have recently been appointed Vice President Sides of a computer company for North Asia which covers China, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and also New Zealand. My main focus is China as it's the main growth area in the region. I speak Mandarin and Russian which is very helpful in business communications."

Alan Erlwain 1961-63

Vice President Sinix North Asia & NZ

"I was Old Boy at NPLHS in 1962 and then, by a long circuit, Auckland Uni, James Cook Uni, North Queensland, Australia National University, public service, Oxford Uni, and working in London, back to being Principal of Hargreaves College, an affiliated College of the ANU in Canberra, here since 1985."

Lowie Rushbrook 1959-63

When a surprise to find the old school on the web. It is always good to know what is going on at school. I have been working in the industry Engineering Industry in the North Sea for the last 10 years and have quite often met up with other old boys also within the industry.

Gemma Gordon 1961-67, Perth

"I remember the first two weeks at NPLHS when we had to undergo military training. I occasionally we had cadet training throughout the year. It is only in hindsight that I realise how fortunate I was to attend NPLHS but, typical of youths, did not make the most of opportunities that were available to me. Two years after leaving school I had the opportunity to visit England - 35 years later I am still there."

Pete Tomkinson 1962-64

"I recently received a "*Thought the Gates*" forwarded to me from my home address of 35 years ago in Hindford. I was one of the few of that era not called by "Last" Hetherly, though I did notch up 5 matches on my ball as was the custom at the time. ... I set up General Practice in Dunedin in 1978, working on my own for the first seven years and subsequently expanding into a group of four doctors. In 1980 I spent three months in England visiting hospitals there, and doing some training in palliative care. I joined the staff of the Otago Community Hospital when it opened in 1990. ... and have been Medical Director for the past 4 years."

Tim Carey-Smith 1962-66

"I spent one school year at NPLHS and I have many fond memories. I still miss out for the sweetbills and the fresh milk we had to drink. I remember our excursions to the geysers... and I remember sweeping corners when we were in church (and getting caught). Should any of the old boys from the class of 1963 wish to contact me I will be happy to hear from them."

Ooi Boon Wan (Patrick) 1963

Singapore hwooi@nigix.com.sg

"Many thanks for the last issue. I read it after returning from an eight-week op in the Antarctic as a helicopter pilot. Our company sponsored a Bell 212 (ex Maui hotel helicopter) to support of the New Zealand and American scientific research programmes in the McMurdo Sound and Dry Valley areas. It has been 25 years since I was last here on exchange with the US Navy. I'm not sure how many old boys have spent time in Antarctica, but wouldn't be surprised to find that quite a number have visited, either on research, operations, field assistance or in other capacities."

Steve Bone 1965-72 New Plymouth

I was a boarder at NPLHS from 1972 until

1974 in Christchurch and Niger Plains, the later as a private. I have kept in contact with a number of NPLHS old boys, friends and colleagues over the years and I would like to continue to foster these friendships through the freedom of the Old Boy's Association which, I understand, continues to be an active body and is well catered for."

AJ (Tony) Parr 1972-74 Commander, MVO, Royal New Zealand Navy

"Since leaving in 1981 I returned to my roots in Hamilton and after taking a year off in '82, I enrolled at Waikato University. I graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor Of Science with a double major in History and Politics. In 1986 I departed NZ's green shores to experience the world and ended up in the land of the red and gold, old Blighty... For five years I worked at Dialog Corp, the world's largest online business provider and I have recently returned to NZ"

Tony Webb 1976-81

Since walking out of the gates, I did five years at Waikato University, gaining a Masters in Science, majoring in Ecology. I then started working for the Department of Conservation in Purua and Te Urewera National Park. Here I was responsible for monitoring species... mainly North Island Kaiti and Kari (on an aside, I have worked and work my dog 'Gizka' on Kari tracking and capture). After a hiatus of years of that I took the job of Programme Manager, Biodiversity on Stewart Island.

Ironi Naevon 1985-90

In 1998 I graduated with a B. Com Ag (Agricultural Commerce) through Lincoln University. Upon completing that

I was employed here in Christchurch in a corporate advisory firm and was primarily involved in property valuations. This year I have returned to Lincoln to complete a Post Grad Diploma in Commerce majoring in Finance.

Paul Mills 1987-91

Clark Family update - years 1988-94

Gary, now living in Dunedin, has married. He became a Christian. **Greg** is a Man of God. **Philip**, living in Dunedin, plays rugby for Newby and is a Flamingo. **Nail**, living in Dunedin, is a member of a 4 star hotel.

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Headmaster's Comment - continued from page 1

One of the highlights of the last year was being a part of a trade mission to Fiji with Geoff Hall, now our Senior Hostel Master. To meet our old boys in their territory was wonderful and in particular the hospitality of Des Whiteside and Darran Fisher was exceptional. Ross Campbell (70-74) attended a Suva function and as a result his son Peter is now boarding.

The Old Boys are alive and well and I am delighted to be a part of the reunions, gatherings and meetings that are on the calendar. I look forward to meeting many of you during 2002.

L R French-Wright, Headmaster

New Plymouth Girls' High School Alumni

The New Plymouth Girls' High School Alumni is an association of past pupils, staff, BOT, PTA, parents, business associates and friends of the school. The NPGHS Alumni office is now in its second year. Alumni Coordinator Judy Williams has brought a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to her position. Judy is a past parent and recently retired member of the NPGHS Board of Trustees. She has initiated the **Springboard** newsletter, a 'must read' for old girls and an important link in maintaining the relationship between past pupils and their school. Springboard is distributed to over 1500 people around the globe.

The association between our two schools goes back to 1885 when twenty girls were admitted to the then New Plymouth High School. NPGHS received its own separate identity from 1913 when the girls were housed in what was known as Dr O'Carroll's house in Devon Street. In the 117 years since the separation of the schools there have been many alliances between the two schools and the strong bond and close association between them remains to this day - the opportunity for the NPBHS Development Office and NPGHS Alumni Office to work together will further strengthen those ties.

If you know of any NPGHS Alumni - perhaps your wife or daughter, sister, mother - was your brother or father a staff member? Contact Judy Williams, Alumni Coordinator, NPGHS, PB 2049, New Plymouth. Phone (06) 757 3899, ext 877 Fax (06) 757 3898 or Email: alumni@npghs.school.nz

NPGHS Alumni Committee:

Jain Gaudin (Principal), Claire Hall (Teacher Rep/past pupil), Bryce Barnett (BOT rep), Ann Reeves (Old Girls Assoc rep), Judy Williams (Alumni coordinator), Alison Rumball (Centenary Trust rep), Deborah Cameron (Hostel Manager), Jane Beals (BOT member), Barbara McKerrow (past pupil) **Absent:** Kirsty Markham (past pupil), Naomi McKean (Head Girl 2002), Kathy Ogle (current pupil)



SEARCHING FOR OUR OLD BOYS

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER NPBHS ALUMNI WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTERS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW.

Fax back (06) 759 8836 or

mail to NPBHS Development Office, Private Bag 2028, New Plymouth.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Years at school _____ email _____

Returned by _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Senior Students 2002



Matthew Rogers
Head Boy



Adam Jaldin
Head of Barak House



Luke Millard
Head of Syme House



James Annabell
Head of Halherly House



Paul Gledhill
Head of Donnelly House

Old Boys on the Web

The school website www.npbhs.school.nz has a special section for Old Boy contacts. This site lists the email addresses of a number of old boys. If you have an email address, please contact webmanager@npbhs.school.nz giving your name, years at school and current locality and other old boys of your vintage may be able to contact you through cyberspace, no matter where in the world you may live.

Advertising offer - Can you help?

As the numbers of Old Boys on our database increase so too does the cost of producing *Through the Gates*. We seek to defray some of the expense by offering advertising space in future editions.

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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