



The Lampstand Magazine

Our History
in Colour...

READ MORE ON PAGE 5



'Life in
Lockdown'-
Stories from our
globe-trotting Old
Boys - page 20

The annual magazine of the
Wellington College Old Boys' Association

ISSUE # 30 | DECEMBER, 2020





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A message from the WCOBA Executive Officer

Firstly, a very big thank you to the many Old Boys who have called or sent messages of support following the College's announcement that it is unable to continue to fund of the offices of the WCOBA and the Archives. Mike Pallin and I appreciate your kind thoughts and best wishes from many we count as friends.

We accept the school's budget has been affected by the non-admittance of fee-paying international students into New Zealand for the foreseeable future and wish the school all the best as they work around this.

Having worked for the College for some 23 years, 20 with the WCOBA, it certainly will be strange not to be an employee of the College anymore. However, I look forward to working with the WCOBA as a contractor for 20 hours per week and to continue to communicate and engage with our Old Boys and of course, also retain our reunion



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A Letter from the WCOBA President and Wellington College Principal (Issued by email 12/11/20)

It is with much regret that we advise you that Wellington College is unable to continue to fund the Office of the Wellington College Old Boys' Association and the Archives in the way that it currently does.

As you may be aware, the school currently funds these two offices from its regular budget, which has relied heavily on income from international fee-paying students. As the Government is not currently permitting secondary school-aged international students to enter New Zealand, the budget for the school no longer extends to cover the cost of these two positions.

The Wellington College Old Boys' Executive is now working to contract the services of Steph Kane (Old Boys Executive Officer) and Archivist, (Mike Pallin) directly to the Association. The Executive is therefore seeking donations to retain their services and ensure that Steph and Mike continue their work keeping Old Boys engaged and connected as well as maintaining and showcasing our history to current students, Old Boys, and the wider community.

We are sure you will agree, we owe Steph and Mike (and Archives Volunteers, Ted Clayton, Gary and Alison Girvan, and Rod Page) a big thank you for all they have done over the many years of service to the College in keeping our Association active and engaged.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions which are associated with it have created a difficult financial situation for the College. We are grateful for the support of Old Boys at this time.

**TED THOMAS. PRESIDENT WCOBA AND
GREGOR FOUNTAIN. PRINCIPAL AND PATRON OF WCOBA**



CALL FOR SUPPORT

DONATIONS TO HELP THE OFFICES OF THE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION AND THE ARCHIVES

can be made as below:
ANZ 01-0505-0842393-00

or via PAYPAL:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=ZSGHXS4EFP2WY

Individual Donors can claim a 33.33% tax credit for all donations over \$5.00 when they submit their 2020-2021 tax return.

programme and events, of which I will still be in be there in person to arrange.

While I won't be in the WCOBA office on a daily basis, you can still leave a message on my school land-line so I can receive an alert, or email me and I will get back to you as soon as

possible. Contact details are above. I extend my personal thanks to those who are able to support the Association in order to engage Mike and I for 2021.

**BEST WISHES.
STEPH KANE
WCOBA EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



Welcome

It is with pleasure that I present to the Members of WCOBA, the Annual Report for 2019–2020.

It has been a year of rebuilding, and with a newly established Executive Committee, firstly a phase of discovery, followed by gaining an appreciation of what WCOBA can do to make a positive contribution within the Wellington College ecosystem.

Working in with the Board of Trustees and the Foundation, WCOBA provides a strong connection between the past, current and future generations of students from the College.

WCOBA has a truly diverse membership, and it is within this strong base that we are exploring areas where WCOBA can positively contribute to the development of Wellington College and the well-being of its students.

- 1 **Engagement:** Communications, Functions and Reunions
- 2 **Funding:** Projects and Educational Achievements and Leadership
- 3 **Career Pathways:** Mentoring, internships, apprenticeships and employment

To be a relevant and active communicator with a large geographically spread membership, we need to be smarter in our use of

digital technologies and channels to deliver communications to members.

An example is our objective to rapidly reduce the number of hardcopy *Lampstand* magazines produced each year and instead replace this with access to self-service digital versions. Communications will be electronic via email and Mailchimp. We do also recognise that this will require a transition for some members and we remain committed to keep those without internet access up-to-date and connected.

I wish to thank Steph Kane for the great services that she continues to provide to Old Boys and especially in coordinating reunions and managing the regular communications. A big shout out must also go to Bob and Janet Slade for Bob's many years of dedicated service (more like decades) to WCOBA as President and Treasurer. We thank Bob for being a truly devoted Old Boy and appreciate your 'passing of the light'.

Thank you also to Principal, Gregor Fountain, for his leadership and commitment to the education of the young men who pass through the College, especially in this disruptive year of 2020.

The Financial Reports presented this year have undergone a significant change with the consolidation of funds and trusts under the management of WCOBA being presented in the financial statements. This has been completed

so that we achieve simplicity in the management and reporting of financial information under the umbrella of WCOBA, while maintaining the fund balances for the various bequests and trusts on the balance sheet of WCOBA, tagged with the purpose of each entity in support of the development and educational achievement at Wellington College.

WCOBA is pleased to report a surplus of \$3,154 for the year ended 31/12/2019 (2018: \$1,593), (represented by cash and investments) of \$193,815 (2018: \$226,556).

During the year, WCOBA provided grants for boys to attend Outward Bound and The Spirit of Adventure experience, and a donation was made to the College in support of the 2019 Prizegiving.

Successful Classes of 1969 and 1999 Reunions were held during the year and a Horowhenua/Manawatu Old Boys lunch was hosted in Otaki.

In these very unusual and uncertain times and with the challenges we face as a nation, it is ever more important for us to lean on relationships and networks to achieve positive outcomes. WCOBA is an important part of this network and we look forward to developing a stronger connection between the College and its Old Boy community.

On behalf of your Executive, I wish you all the best for the rest of 2020 and here's hoping that 2021 will be much better all-round for us all.

TED THOMAS
TED.THOMAS@HAMPTON.CO.NZ

ON THE COVER: THE ARCHIVES TEAM HAVE BEEN BUSY COLOURISING OLD PHOTOS IN OUR COLLECTION AND BRINGING THEM TO LIFE. THE COVER PHOTO IS OF THE EAST SCHOOL IN 1900. SEE PAGE 5

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you memories from your time at Wellington College? Remember something extra from one of the articles in this issue? Have exciting news?

We'd love to hear it! Please send us a message to oldboys@wc.school.nz with any photos from school, as well as a recent one of yourself and you could feature in the next issue.



KEEPING CONNECTED

Who are we and what do we do...?

The Wellington College Old Boys' Association (WCOBA) has been serving our community since 1891, when past Old Boys of Wellington College, at the invitation of Headmaster, Mr Mackay gathered for a social occasion at the College and agreed to form an association under the presidency of Mr A de B (Alfred) Brandon. The WCOBA has been in continuous operation ever since.

The key objectives of the WCOBA have always been:

- To support the School through fundraising and the provision of prizes, scholarships, equipment and facilities which will continue to enrich the quality of education for present and future generations of students.
- To provide a voice for Old Boys and a network of Old Boys to maintain links to the School and each other through regular communication, reunions and events to support active connections amongst its Old Boys.
- To promote and enhance the Wellington College brand in the community.

Your Executive for 2020-2021

President	Ted Thomas	Class of 1976
Treasurer	Ian Harden	Class of 1977
Executive Officer	Stephanie Kane	
Patron and Principal	Gregor Fountain	Class of 1990
Financial Officer	Glenda Schmitt	
Executive Member	James Blackwell	Class of 2012
Executive Member	Richard Boag	Class of 1981
Executive Member	Charlie Gallagher	Class of 2006
Executive Member	Karl Moresi	Class of 2009
Executive Member	Chris Nicholls	Class of 1988
Executive Member	Matt Reweti	Class of 1990
Executive Member	Ernie Rosenthal	Class of 1961

RETURN TO SENDER



If you move house and/or change your email address, please let us know. This will help reduce the returned mail and bounced emails we receive after each mail-out.



Follow the interview from Principal, Gregor Fountain with new WCOBA President, Ted Thomas. <https://youtu.be/5rmdMQbBPtE>



WCOBA eNews:

We aim to share regular updates on our activities via email and social media. We understand that a number of you are not regularly receiving our eNews or invitations to events.

We need to fix that. If you haven't received an email from us recently, please check that messages from the WCOBA via MAILCHIMP are not landing in your junk mail or email us to update your preferred email address.



BECOME A LIFE MEMBER OF THE WCOBA

A \$150 subscription will assist us in printing and posting the Lampstand, subsidise Old Boys' events, support the College's prize-giving, and maintaining the Archives.

Life Membership includes a Certificate and Lapel Pin.

The Wellington College Archives Project to colourise many of our old photos has provided a unique view into the lives of our early students and how the school looked over the past 150 years.

Viewing them in black and white, places them at a certain distance. However, viewing the same images in colour brings them to life like nothing else can.

This sparks an interest in the past and helps us relate to people and places with more perception.



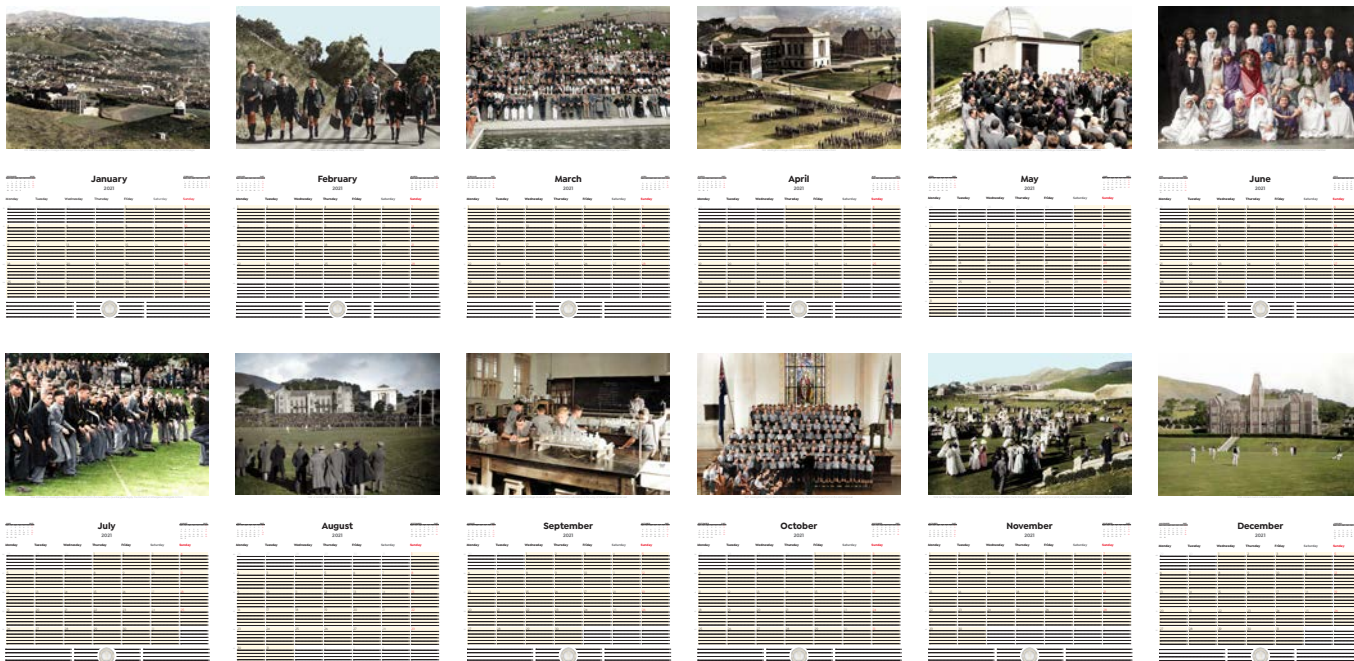
2021 Calendar Fund-Raiser to Support our Archives

A4 2021 Monthly Calendar • + a bonus January, 2022 •
Yearly Overview for 2021 and 2022 • Plenty of room for your notes

\$20.00 each, which includes postage and packaging (NZ) •
\$26.00 (Australia/Pacific) • \$30.00 (Rest of World)

The proceeds from sales will help fund the Archives team to work on further photo restoration and colourisation, framing and arranging future displays and exhibitions.

Order on-line at <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/140602>
or email oldboys@wc.school.nz if you wish to pay another way.



2020 ROYAL HONOURS



Four Old Boys and a Headmaster recognised for service



Mr Rod Brown of Kerikeri.
QSM for Services to Conservation.

Rod Brown helped to establish and is Vice-Chair of Guardians of the Bay of Islands, which leads Project Island Song, the ecological restoration of seven pest-free islands in the eastern Bay of Islands. He is a Far North Forest and Bird committee member. He was the founding Chair of Vision Kerikeri, an early advocate for protection of Puketi Forest, and a founding member of Carbon Neutral Kerikeri. Rod set up the native plant nursery that was the beginning of Kerikeri Shade House, a group of volunteers who propagate and grow plants for community conservation projects across Northland.



Dr John Delahunt, (Class of 1960) of Wellington.
ONZM for Services to Endocrinology and the Transgender Community.

Dr John Delahunt has worked as a consultant endocrinologist and as a lecturer at the Wellington Campus of the University of Otago for more than 40 years. He has been an active member of the NZ Society of Endocrinology (NZSE), serving as the treasurer and secretary, and as the

NZSE representative on the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Adult Medicine Advisory Panel. He has played a vital role in the development of transgender healthcare in New Zealand, providing a significant majority of transgender hormone treatment care in Wellington for more than 25 years. He was one of the first physicians in New Zealand to use gender-affirming hormonal therapy. John has also been involved with Agender NZ, an organisation supporting transgender people and their families.



Mr Roger Moses, of Wellington.
CNZM for Services to Education.

Roger Moses was Headmaster of Wellington College for 23 years. Under his leadership, the school was a top performer in the NZ Scholarship Examinations. He was appointed Acting Rector of King's High School in Dunedin in 2019. He chaired the Professional Advisory Group working alongside the Ministerial Advisory Group providing advice to the Minister and Ministry of Education on the NCEA review. He was involved with the New Zealand Council for Education Research's project on boys' academic performance at single-sex schools. He has been a member of a working group investigating educational outcomes for young males in the New Zealand prison system. Roger was a member of the Board of the International Boys' Schools Coalition and past Chairman of the Association of Boys' Schools New Zealand.



Dr Brian Pauling, (Class of 1958) of Christchurch.
ONZM for Services to Broadcasting and Education.

Dr Brian Pauling founded the NZ Broadcasting School (NZBS) as a small community education course in 1983, which has since grown to be recognised as the pre-eminent broadcasting education programme in New Zealand.

Brian was Head of the NZBS until 2001. Since its establishment, more than 1,400 graduates have been conferred with the Bachelor of Broadcasting Communications degree. He has published textbooks including 'The Access Radio Handbook' and most recently has worked on a book chronicling the history of access radio in New Zealand. He helped establish the Canterbury Communications Trust and established Plains FM, the first independent community access radio station, in 1986. He was the Director of the Canterbury Workers Educational Association from 1976 to 1982. He has chaired the Association of Community Access Broadcasters and the NZ Library and Information Commission. He was the Commissioner of the NZ National Commission for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation for 10 years, applying his expertise in communication technologies and broadcast education. He was a Board member of the International Broadcast Education Association in 2011. Brian was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in 1992.



Mr Peter Ramsden, (Class of 1965) of Christchurch.
MNZM for Services to Conservation.

Mr Peter Ramsden is the kaumātua and Deputy Chair of Te Runanga o Koukourārata and has led the development of conservation projects in the Canterbury region.

Peter has led numerous conservation initiatives with a variety of organisations, including the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch City Council, Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Lyttelton Port Company, as well as with various schools, tertiary institutions, farmers and businesses.

Peter is a former Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board appointee and the current Environment Canterbury Water Zone Committee lead for Ngāi Tahu. He has been a member of the Okains Bay Māori and Colonial Museum Board and the Okains Bay Reserve Management Board since 2000. He played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust Kakanui Covenant located in Koukourārata. This covenant provides legal protection for both conservation and cultural values found at this significant site and he continues to ensure the site's ongoing management. Peter is also an active supporter of the Pest Free Banks Peninsula Project.

IF WE HAVE OVERLOOKED A SIGNIFICANT HONOUR OR AWARD, PLEASE LET US KNOW.



ABOVE: A Reception for State Services Commission Crown Entity Board Chairs was held at Government House in February. State Services Commissioner, Peter Hughes (Class of 1976) spoke to the group.



The Governor General, Dame Patsy Reddy visited some of the staff and students at Wellington College to hear how they navigated going from classrooms to zoom meetings when school life went virtual through alert Level 3 and 4 Lockdown.

ABOVE: Dame Patsy with Head Prefect, Andrew Latta and Principal, Gregor Fountain.

BELOW: Prefect, Ken Rayner (L) and Andrew Latta presented Dame Patsy with a 2020 Runathon T-Shirt.



REUNION

CLASS OF 1980 • 40 YEARS ON



BACK ROW: Garth MacIntyre, Michael Lee, Ian de Terte, Guy Field, John McMillan, Peter Casey, Philip Seddon, William Pointer
SECOND ROW: John Scott, Alan Smillie, Geoff Boon, Tim Burns, David Eastgate, Paul Currie, Campbell Smith, Mark Obren, Dave Nendick
FRONT ROW: Michael Penlington, Alasdair Shaw, Nick Hunn, Vic Paulson, Mike Pallin, Wayne Breeze, Martin Jarvis, Geoff Tilbrook

We were determined to hold the Class of 1980's 40 Years On Reunion come hell or high water. While the numbers attending were down on previous years because of travel and quarantine issues, our by-line of quality, not quantity prevailed across the day.

Reunion activities included a welcome Morning Tea with Principal, Gregor Fountain and a handful of former staff and current Prefects, followed by a tour of the school and the museum.

The class dinner, held at the Wellington Club for some I believe was just an extension of lunch. Gregor gave a more formal welcome and toasted the Class of 1980, which was responded to by 1980 Head Prefect,

Nick Hunn.

Wayne Breeze toasted Firth House and the staff of 1980, and Geoff Boon wrapped up the formalities with a toast to Absent Friends which included those who sent their apologies and those who have passed away.

Three overseas-based Old Boys sent letters which were read out and we thank, Peter Hercus (Ontario), Bryan Hughes (Perth) and Philip Wong (Hong Kong) who took time out to be remembered.

Most of the classmates had not been back to Wellington College since leaving forty years ago. Many said that Wellington College has really

improved and others observed that the College has never looked better.

The best part of the reunion was the chance to catch up with old friends who share so many common experiences and memories.

All in all, the reunion was a great event regardless of the obstacles we faced. Classmates who didn't attend in person participated with those attending through thoughts and conversations.

Fingers crossed that the next time this cohort meet, the only thing stopping them will be arthritic knees and hips.

STEPH KANE.
WCOBA EXECUTIVE OFFICER



3A1 1976



3A3 1976



Prefects 1980



(L-R): Joel Tebbs (Deputy Head Prefect, 2020), Wayne Breeze (DHP and Firth House Head Prefect, 1980), Nick Hunn (Head Prefect, 1980) and Andrew Latta (Head Prefect, 2020).



There was little response when we asked in the last *Lampstand* if there was interest in a holding a 50 Years-On Reunion for the Class of 1971. If you have reconsidered, please get in touch and we can ascertain what sort of interest there is 12-months on. I'm pleased to say that the Class of 1972 are certainly planning on having their reunion in 2022.



If a group, team or cohort is interested in having a reunion, please get in touch to discuss and we can then work out how to make it happen. Reunions are not limited to just 40 and 50 years on!



The **Class of 1981 Reunion** is definitely going ahead and is scheduled to take place at the College on **FRIDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2021**. Those in the Cohort will be contacted (if we have your email address) to keep you informed of the arrangements. You can visit our website to view the Class of 1981 cohort spreadsheet to check if you come under this year, or help us locate those for whom we have no contact details.

Did you know...? Kool & the Gang's 'Celebration' topped the New Zealand chart for three non-consecutive weeks in late winter 1981. In October 1981, the Commodores peaked atop the New Zealand chart with 'Lady (You Bring Me Up)'.

THE ARCHIVES

A Treasury of our Past



Mike Pallin
College
Archivist

In spite of the challenges of Covid 19 and limited access to the Archives Building (Headmaster's House), the Archives team has had a busy year with several projects being worked on.

The College has many cups, trophies and shields, many of which date back to the earliest days of the College. During the past year, we have nearly completed photographing and cataloguing these to provide an accurate record for the College. A significant number are no longer awarded, primarily due to no longer being a College activity but nevertheless have interesting histories. Two of these are Boxing and Inter Form competition.



BOXING

Earliest reports of College boxing competitions appeared in the *Wellingtonian* from the early 1890s and were last recorded in 1956.

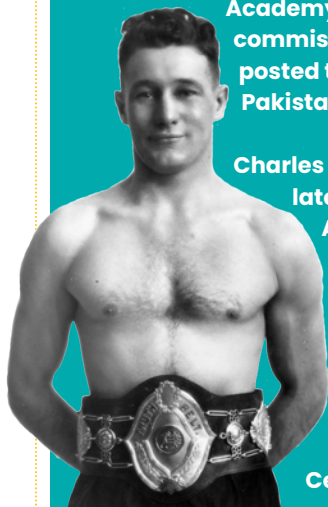
Headmaster for 29 years, J P Firth, (and New Zealand's representative on the International Olympic Committee from 1923 to 1927) was a strong believer in the importance of physical fitness.

Ted Morgan (Old Boy 1921-1922) (pictured below), won New Zealand's first Olympic Gold Medal which was at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam.

The C C P Tanner Memorial Boxing Cups were presented in memory of Charles Cyril Pontin Tanner (1905-1907) who died, aged 26 in 1918 in Baghdad during WWI. The Cups were awarded to most improved junior and most improved senior boxers.

As an aside, The Baghdad Bell, held in the Wellington Carillon, was given by his sisters Dorothy Tanner and Gwyneth Laird in memory of their brother Charles.

After Charles left Wellington College, he studied at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich in England. In 1912, he received a commission with the British Army and in June 1914, he was posted to India where he served at Bannu, in what is now Pakistan.



Charles served with the 29th Mountain Battery and later the 157th Heavy Battery in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He became a captain and was based in Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq), where the British Army fought against the Ottomans. Soldiers had to contend with extreme heat and poor sanitary conditions, which led to sickness and many deaths. In late 1918, Charles became seriously ill and died in an isolation hospital in Baghdad. He is buried at the Baghdad War Cemetery in Iraq.



Boys of 3SHC, 1956, under the supervision of Mr Nixon, training in the Old Gym for the annual boxing championships.

The Tanner Memorial Boxing Cup for the most improved senior.



The School Flag Is This Our Coronation Oak?

The August 1897 *Wellingtonian* has the following report.

Thanks to the generosity of our Old Boys, our College is now in possession of a truly magnificent flagpole, and thanks to the great kindness of Mrs Firth, of a flag worthy in every way to fly at such a peak. The flag, which was made in London to Mrs Firth's special order, is a beautiful one with a black ground, crossed in the centre by a broad band of yellow. One could not help feeling astonished that we had so long allowed ourselves to be without such an attractive symbol of the life of our College.



The flagpole was erected on a slope to the right, facing north, of the original East School building. The flag would probably be similar to the picture above.



By 1922, the flagpole was either shifted or replaced to a site beside the steps on the Terrace slope in front of the school. The colourised sports day photo above right from 1924 shows the flagpole flying the Union Jack and below it, a new Wellington College flag showing a broad black band across the middle of the flag.

In 1937, oak tree seedlings grown from acorns from Windsor Great Park, England were distributed to New Zealand Schools to commemorate the Coronation of George VI.

The *Wellingtonian* of 1937 reported: *May 31... a Coronation Oak was planted to commemorate the accession to the throne of George VI. The 'oldest boy', Mr Brodie officiating.*



There is currently only one oak tree on the College site, on the lawn in front of what was the Headmaster's house. Study of aerial photos from the 1940s show a young tree growing on that site through to a large tree in recent photographs. While other oak trees had been planted in subsequent years these were all removed to make way for buildings.



By the time of the College's Centenary Celebrations in 1967, another Wellington College flag design was used, pictured right, appearing in a newspaper article at the time.

The last recorded sighting of this flag appears to be at the 1994 McEvedy Shield Athletics event at Newtown Park as shown in the photo below.



The whereabouts now of this flag is a mystery...

Where is the Flag?



THE ARCHIVES



THE GALLIE MEMORIAL SHIELD

The Gallie Memorial Shield was awarded to the Form Class in obtaining the Highest Aggregate Points at the Annual Athletics Sports.

This shield was presented by John Gallie in 1936, in memory of his sons' Oscar and Victor who were both casualties of WWI.

As Inter Form competitions no longer take place, the shield was last awarded to 5B2 in 1979.



Our earliest Rugby Cap 1894.
Oscar Kember 1892 - 1896

School Cap
Donald Mackay 1969 - 1973



The Colours and Caps of Wellington College

Wellington city's colours of black and gold are thought to originate from the formation of the Wellington Rugby Football Union in 1879 where black and gold was used for the team's livery.

It would appear that Wellington College first used the black and gold colours in 1892 when J P Firth, in his first year as Headmaster, reported in the *Wellingtonian*: *For the last six months or more we have been waiting for the arrival of our new colours.* He also stated: *All boys who represent the College on the cricket or football (rugby) field or in any other way are entitled to wear black straw hats with broad old gold bands.* In 1893 the gold band was changed to vertical stripes.

By 1900, the hat had become a white straw boater with a black and gold striped hat band and a black school cap with the gold seams radiating from the cap knob, was in general use. While the boater began to fade from use in the 1930s, the style of cap continued till the 1950s when the gold was changed to a band of colour around the bottom edge of the cap.

The school cap was phased out from 1971.



This group of Wellington College students taken by staff member, Algernon Gifford (c1900), shows the typical school uniform of the day: dark jacket, knickerbocker trousers, boater or school cap. (Colourised B&W photo)



School Cap
Alan Gawith 1898-1900

Prefects Cap
Ernest Palliser 1928 - 1932



Prefects Cap
Denis Danaher 1941 -1944

Straw Boater
Ewen Cameron 1938 - 1941





📍 We had two visits this year from Dr Tom Farrar, (Class of 1948). Together with Ted Clayton, (Class of 1947) and Archives Volunteer, they were able to identify a number of students in group photos of students taken in 1947. Tom and Ted identifying students in a 1947 colourised photo of the College Bach Choir in which they both appear.



🕒 In this recently colourised version of a photo taken in the physics lab in 1947, Ted and Tom were able to identify the following students: From left back: unknown, unknown, P. Chatwin, R. Adams, K. Stewart, unknown, B. Mansfield. From left front: E. Sapsford, R. Mullins. Can anyone identify the unknowns?

A RECENT DISCOVERY

📍 On the edge of a small park in Fitzherbert Terrace, between Queen Margaret College and the Wellington motorway, is a plaque commemorating Dr William Fitzherbert (later Sir William Fitzherbert) who played a significant role in Wellington College coming into existence following Sir George Grey's endowment.

The plaque also recognises the third site, nearby, where Wellington College opened in 1868. A.W. (Wyn) Beasley, Chairman of the Wellington College Board of Governors from 1981 to 1989, was responsible for establishing the plaque in 1992 following his research for writing his book *The Light Accepted. 125 years of Wellington College.*



📍 The Archives, Old Boys' and Property Teams celebrated the significant 80th Birthday of former DP Gary Girvan. Naturally, the celebrations and theme were duck-related, (Look out for the details of Gary's new Book on Duck Hunting in this Lampstand). Gary and his wife Abbie work in the Archives twice a week alongside Archivist, Mike Pallin and Ted Clayton.

We are sure Old Boys will agree that Gary seems so young and active that we can honestly believe he's turning 20 for the fourth time. Turning 80 represents a great deal of knowledge and wisdom.



FAMILY CONNECTIONS



We received a thoughtful email from Janet Martin, whose husband Neville (Class of 1959) passed away in 2018. Some years ago, Neville published his book, *Playing Against the Wind* - a Memoir of a Wellington childhood in the 1940s and 1950s, set mainly in Oriental Bay and Roseneath and included material on Roseneath Primary School and Wellington College.

Janet offered the Archives old copies of the *Wellingtonian* from the 1920s-1930s that belonged to Neville's father, Hassell Martin (Class of 1929), Neville's old school cap and other uniform items. Janet went on to say that her and Neville's son Geoff (Class of 1986) is also an Old Boy and that Geoff's three sons are current students. So naturally, I asked for a photo of the four generations who have a great connection to the College.



Hassell Martin
Class of 1929



Neville Martin
Class of 1959



Geoff Martin
Class of 1986



(L-R): Nick Martin (Class of 2022), James Martin (Class of 2020) and Paddy Martin (Class of 2022).

OLD BOYS' UNIVERSITY AND WELLINGTON COLLEGE RUGBY CLUBS PLAY FOR THE MEMORY.

It was congratulations to OBU Colts Green and Colts Black who overcame two spirited Wellington College teams in the annual Steve Letica (Class of 1964) Cup matches held at Boyd-Wilson Field in March.



It was a special day with members of Steve Letica's family present not just on the side lines but playing, with Tobias Christensen, Steve Letica's sister's grandson featuring. Steve was an Old Boy, a Junior All Black and member of the WCOB Club who passed away in 1967 at the young age of 20.

Congratulations to Colts Captain Joe Sharland who picked up not only the Letica Cup from Jan Christensen for the winning team, he also collected the Calvin Wright Memorial for being player of the match.

It was great Martyn Wright (Calvin's brother) was on hand to present it, Calvin being a former teacher at Wellington College and member of the Wellington College Old Boys' Rugby Club, and who tragically died in an accident in 1976.



The festivities continued at the Cambridge Hotel afterwards with a great turn out from the Colts teams to a function that featured President Murray Anderson presenting HE Fausto

Crozet (Argentine Ambassador) with his Honorary Vice President badge followed by an excellent presentation from the Ambassador about his homeland.

The Wellington College teams were well represented too, as this was also a mini fund-raiser to help with the (later to be cancelled) trip to Argentina. This was capped with a superb tango demonstration, featuring long time OBU Supporter Jim Poy's daughter and Jan Christensen gave the Club a poignant summary of Steve Letica's life.

RICHARD BOAG. CLASS OF 1981 & OBU SECRETARY



ABOVE: HE Fausto Crozet with Jan Christensen, Steve's sister.

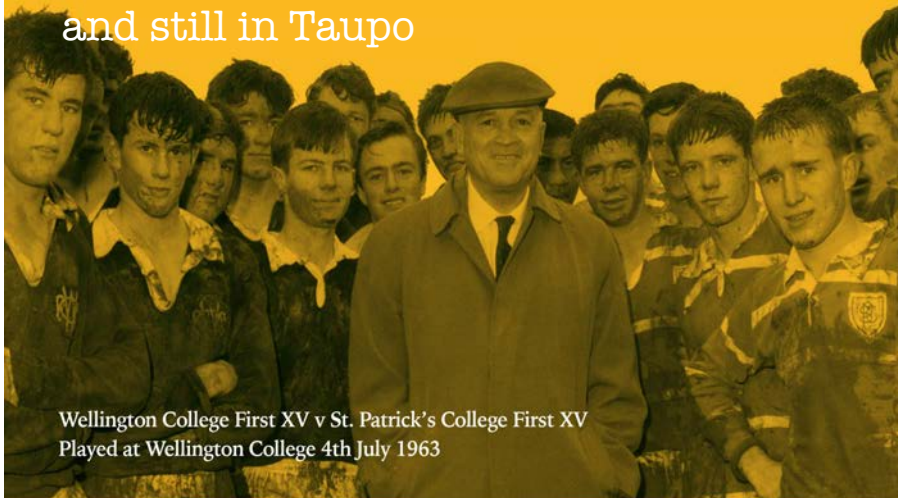


RIGHT: Joe Sharland and Martyn Wright with the Calvin Wright Memorial Cup.

Rescheduled to 2021

WELLINGTON COLLEGE & ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE RUGBY AND CRICKET REUNION

For members of the 1963 First XV's and 1960-63 First XI's
 Now takes place 19-20 February, 2021
 and still in Taupo



Wellington College First XV v St. Patrick's College First XV
 Played at Wellington College 4th July 1963

A reunion to celebrate the sporting history of two traditional rivals.

TO RSVP, contact Ross Crotty • ross@rosscrotty.com • 027 450 7548

Follow the Reunion on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/470497006862606/



Following a recent lunch meeting in Perth of four from the Class of 1965, the quartet decided to see whether there might be other Old Boys who would be interested in participating in a get-together with other fellow Old Boys residing in Western Australia.

What they envisage is an informal gathering sometime in February 2021, to avoid the busy Christmas and January holiday period. Depending on the numbers interested, they would look at gathering in a venue in or near the CBD, accessible to public transport.

In terms of timing of the event, and acknowledging the differing time constraints with such a diverse range of ages and locations, the organisers would like to hear from WAOBs with preferences for a weekday, evenings, weekends etc event.

Please reply to:

- Hugh Cromie, 0456 637 393 hugh.cromie@westnet.com.au
- Julian Levy, 0419 902 961 jal@jalcomputer.com.au
- Ken Houston, 0411 790 692 houstonassoc@ozemail.com.au

**2021 Quadrangular Tournament
 @ Christ's College
 6-8 July (Joint OB Function On 7th)**

2021 HIGHLIGHTS	
Tuesday, 2 March	McEvedy Shield
Wed. 2 June	Traditional v St Patrick's (Town) (A)
Wed. 9 June	Traditional v St Patrick's (Silverstream) (H) WCOBA AGM
Wed. 30 June	Traditional v Rongotai College (H)

We will keep you up-to-date when further details come to hand.



Back: (L) Ken Houston, Stew Whitney. Front: (L) Julian Levy, Hugh Cromie

SCHOOL REPORT

Tēnā koutou fellow Wellington College Old Boys

It is my great pleasure to present to you the 2020 edition of *The Lampstand* – the annual newsletter of the Wellington College Old Boys' Association and a celebration of our extended Wellington College community. Your ongoing connection with Wellington College as active Old Boys, helps our current students understand that they belong to an inter-generational community that is bigger than themselves and exists beyond the present day. This is a precious gift to them in this digital age where many young people exist in increasing isolation from community and society and where friendships, interests and connections can be shallow or fleeting. Thank you!

It has been a pleasure to regularly meet with the new Wellington College Old Boys' Association Executive, now under the leadership of President, Ted Thomas (Class of 1976) and see their exciting plans for the future of our Association take shape. Along with the Executive, I am very grateful for the terrific work of Steph Kane, the Executive Officer of the Association, who collates the material and produces *The Lampstand* for us, and uses this publication and a wide variety of other means to connect and grow our community of Old Boys.

The school year has been significantly shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic and the lock-down and restrictions associated with it.

An anticipated major decline in revenue from international students and from the hiring of Wellington College's facilities is certainly causing some major challenges as we plan for the future. However, we were fortunate that teacher professional learning over recent years focused on teaching and learning in the digital age and that the school had a strong digital infrastructure which enabled us to very



successfully transfer from our regular face-to-face teaching into online learning, within hours of the lock-down.

Some students thrived with the increased autonomy which they were able to bring to their learning, while others struggled for motivation and yearned for a return to the campus and the conventional classroom. We witnessed some wonderful innovation; the annual Junior Drama Production changed its format to become a radio podcast



PREMIER SCHOLAR FOR 2019

Former Wellington College student, Liam Anderson was presented with the Prime Minister's Award for Academic Excellence in the NZQA annual Top Scholar Awards.

Liam was also Top Subject Scholar in Spanish. He achieved Outstanding Scholarships in Chemistry, Physics and Statistics, and received Scholarships in Biology, Calculus, Health and Physical Education, and English.

In addition to his own academic achievements, Liam is a part-time cello teacher for primary school students; and tutors in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics.

series, and our ANZAC Assembly was transformed into a very moving self-guided online commemoration, which included members of our Chorale singing a song recorded from their bedrooms over zoom. Teachers and students developed new strategies for connecting with each other, and extending learning, and it has been pleasing to see some of these new ways of working together continuing on our return to campus and the conventional school timetable.

Academically, Wellington College's students continue to achieve to an exceptionally high standard. The NZQA's Top Scholar Awards for 2019 were announced during the lock-down, with Nicholas Patel and Liam Anderson gaining their Premier Awards for being ranked in the top twelve students in New Zealand. Jesse Richardson was acknowledged as the Top Scholar in New Zealand for History with Liam Anderson named the Top Scholar for Spanish. Most significantly, Liam Anderson won the Prime Minister's Award for Academic Excellence as New Zealand's overall top student in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement and the NZ Scholarship examinations.

While COVID-19 led to the cancellation of many of the usual national arts and sports events, many of our students and groups have continued to achieve at the highest level in music, other performing arts, and in sport. Highlights from the last twelve months have included our 1st XI cricketers finishing third in New Zealand after dominating the local



competition, and the 1st XI Hockey team being unbeaten in winning the local premier competition. We continue to hold the McEvedy Shield for inter-school athletics and are aiming to set a new record for consecutive victories in 2021. Our major production, *Curtains – The Concert*, proceeded under Alert Level 2 restrictions, delighting physically distanced audiences of under 100 people! A talented group of drama students recorded a scene from *Henry IV, Part 1* in a car in the McDonald's drive-through, and won themselves places at the prestigious Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival in Dunedin, with two of these students subsequently selected to perform at the Globe Theatre in London.

The 2020 Runathon, held just prior to the lock-down, raised over \$100,000 to support the work of World Vision in the Chi Kreang district of Cambodia – a remarkable achievement in this very challenging year for fundraising.

Despite the challenges of the year, your school is in great heart. I trust that you enjoy reading the 2020 *Lampstand*. Please keep in touch. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

GREGOR FOUNTAIN
CLASS OF 1990 AND PRINCIPAL

Will it or won't it? There was much angst right up until opening night whether the school's musical production 'curtains' would take place. Thankfully, level 3 became level 2 and the show opened, albeit with restricted audience numbers.



HEAD PREFECT. ANDREW LATTA GIVES HIS ACCOUNT OF BEING A SCHOOL LEADER BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LOCKDOWN.

This year has truly been a unique experience for the students of Wellington College. For the second time in its long history, the school found itself in the midst of a global pandemic (the first being 102 years ago in 1918). With the country heading into Level 3 in March, the College was faced with a previously unheard of challenge: continue to run a functioning school with no students or staff on school grounds, social distancing requirements and all at very little notice. In classic Wellington College tradition, the students and staff rose to the occasion admirably, and had a fully-fledged online system for classes within 24 hours. Through the innovative use of Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, and a variety of other online resources, classes were able to stay in contact despite the lock-down requirements. A variety of groups beyond the classroom continued to meet regularly as well – from the Chorale and Barbershop Chorus, to sports teams, to the Student Council and Prefect Team.

This isn't to say, however, that there weren't many obstacles along the way. A number of students required assistance from the school for device access and technological issues, as well as issues with workload and learning support. Alongside this, the students all experienced the realities of isolation individually: facing anxieties, loneliness, stress, and the unknown. In the midst of an unprecedented event, it was difficult to stay motivated and optimistic about our academic studies, and to prioritise school work. There was an element of personal challenge for me too, as I was only just beginning to find my feet as a leader within the school. I found myself in the difficult position of needing to develop my leadership skills without ever seeing the people I was leading, but after processing what lockdown meant for me personally, I tried to make the best of the situation: setting challenges on social media every few days to help bring the school together, running a virtual choir project for the ANZAC Assembly, and chairing Student Council and Prefect meetings. A whakataukī I often used during lockdown summarised the attitude I hoped the students could maintain:

I tēnei wā mokemoke, kia waiho i te toipoto, kua i te toiroa!
In this time of loneliness, may we stay close together, not far apart.

The return to school was an unusual experience itself. After a ceremony to reopen the College, we attempted to return to normality. This was hindered by the fact that everyone had faced different personal challenges, expectations, workloads, and emotions. Students had responded differently to Lockdown, and to the risk of Covid being present. The Y9 students had it particularly tough. They had spent as much time in Lockdown as they had at school. There was also an initial air of disappointment pervading the College too. There would be no 1st XV tour to Argentina. There would be no Big Sing or Barbershop Nationals. The School Ball was likely to be cancelled. But as the cases slowly dwindled and school life began to return to normal, the energy of the school began to rebuild, and an attitude of making the most of the rest of the year developed. Due to fantastic work on behalf of the staff and students, events such as the Ball and the Musical could occur despite the short time frame. Although there have been many setbacks this year, Wellington College can reflect on Lockdown with a feeling of achievement and resilience, and be proud of our response.

PS: Next year I will be attending Canterbury University to study Law, Physics, and Māori. Beyond that, I hope to complete postgraduate study overseas (if that is possible!). In the long term, I hope to pursue a career that enables me to develop my passion for leadership, collaboration and interacting with people.

SCHOOL REPORT

2020 MAKES IT A SIXPEAT - GOING FOR THE RECORD IN 2021

Wellington College won the McEvedy Shield for a record sixth consecutive year, matching the feat of St Patrick's College (Silverstream) between 1968 and 1973.

Wellington defeated St Patrick's College (Town) by 223 - 178 with Silverstream in third place on 95 points and a much-improved Rongotai College on 62 points.



The telling difference was Wellington's sweep of the 800 metres. Wellington finished first and second in each of the four races gaining a maximum of 28 points in comparison to Town's five. Wellington won half of the 56 total events with 17 victories alone on the track, one more success than Town's entire tally of wins.

Curiously not a single Wellington College athlete broke a meet record, but consistency across the board was the order of the day with all the 800m victors multiple winners and Stanley Solomon winning three events and helping his school gain 18 points.



SHAKESPEARE BEHIND THE WHEEL: WELLINGTON COLLEGE STUDENTS 'GET DEEP IN THE MACCA'S (MCDONALD'S) CARPARK

Young New Zealanders will know there's nowhere better for a heart-to-heart than the McDonald's drive-through.

When Covid-19 shook up the format of the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival, three Y13 Wellington College students used the opportunity to get off the stage and onto location.

Logan Forsyth, Joshua Kemp Whimp, and George Parker decided to film a scene from Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Part 1*, in a car. The boys were old hands at the competition, having entered every year for the past five years.

The competition was usually done in person, with students performing a scene on a stage. This year, due to Covid-19 bans on gatherings, all

submissions were to be made in the video form. The camera had to be static, but the rules didn't specify it was to be set on-stage. The students threw out their existing scenes, and used the opportunity to stand out.

Set about 450 years before the first McDonald's restaurant even opened, *Henry IV, Part 1, act one, scene two* is a conversation between the soon-to-be King, Henry, played by Josh, and his friend Sir John Falstaff, a charismatic thief, played by Logan.

George, as director, had wanted to juxtapose the dramatic dialogue with a casual situation. *Getting deep in the Macca's car park*, Josh joked.

Wellington College is usually known for its sporting achievements, but the three Y13 winners have been entering

religiously for the past five years. But first, they discovered none of them were actually licensed to drive passengers, and therefore George's vision of driving casually through the drive-through on camera was out the window. They opted for a static car, with George's hand making an appearance as the drive-through assistant.

For their efforts, the students were awarded the prize for outstanding delivery of the text, and the two actors who showed the strongest and most truthful connection between them.

Next school holidays, the students would attend nine days of workshops, tutoring and rehearsals in Dunedin, with (Covid permitting) the ultimate end prize of travelling to London's Globe Theatre.



Senior Sportsman of the Year
Max Abbot
Athletics



Senior Arts Person of the Year
Roshi Sneyd
Music



Our 1st XI Cricket team had a fantastic result in Christchurch on Labour Day, with them defeating cricketing powerhouse, Christchurch Boys' High School by six wickets. The team also played the Willows with another successful outcome, amassing an impressive 261 for 9 from 40 overs.

In reply, the Willows tail failed to provide the necessary support, with the team falling well short, being all out for 204.



The 1st XI cricketers have won the Bruce Murray Cup and have qualified for the Gillette Cup national finals as a result of their comprehensive victory over St Patrick's (Silverstream). Congratulations to Wellington College's 2020 Team of the Year and their coach and their many supporters.



THE WORST YEAR TO FUND-RAISE FOR THE RUNATHON. YIELDS THE LARGEST-EVER AMOUNT COLLECTED

The 2020 Runathon took place in mid-March. It was an amazing event with many fun activities in the lead up including Staff vs Student Football and Basketball games, Netball games at the girls' schools, and a Y9 dance. The weekend made for a very memorable event and it was amazing for the Super Six and Team Leaders who had worked hard to make the event happen see the fruits of their labour.

With a restriction of gatherings to a maximum of 500 announced on the Monday following Runathon and a nationwide lockdown announced a week later, the team felt extremely fortunate to have been able to go ahead with the event. Quarantine saw challenges arise with gathering donations and demanded some creativity with keeping the Runathon and World Vision relevant in lockdown and when we came back to school.

Luckily we were able to continue with fundraising when we returned to school in mid-May. We persevered



throughout the remainder of the school year and in the final assembly of the year, we were able to announce that we had broken the record, despite the circumstances, to raise \$101,394.82 for World Vision.

This will go a long way to support the children in Chi Krong with their

learning while schools remain closed due to the virus. This was an amazing way to cap off twelve months of continued effort to ensure the Runathon could be as successful as possible.

KEN RAYNOR. SUPER 6 TEAM MEMBER



The background features several diagonal strips of yellow caution tape with black dashed borders and the word 'LOCKDOWN' printed in black capital letters. The background is a light blue color with faint silhouettes of buildings.

LOCKDOWN LETTERS

As we and the world adjusted to a new way of life in 2020, it was important to keep in touch with our Old Boy community and thus we emailed out two newsletters; in April and July, to keep engaged with our community. At the forefront was extending our thoughts and best wishes to those, whether be themselves, family members and friends around the world suffering from the effects of Covid19 as well as those with other on-going ill-health issues.

We also thought of those Old Boys who were and continue to suffer through changes to their businesses, employment status, and the fallout from Covid 19 that has affected personal and financial circumstances as well as their physical and emotional health.

On a positive note – a big shout out went to those Old Boys, as essential workers who work in healthcare, fire and police protection, council services, media and communications, utility services, serving and providing food and other essential goods, transportation to name a few – to ensure we were and continue to remain secure.

This year's Lampstand shares stories from Old Boys around the world and the adjustments they have had to make and in situations beyond their control. While Covid issues are not meant to be regarded as a trivial matter, we appreciate those who responded to our request by sharing positivity.

A Letter from the TVNZ Newsroom Chris Chang, Class of 2000

The COVID-19 crisis is obviously the story of 2020, and while New Zealand went into lockdown, it was important that news coverage continued. Media workers were considered 'essential', which enabled us to continue reporting from locations and in-studio. At TVNZ, we split into two teams (Red and Blue), and didn't cross paths during the course of lockdown - just in case one of the teams was affected.



Many presumed sports coverage would be impossible - of course, most professional and grass-roots competitions were halted. But sports people are no different to others; livelihoods are still affected, Olympians were thrown off-course, organisations were suddenly facing a battle to survive. They still had stories to tell.

Obviously, there were more Zoom interviews than we would normally do, and physical interviews were done at a distance with protocols in place (wiping down microphones, not interviewing people in their homes etc). The country also came to the party and provided some amazing videos for our 'Home Sport' segment, which featured ingenious and hilarious sports efforts from people's backyards. Overall, we had to just get a little more creative with our coverage, and focus on what is really important - how people are being affected by this event.

Letter from the Cake Tin James Blackwell, Class of 2012/13

It was just two weeks prior to Lockdown that the Hurricanes had flown to South Africa and upon reflection, who knows if I will get to play there again with so many travel restrictions in place. The entire Super Rugby Competition was severely affected and having to quarantine upon return, even from Australia makes for a difficult competition design. My passport is certainly a little empty this year.



The alternative Super Rugby Aotearoa has been really positive, so I think there is a good chance this smaller competition will be in place for the foreseeable future - I know fans have welcomed getting back into stadiums to support their local team.

Once we hit lockdown, each member of the Hurricanes was issued a training schedule to carry out which took up most mornings. Then with the weather being so nice, I was able to paint the roof on our house. I tried a few other things like learning to juggle and doing yoga but they haven't stayed in my routine after lockdown. We weren't able to have our team gym equipment distributed in Level 4 so I had a makeshift gym set up in the garage. I quite enjoyed the change up from our normal heavy weights training and having to get creative. My teammate, Fletcher Smith who lived with us at the time, went home to Christchurch for lockdown so training was very much a one-man workout.

Once we moved to Level 3, then to Level 2, I recall playing at Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin. It was such an eerie feeling playing in a stadium without a crowd - having live supporters is a big motivator and absolutely adds to the spectacle.

Now with the Mitre 10 Cup, and playing with the Lions (James was captain for his 50th match with the Lions), and it's been great to play alongside so many of my Wellington College team mates and fellow Old Boys - it certainly gives us a deeper connection.

I'm certainly looking forward to the 2021 season - it will be good to have a break between seasons, but I will continue to remain focussed on my fitness and hope that both the Hurricanes and Lions deliver for their fans.

Letter from the 1841 Publican Jono Cox, Class Of 2000

Like many small businesses in New Zealand, those in the Hospitality industry have been hammered during the lockdown period and



the subsequent level changes as COVID-19 evolves. But with any business, you have to take the bad with the good.

One thing is for sure, the lockdown got people communicating again in a face-to-face manner, such as walking down the street and acknowledging a neighbour during those tedious times. With so many reasons for people to stay at home and socialise, Hospitality businesses must now work harder than ever to draw customers out of the comfort of their homes and give them good reasons for doing so. Valuing customers' patronage must be of high importance - there are always alternatives. A simple 'thanks for your support, see you again' may be all it takes to encourage a return visit.

Events such as the GFC and the 2016 earthquakes were learning curves for my other establishment, *The Waterloo Hotel*, which in turn will help *1841* navigate through these tough times ahead. We cannot simply take for granted the growth of the Community, to ensure continued business success. We must continue to invest in, and train our team to ensure they are doing their job in a respectful and professional manner. Getting the team invested in the brand and doing their job passionately will help create loyalty, trust and return trade of customers we are so reliant upon.

1841 Restaurant and Bar, Johnsonville
• www.1841.co.nz/ and also a sponsor of the College's 150th Celebrations

Letter from Melbourne Peter Osvath, Class Of 1970

We felt pretty smug in Melbourne at the beginning of June - weeks where the number of new cases were measured in the teens and lower.



And then, as unexpectedly as the first wave had hit, the second was upon us. A tsunami, with figures hurtling up to 700... Total lockdown was the solution.

One hour a day out of the house,

shopping for essentials once a day (one person only), 8.00 pm curfew, 5km radius for essential travel. This was no practice run, this was the 'Full Monty'. And masks, everyone in masks. The streets were hauntingly empty. Living in a normally bustling inner suburb, I was struck by the surreal sight of streets completely devoid of humanity.

I'd been retired for a while, but still holding on to my Honorary Fellowship at CSIRO. Suddenly I couldn't travel out to 'work' and it seemed an appropriate signal that I should put the final full-stop on my career as a research scientist. No farewells, no last day. It ended with a whimper not a bang.

My wife Evelyn was now working full-time from home (as was everyone who could), and my daughter Gabby, in Y8, was doing her studies remotely as the schools were all closed. The 'new normal' was high speed internet, multiple screens, and everyone suddenly an expert on Zoom, MS Teams and WhatsApp, propelled by necessity into the 21st century. At the other end of the spectrum, was the banality of toilet paper suddenly becoming a precious commodity, as panic buying emptied stores!

In the first wave, we discussed postponements, and then it became apparent that cancellations were the new norm. As avid supporters of live theatre, suddenly all the wonderful shows we had lined up became sad ticket refunds. My much anticipated trip to Tokyo to enjoy the Olympics was no more. The final blow for any semblance of a normal end to 2020 was the cancellation of my planned trip to Europe in October to compete in the World Fencing Championships (as an ageing veteran). Fencing has been a 50-year passion started at Wellington College under Ray Michael in 1969.

Lockdown seemed endless, days turned to weeks as the numbers edged painfully slowly downwards. We slowly got used to the new order of things, and cherished every minor easing of restrictions. One hour outside

became two, the curfew was raised to 9.00pm and finally lifted (even though there was nowhere to go).

Positively minded people seek the good in every challenge. There has been some good that grew out of the experience. Spending all day every day with family (admittedly minus my 29-year-old son Daniel, who lived outside the 5km radius) has been front and centre.

Sharing simple but special experiences that otherwise would never have happened with a teenage daughter were a highlight. She and I shared weekly Zoom cooking classes, I got to hear her violin and singing lessons (which would normally have happened at school). Our aimless rambling walks around neighbourhood streets as a family brought us even closer together.

The rhythm of life took on a more meandering and relaxed character, reminiscent of my early childhood. We cherished walks with friends (only one friend allowed at a time and only one daily walk) inevitably with a dog in tow. Out of all this grew a heightened sense of 'neighbourhood', as people said *hello* and acknowledged strangers on these walks, in a way nobody has done since the fifties.

An improbable alliance of school dads was formed. Normally, we would have only met only once or twice a year, with a brief hello at a school function punctuating our busy lives. And now every fortnight, we gathered on Zoom for a couple of hours of wine, beer and wide ranging discussions. We learnt so much about each other, in ways that even in these enlightened times, men do far less well than women. One of our cohort had actually been through the experience of having COVID, while another worked for a pharma company developing one of the key drugs in the fight to restrain this terrible scourge. We had hilarious discussions about US politics (there were US dads in the group), discovered that one dad had a passion for pinball machines (not only owning them, but competing

in a weekly live pinball league), and we shared in real time the personal stress and grief of businesses buckling under COVID.

And finally, we are out the other side. It's Saturday morning and the streets are once again bustling as the shops reopen and people take advantage of a fine spring day. Admittedly, everyone is still wearing masks, but that seems almost normal. The streets feel crowded, but it's a good feeling. I didn't realise just how much I'd missed the mere passage of the stream of humanity on the footpath.

What I'm hoping for, is that as the memories of the hard times fade, we manage to hang onto the aspects of lockdown that have enriched our lives. They all revolve around people, community, and a heightened awareness of our surroundings.

Take care, stay safe, and cherish every moment of your life.

A Letter from NZ Rugby HQ Chris Lendrum, Class of 1998

I have worked in rugby for many years now and always remember that it is a privilege to do my job, one that many New Zealanders would love to enjoy.



2020 has been a most challenging year for all involved in the professional game – players, management, referees, administrators and directors, but the privilege of serving New Zealand's national game does not diminish.

Like many other industries, rugby has suffered significant disruption due to the onset of COVID-19. My thoughts go out to the numerous Old Boys whose employment and families have been disrupted this year, those who have suffered loved ones fall ill, as well as those who have worked on the front lines in essential services.

Rugby in New Zealand is not an essential service – but at NZ Rugby we are proud to have responded

to COVID in new ways that have hopefully brought some enjoyment back into the lives of New Zealanders during the year. Restarting community rugby (including a new U85kg national club knock-out competition), running our first domestic Super Rugby Aotearoa competition, reinstating the North Island v South Island fixture, running full Mitre 10 and Farah Palmer Cups, and creating a programme for the All Blacks and Black Ferns, are all proud achievements for our staff and many volunteers and administrators throughout the country.

A huge amount of effort has gone into these projects, with planning seeming to fluctuate on a daily or weekly basis dependent on the Prime Ministerial 1.00pm briefings and changes to COVID alert levels. Resilience and mental fortitude have certainly been challenged and, like many New Zealanders, we have learned a lot about how to safeguard the health of our players, fans and staff! We have been fortunate to have the support of Government throughout, and grateful for the advice of health authorities, which has guided us through some significant moments for rugby, and New Zealand.

Club rugby was affected across the country, but our participation team at NZ Rugby did a fantastic job alongside the Provincial Unions and rugby clubs to put health protocols in place to safely train, prepare and then play in 2020. It was a true team effort and epitomised what we call *The Rugby Way*.

In June, we welcomed crowds back to our stadiums for Super Rugby Aotearoa in what was, at the time, a world first and made headlines across the globe. On a personal note, the significance of hosting mass gatherings while most of the world remained in lockdown, was summed up when I appeared on BBC television immediately after the Dalai Lama!

The moment was summed up well by our Chief Executive Mark Robinson at the time: *It is a testament to all New Zealanders that we are in a*

position to lift restrictions on mass gatherings and it's a massive boost for Investec Super Rugby Aotearoa, he said. We're incredibly proud, and grateful, to be the first professional sports competition in the world to be in a position to have our teams play in front of their fans again. It's going to be a very special and unique competition and it's fitting that New Zealanders now have a chance to be part of it.

The lessons learned during Super Rugby Aotearoa stood us in good stead for hosting crowds at the two Bledisloe Cup Tests in Wellington and Auckland. It is fair to say the sight of 46,000 fans at Eden Park was a source of pride for all of us at New Zealand Rugby and, clearly a timely boost to the country's economy.

COVID has reshaped our game. Many rugby people have lost their jobs, revenues are significantly impacted for the game as our economy contracts, and as a result there is a significant task ahead of us to reimagine what the future of rugby looks like. Professional rugby may have changed irreversibly – competitions and wage structures for professional players included. The logistics of arranging international competitions may be altered for some time as we continue to grapple with the uncertainty that COVID brings. However, it has also given us an opportunity we otherwise wouldn't have had, to look at how the game is run in this part of the world and put our own mark on it.

A Letter from England Derek Golding, Class Of 1964

Much water seems to have passed under the bridge since my most recent visit to New Zealand from England last December. It was so good to be able to drop in to see you, the completed assembly hall and meet the new Headmaster by chance as I was passing on my way from the airport, having flown down to Nelson on the Thursday to visit my UK seafood company's NZ supplier, and



returned the Friday before Christmas to head back to Hawke's Bay.

I returned home early January to drag myself through the rest of another English winter, cheered by continuing reports of good snowfall in the French Alps with a family skiing trip planned during the Easter school holidays. It must have been in February here that nervousness and paranoia over reports of a new corona virus strain began to gain some traction and the possible measures which would need to be taken to deal with it.

I was in London late February and totally unconcerned for a couple of days at our Billingsgate Market operation, travelling on main line and tube trains with no masks or distancing required, with my four granddaughters in Bath mid-March, which was packed with unconcerned shoppers and diners in restaurants and no local Covid outbreak as a result. However, by 23 March, all restaurants, pubs and hospitality venues had to close and we had a national lockdown imposed although food and essential shops remained open and people could use them. Planes stopped flying, cruise ships stopped sailing. It was a nightmare to contemplate. That was 70% or so of our business gone at a stroke, so we had to implement draconian measures.

Late March and all of April were appalling but things started to look up in May. I was able to move around in the food business, so did that, saw my family, hugged my granddaughters regularly despite being fed the line that the over 70's were all high risk. All the French ski resorts were closed by Macron decree and people were given 24 hours to leave, so our intended drive down was aborted. Our schools were closed for months on end. Billingsgate Market has operated throughout, mask wearing optional and physical distancing almost impossible. Not a single case of Covid has been identified as having been contracted there, not on the Market floor, not in any offices. I am with Sweden in its attitude.

The fact remains here that hundreds of thousands of premature deaths will occur because so many people have been denied planned and essential treatments for existing conditions and examinations for new and potentially life-threatening conditions. I have read the officially stated figures. It is currently calculated that there will be nine such deaths for every one of Covid. It has long since started.

I haven't really got started but I have to keep politics out of this. Let me say then that our political leaders are the wisest and most intellectually gifted of all in our society, for the most part at least until it comes to listening to the mad forecasting of pseudo-scientists, one of whose number here some years ago was predicating the deaths in the hundreds of thousands from CJD during the mad cow disease panic, and he is still being regarded as an oracle in some quarters. For my part, I would love to be able to see Dr. Strangelove reincarnated and Peter Sellers wheeling himself maniacally onto centre stage at one of these pseudo-science performances to the TV cameras, and giving us his take on it and ideas for survival.

On a brighter note, what the British Civil Service has done behind the scenes and below the radar to prepare for final withdrawal from the EU is quite remarkable in its vast range, complexity and minutiae. I do feel great sympathy for Boris Johnson. I left for NZ on a high two days after his stunning Election result, having pretty much got over the RWC Final, only for the poor chap to be overwhelmed by Covid, with the newspapers with his obituaries written and ready to roll.

A Letter from Clovis, California Douglas Yen, Class of 1941

This lousy virus reminded me of my first year 1937 at Wellington College, and the polio scare that interrupted the beginning of Term One. At 96, I suppose I can be forgiven for forgetting the details of that time, somewhat comparable to the present lock-down.

A Letter from San Francisco David Roche, Class of 1963

San Francisco is a wonderful city in which to live. It has great restaurants, good music, and a great arts scene. It is also proximal to some really beautiful coastal scenery and not too far from the Sierra Nevada mountains.



Covid19 has put a solid damper on all of that. Fortunately, San Franciscans are better at following preventative measures than most (if not all) others areas of the USA. Most people wear masks when outside and honour the 6-foot social distance protocol when appropriate. Despite those precautions, the city's population of about 800,000 has suffered over 10,000 cases and almost 100 deaths.

Exacerbating everyone's COVID-19 experience are the wildfires up and down the West Coast of the States. San Francisco has been swamped with dense smoke since the fires were first started by 11,000 lightning strikes in coastal central California.

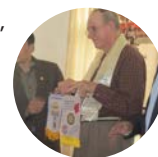
Initially we were able to pursue some outdoor, socially-distanced activities to get us through the COVID isolation, including short RV ventures to favourite spots up and down the coast, and tennis and bike-riding in the city. The smoke and fires stopped even that.

I miss eating out with friends in our homes and in restaurants. I miss the jazz and contemporary classical music performances. I miss haircuts. But what I miss most about COVID is being in New Zealand. It is clear that New Zealanders embraced the sense of community good and collective social responsibility that was so lacking here in the USA.

New Zealand also had leadership that gave clarity and gravitas to the need for taking necessary measures. The community followed, making the country the envy of nations all over the world. Treasure those aspects of New Zealand life. They have great value.

Letter from Carlsbad, California John McLevie, Class of 1947

It seems like 'Deja Vue' all over again.



In November 1947, the news came over the radio: *Owing to the Polio epidemic, High School Students are not to return to school tomorrow.* I have rarely met any of my fellow students in the 73 years since then. But one fellow student from the Upper Sixth Latin Class (only six students) has sent me Christmas cards and 'newsy' notes. Yes, your steadfast Archives volunteer, Ted Clayton, and I have exchanged cards for the last 73 years!

A major memory of my days at Wellington College is captured by a photo which I still proudly show my grandchildren; it is of the Choir which used to sing from the stage of the Memorial Hall. Education has been my career, starting as a teacher and coach of the Athletic Team at Rongotai College.

I graduated from Victoria University with a MA and Teacher Training, and then married a teacher from Wellington East Girls' College. Together for 65 years, we now live in a Retirement Community.

We sailed for England to find our Scottish, Welsh and English heritage. After a year in London, I took a teaching job in Singapore for four years, at a High School attended by children of military personnel. We then moved to Hong Kong, where I taught at the University for six years.

After ten years in these British-Asian environments and the birth of three daughters, we decided that the area was becoming unstable with bombs in paper bags placed in the streets as communist sympathisers sought to drive the British out of Hong Kong.

So I applied to Michigan State University and was accepted into their doctoral program in Education. My wife took her doctorate in English/American Comparative Literature and we decided to stay in the United States.

My career in US Universities started at San Diego State for 13 years. I ended up as chair of the Teacher Education Department before taking an administrative position at the University of Houston at Clear Lake, Texas. I returned to California for five years at the State Commission on Teacher Credentialing, followed by 2 years directing a doctoral program at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb.

My wife and I are enjoying retirement in the warm climate of San Diego and live at La Costa Glen – you can find it on the internet! We don't travel in these difficult times as really long trips are strenuous now. We enjoy our seven grandchildren, one of whom has just completed a Doctorate in Law at the University of Chicago. As you can see, Wellington College made a wonderful starting place for a life in Education. That is why I read my *Lampstand* so thoroughly!

Letter from Adelaide, SA John Rixon, Class of 1957

The advent of COVID-19 has impacted our family life and taking into account medical advice, I have elected to self-isolate while still driving on a limited basis. My wife, being an outstanding cook, has taken charge of my care, producing a wide variety of top quality meals and working hard to keep both house and garden maintained.



Since attending my 5A '40 Years On' Reunion in September 1995, Yve and I have elected to remain in Adelaide living in the eastern foothills adjacent to a major agricultural university campus.

Retiring some ten years ago, age and health issues have demanded my sporting activities to progress from golf to lawn bowls and now to contract bridge while my wife has withdrawn from an active role as chief Instructor in dog obedience to enjoying a walk in the park with a most challenging cocker spaniel. We both retain our love of Rugby Union, red wine and good food. The Brumbies are our home club

since they first joined the Super Rugby competition and we are well served with live TV coverage of the game all around the world.

I am now a passionate Contract Bridge player and although not physically back in a club situation, I am one of more than 10,000 players who, at any one time, are locked in competition on Bridge Base Online. While it is located in the US, it attracts players from all nations.

Letter From Kuala Lumpur Mike Milne, Class Of 1972

I was extremely lucky to have had a prebooked flight to Kuala Lumpur from Phuket landing 36 hours before Malaysia's stringent lockdown. Though married to a Malaysian, I would have been refused entry until mid 2021 according to our Movement Control Order with nothing more than an overnight bag.



After three months barred from leaving our apartment, I gained six kilos of *hey my pants shrunk* syndrome. Terrified of contracting COVID19, I have remained in Malaysia.

I am based in Canada so health insurance, prescriptions, banking and even phone bills are all detached from me here in Malaysia. You are so lucky Stephanie, living where you are, what with so many wonderful local beaches so close at hand. Even in the midst of winter winds Lyall Bay can be breathtakingly beautiful.

Here in Kuala Lumpur, I am blessed to live on the edge of a mountain jungle, so I can retreat to the cool and quiet of nature, unlike most locals who must fight noise, rat infestations and pollution every day. Yes it's a balmy 34°C almost always which sure beats the ice storms of Canada but a little variation has rewards too. Oh, and sun at the equator is more an enemy than a friend, ready to fry the unwary at a heartbeat.

Letter From Harpenden, England Miles Golding, Class of 1967 *Living with Myeloma and the threat of Covid-19*

Little did I know on my visit to Wellington College in March 2019, how much my life would change over the next few months. I returned home to a satisfying balance of violin-playing engagements, a little private violin and music theory teaching, and some determined practice in the Solent in my new single-hander RS Aero dinghy.



Towards the end of August, some abdominal discomfort that I had ascribed to capsized-related injury was increasing; by the middle of October, after an MRI scan and many blood and urine tests, and a bone marrow biopsy, I was diagnosed with Myeloma, and I began a five-month course of chemotherapy in preparation for stem cell transplant at University College London Hospital.

All was going well by mid-March, when the chemo stopped for 'washout' month. However, shielding at home, along with the family, had already begun – I was, and still am, classed as Extremely Vulnerable due to my chemo-induced immunocompromised condition. Home deliveries, movement restricted to house and garden, and unable to have close contact with our eldest son, his partner and, most frustratingly, our now 20-month-old granddaughter. I was eagerly looking forward to stem cell harvesting mid-April.

Then came the UK Covid-19 lockdown on 23 March. All harvesting and transplants were postponed for three months minimum because of the infection risk and redeployment of hospital staff, and I was put on a holding course of chemo. Now I must count myself lucky amongst sufferers from cancer and other life-threatening diseases whose treatment, in some cases time-critical, has been compromised: the Myeloma team at UCLH began to catch up with the backlog, my stem

cells were harvested mid-August and frozen; a little later I agreed to the transplant on 2 September, having been warned satisfyingly bluntly by my doctor that if I caught CV I would die. I was discharged on the 18th, and am on the long slow road to recovery.

The effect of the Covid-19 social disruption on my life has been amplified by the effects of Myeloma. Spinal compression fractures restrict my movement and stamina, so sustained violin-playing has been impossible since September 2019.

CV notwithstanding, I had to ditch and decline many engagements; unlike many of my younger professional musician colleagues whose livelihoods have been severely damaged I was winding down my playing career, so can somewhat withstand the financial hit.

Life is busy though. A keen Bridge player, I have been playing much online using very sophisticated software. I still enjoy DIY around the home and garden, but, frustratingly, this is restricted to fairly light jobs. However I do have carpentry projects underway: rewind to Wellington College in 1963 and Mr Brunning's woodwork class, where we all had to make a pencil case – mine must have been the smallest ever as I obsessively planed components to get them true and square; but the seed was sown, and in the 1970s, I became more adept at using basic tools, making basic joints and incorporating these in simple projects at an Adult Education Class run by Camden Council, and am now expanding my arsenal of tools and equipment.

Having appreciated the significant mental and physical benefits afforded by an exercise bike in the Ambulatory Care Unit at UCLH, I have acquired a decent bike on which I can escape home isolation yet preserve essential social distancing; it is perfect physiotherapy – my arms support my spine as my somewhat wasted lower body muscles regenerate; and I get to join my granddaughter Faye on the family bike rides! Here's hoping a

return to sailing in April, 2021.

NBC's *Global Hangout* got wind of my delayed treatment and interviewed me with others in a similar situation; I made the point about being socially responsible to protect NHS resources – now they are under increasing pressure as the Second Wave sweeps across the UK. www.facebook.com/NBCNews/

Letter from New York Rick King, Class of 1964 and the USA's oldest working anaesthetist (so he believes).

On 16 March, I showed up for work still not fully cognisant of the #storm about to envelop us. The virus was starting to spread and all manner of public gathering was coming to an end.



This day was my realisation that this was something really nasty and something we hadn't even envisaged a couple of weeks before. All elective surgery was cancelled and the hospital converted into an emergency centre to treat the tsunami of sick patients that were about to engulf us.

I returned to the hospital the next day to see what my role as an emergency provider would be. I quickly had a rude awakening as I was told the biggest risk factor for contracting the virus was advancing age. And since I was at 74, the oldest in our department, they couldn't use me as was my immune system which at 74, had to be suspect. I said, *hang on, if you talking about me, you're not dealing with a normal immune system.*

Back in my teenage years, I spent hundreds of hours inhaling parasites – bacteria, viruses' and fungi and all manner of other nasty pathogens, while sitting on the back of a harvester or shovelling shit in shearing sheds, cattle yards and horse barns. All this, a result of the slave labour inflicted on my brothers and me by our father in the

Wairarapa. Thanks to this exposure, my immune system has been finely honed and impervious to anything that could afflict me. No days off work for 32 years.

One of my colleagues said, *What about your brother in New Orleans (Andy, Class of 1965). Obviously he was also exposed to all those pathogens. And he caught the Coronavirus.* Well that's true, but Andy unfortunately ran into a perfect storm. On 29 February, the day of his daughter's wedding, many of the guests had just come off a two-week bender celebrating Mardi Gras. It's no surprise that New Orleans is the second biggest epicentre for the virus in the US.

Back at the hospital for the last time, was an eerie experience. In the streets, few people, dwindling traffic, stores and restaurants closing and masks everywhere. For a brief moment, I had flashbacks to 9/11 but quickly realised, this was completely different.

After 9/11, the hospitals and morgues weren't overwhelmed because down at the Twin Towers everyone was dead and their bodies crushed into dust. Within three days, we were back at work and life from our point of view, quickly normalised. Today, this is a totally different experience.

My wife and I have subsequently taken refuge in our country house in the Hudson Valley about 90 miles north of NYC and here we reside with minimal human contact. We do have a supermarket nearby so most of our essential needs are taken care of except, like everywhere else, our toilet paper supply is starting to dwindle.

For entertainment, thank god for *You Tube*. Watching old All-Black/Boks games but only the ones that we won. Also clips from the golden age of middleweight boxing in the 80s and then the Mexicans in the late 90s into 2000s, followed by picking out an episode from my large collection of *Country Calendar* DVDs. This must be one of the greatest TV programmes ever anywhere and it was produced

by my old classmate Martin Didsbury.

Rick has subsequently added a postscript... Since I posted that missive, I have gone back to work and things in that respect are gradually returning to normal – I am back and forth between Hudson Valley and NYC. This on and off situation will continue until I am able to sell my New York apartment. I think I may be heading for inclusion in the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest practising anaesthetist in the USA.

Letter from Melbourne Thomas Bramley, Class of 2018

After I left Wellington College in 2017, and took a gap year working at a prep school near Birmingham in the UK. I was initially interested in pursuing a tertiary education that was focused more on just graduating with a degree. I didn't want to just be another number. ICMS was my best option available with their guaranteed industry placement as part of the degree, yet still completing in three years with the trimesters they offer.



I began studying a Bachelor of Business Management majoring in marketing and new media at ICMS at the beginning of 2019 after receiving the Wellington College Darryl Courtney O'Connor (Class of 1966) Scholarship. I chose to this area of study as I was interested in pursuing a career in digital marketing after having had some experience in this field while growing up.

I completed my first three trimesters and hence my year living on campus in 2019. Through Chris Langdon having a previous involvement with the board at ICMS, I managed to secure an industry placement with Langdon Ingredients based in Melbourne, Victoria.

Langdon Ingredients was founded in 1852 by Henry Joseph Langdon and it is still privately held in the family with the current CEO being Chris Langdon. They operate in the food supply chain

industry sourcing quality ingredients from all over the world and with head offices in London, Singapore, Auckland, South Africa and Bangkok to name a few.

My role within Langdon's was a modified version of their graduate program where I was set to be moving around eight different departments including, Customer Service, Planning, Manufacturing, Warehousing, Quality Assurance, Procurement, Product Development and Sales for varying lengths of time, ranging between one to five weeks.

I began my placement on 16 March this year, working in the Customer Service department for two weeks before lockdown forced everyone to work from home. I had my program restructured to be working in the Manufacturing and Warehousing teams who continued to come into work as they were considered essential services where you could not work from home.

My role varied day-to-day but largely consisted of assisting in many different departments within the manufacturing team from, creating bases, to mixing 1-tonne bulk bags to operating sachet lines or other large-scale blending equipment. Our shifts began at 4.00am and ended at midday, five days a week.

Some of the key learnings I took out of my placement with Langdon Ingredients was to do with the sheer scales of economy that the likes of supermarkets operate on and just how much I have taken that concept and hard work for granted most of my life, having grown up not thinking about it. Moreover, this year, along with my placement, has taught me to be extremely adaptable. In a time of such drastic change where no amount of planning or forecasting could have allowed operations of any type to continue as normal, it has forced companies and people to adapt. Langdon's faced issues with supply chain and stricter border restrictions slowing the process down between countries, which isn't ideal when dealing in perishable goods such

as food. On the customer end, with hospitality and smaller food venues (cafes, bakeries etc) being closed or operating at a heavily reduced rate, the demand for products had reduced impacting other areas of the business. It was fascinating to see first-hand how a business which has been around for more than 165 years adapt to the world around them. I was forced to do so on a smaller scale otherwise I would've had to go back to New Zealand.

With restrictions continuing here in Victoria, I continued this role for three months before being informed they would be unable to continue to offer my graduate program at this time, but for me to stay in touch and potentially return for the full program upon completing my degree. I managed to find myself another role through a connection at my rugby club working in a customer care role for Wilson Parking. Plans for the future are to stay here in Melbourne until my lease concludes in February. I am currently looking to ascertain a summer internship before returning to Sydney (COVID permitting) at the start of 2021.

During this period, I have had time to think and, especially through the Industry assessments, had the ability to actively reflect on what is important to me. I feel as if I have learnt so many valuable lessons and grown immensely both professionally and personally. Through this time of learning I have changed my major area of study from marketing to accounting. I have also been able to continue studying by correspondence over the last trimester and hence am still on track to graduate at the end of 2021.

All in all, I decided to come to ICMS because of their network of industry partners and the opportunity to 'get my foot in the door' of a corporate environment so that upon graduating, I had more than just a piece of paper. I wanted to have the basic skills, experience network to build into my first step for my career. To have experienced the real world before graduating with a degree. I feel that I

LOCKDOWN LETTERS

have been incredibly fortunate for the opportunity I have had with Langdon Ingredients and while it didn't turn out the way it was originally anticipated, I have still learnt plenty of valuable knowledge and skills that will set me in good stead for the future as a person and in pursuit of a successful career.

Letter from Mackay, Queensland Tony Allsop, Class of 1957

My wife Denyse and I live in Mackay, Queensland and although we were in lockdown for some time, we now have a lot of restrictions lifted. We still have to keep a distance of 1.5 metres apart, plus the same distancing if dining out, or at functions. We cannot stand up at the bar in clubs and pubs, dinner has to be served to us, rather than use a communal area. Numbers of people in a group is still restricted.



Our Queensland borders are closed to other states, so people from NSW, Victoria and other areas cannot enter unless they have a special permit.

Today we have had no new cases of coronavirus in Queensland, so we are much better off than NSW or Victoria. However, my granddaughter, who works for a medical surgery in Tokoroa, New Zealand have had four cases reported at her surgery, and she has to work from home. She has been tested twice, and fortunately, has had negative testing, but she, her husband and their children have been confined to their house, and at time of writing, are still there. We keep in touch through Messenger.

Letter From Santiago Del Estero, Argentina Herbert Renner, Class Of 1970

Here in Santiago del Ester, we still struggle with the virus but mainly in the Buenos Aires area. My brothers-in-law, Oscar and Luis Aguero - both Old Boys - live within a few kilometres of each other.

We have virtually no cases in our

province, but you need special permits to go into other provinces. Some are even totally closed. My niece came back from Cordoba (400 km to the south) and she is required to do a 14-day strict quarantine here.

If you add the financial mess the country is in, you can imagine that it is not easy now and the future not very promising. I'm in frequent touch with my brother in Wellington and a school friend as well, so I'm pretty up-to-date on the situation over there.

With fond regards and happy memories. It's a pleasure to be in touch with my old school.

Letter from Melbourne Bob Cooper, Class of 1962

I was part of that fantastic fifty-year gathering in 2012, during the course of which I proposed the toast to 'Absent Friends'.



I moved with my family to Melbourne in 1987, and for the past twenty-one years have worked as a full time Funeral Celebrant, leading and conducting funerals all over greater Melbourne, in and at all types of venues.

The numbers of mourners attending those Funeral or Memorial Services would usually be between fifty to two hundred, but any other number in between or beyond.

Once the severe lock-down restrictions were brought in, and we're not out of them yet, no more than ten people were able to attend, with social distancing and face mask wearing compulsory.

Although Live Streaming and Web Casting are in use, it still means that some, and quite often many of the immediate family are unable to attend, causing understandable upset and frustration.

The photos show a service which I conducted this past Wednesday, clearly showing the small numbers

and the spacing. The incredibly good looking man at the lectern is - me!

While a valuable and meaningful service can be, and us conducted, that special occasion is sometimes not quite what loved ones would want.

Letter from New Caledonia Tom Webb, Class of 1957

I am truly blessed to be retired here in Rarotonga Cook Islands.

It has come about because I was seconded up here in 1966 by Lands and Survey to work in the Survey Office. My job was to produce the first topographical map of Rarotonga which I achieved.

It was here that I met my wife. She was a hula girl and I was putty in her hands. We returned to New Zealand in late 1968 and we both worked hard and brought up our family, all who have achieved in their own working lives.

We were both on the NZ Pension when she found our home on the internet. It had been repossessed by the bank from her niece. The land here is in the Maori land system so she had first rights as a member of the land owners (family).

It is a beautiful home and we were in the position where we could pay the bank off because of the mad prices being paid for homes on the North Shore Auckland. The rest of the family were fully supportive.

I now live in a Covid 19 free place and have an abundance of good food and a pleasant place to live and receive the NZ pension here.

Thank you to everyone who responded to my call for letters - I really appreciate the time you took to respond. SK

GIVING BACK

A Boost for the College's Arts Programme

Following the e-Newsletter we issued at the start of Lockdown to our Old Boy community, we received some lovely responses from many of our ex-pat Old Boys. For one Old Boy with a busy legal career in London, this was the catalyst to support current students in the Arts.



meet fascinating people around the world. I enjoy the opportunity dive short term into various areas you might otherwise never encounter if they hadn't come up in a case. I've been a temporary expert in the manufacture of trucks, the London luxury hotel

market, the Libyan civil war and many more besides.

Matthew Bunting (Prefect and Class of 1995) is a partner with US litigation firm Quinn Emanuel, based in London. His generosity will fund school productions and extra-curricular arts for the next five years.

I hope that the same brilliant opportunities afforded to me can be available to the current generation of students. I admire the school for its willingness to support and celebrate effort across a full range of endeavours. I hope this enriches experiences outside the classroom, says Matthew.

Matthew remembers Jan McLean's efforts with Shakespeare productions, *She was phenomenal.* Likewise Marg Aderne's support as a debating coach. *Most of my job involves communicating with variously hostile audiences. School debating was where I got comfortable with the sound of my voice in that sort of situation.*

Matthew did an LLB and a BA in political science and public administration. He joined Buddle Findlay in 2001 and Slaughter and May (London) in 2003. In 2008, he helped start the London office of Quinn Emanuel.

I've managed to work on cases all over the world, from a tiny courtroom in Mauritius to a two-month jury trial in Portland, Oregon. It's been an amazing way to see the world.

Working in this sort of law is a great way to earn a living. There's constant intellectual challenge. I

We have a proud tradition of hiring New Zealand lawyers. We recently corrected a major omission in our hiring when our first other Old Boy joined Quinn Emanuel.

Working in London has changed a lot as a result of the pandemic. I have been working from home since March. It turns out all I really need to do my job is a couple of laptops, a white wall behind me and some functioning wifi.

Matthew was able to spend the summer on a Croatian island doing video court hearings. He could wear a suit jacket, shirt and tie with his swim shorts.

Kirsty Hazeldine has been the Director of Arts at Wellington College for 18 Years. *The school often gets donations for Sports, but as far as know this is the first of this nature for Arts, she said.*

The donation enabled this year's production *Curtains* to proceed with confidence. There should have been two shows, each with a 400-person audience. Instead there were four shows for 100 per Level Two restrictions.

FOR THOSE WHO DIDN'T RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTERS OVER LOCKDOWN. HERE IS THE LINK. THE APRIL NEWSLETTER INCLUDES A LINK TO OUR VIRTUAL ANZAC SERVICE

**[www.wellington-college.school.nz/
community-whanau/coll-old-boys/
WCOBA](http://www.wellington-college.school.nz/community-whanau/coll-old-boys/WCOBA)**

A life-long love of Science benefits the College



Old Boy, Professor John Lewis (Class of 1954) has never returned to live in New Zealand since he left many, many years ago.

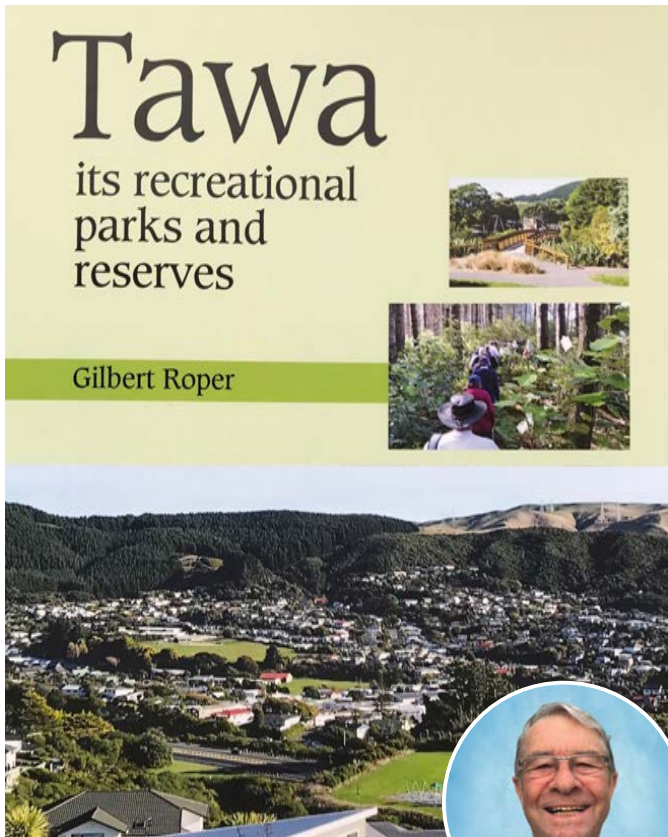
Building his career abroad, his memories of Wellington College remain. It was here that he developed his scholastic interests, especially Science. Also his love for rugby. John has recognised this with a generous gift. The Wellington College Foundation will manage his endowment supporting the sciences.

John achieved a Masters in Science (Hons) in Geology at Victoria University, where his thesis was on Mount Tauhara, Taupo. He then left for Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia). There he worked as a mineralogist in a copper mine. He married an English nurse and was accepted into Oxford University. John obtained a PhD in Geology with his thesis on the Soufriere Volcano in St Vincent.

John became a lecturer in Geology at Kingston University in Jamaica. Later he was a Professor at George Washington University in DC for 34 years. He lives there with his wife. They have two adult children.

Included in the endowment is recognition for John's two brothers. Robert (Bob) Lewis (Class of 1957) and Graham (Lou) Lewis (Class of 1969). Bob (now deceased) was a keen athlete and Graham a keen Hockey player. Graham has also contributed to what will be known as the Lewis Brothers Prize.

READING GIVES US SOMEPLACE TO GO WHEN WE HAVE TO STAY WHERE WE ARE. **Featuring books written by Old Boys**



- the origin of the names of the Tawa parks and reserves
- historical features of early settlement in Tawa Flat and the location of present-day streets

If people are interested in purchasing a copy of this book, you can buy a copy from the Tawa Library or else from Takenote, Main Road, Tawa for \$35.00 each. Alternatively, orders can be placed with Ken Woodgate, Secretary, Tawa Historical Society: ken.woodgate@xtra.co.nz

When placing an order, please provide details of the address to which the book is to be sent, and the intended method of payment to be made to the society. Ideally, payment can be made by direct credit into the society's bank account: BNZ Tawa 02-0552-0033337-00. If orders are to be sent by mail/courier, this will incur an extra few dollars cost.

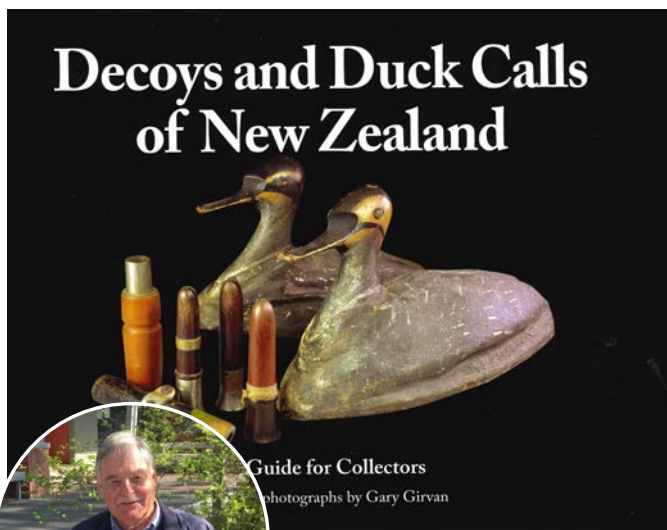
The book is published by the 'Tawa Historical Society' which is a non-profit organisation. It seeks to defray the cost of printing through the sales of the book.

Following the successful production of his popular book *Tawa, the tree, the community and its reserves* in 2017, Gilbert (Gil) Roper (Head Prefect, 1961) has recently published a sequel to this, entitled: *Tawa, its recreational parks and reserves*.

This book was launched in October, 2020 in the Tawa Library with about 70 guests in attendance. These included Greg O'Connor, the local Ohariu MP and Northern Ward Councillors Jill Day and Malcom Sparrow.

As a member of the 'Tawa Historical Society' and 'Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves', Gil combined his interests to produce this full colour-illustrated, 190-page, A4 size publication that features:

- a description of the 33 parks and reserves in Tawa
- aerial images and maps showing their location
- the walking tracks in the reserves
- the playground and recreational facilities available within the parks
- maps and images identifying the development of the parks and reserves
- descriptions of the history of the sports groups that use the parks
- iconic features and trees within the parks and reserves



This book combines two titles. Written by Gary Girvan (Wellington College Staff 1964-2000) and current Archives Volunteer, it is published separately as limited editions, signed and numbered.

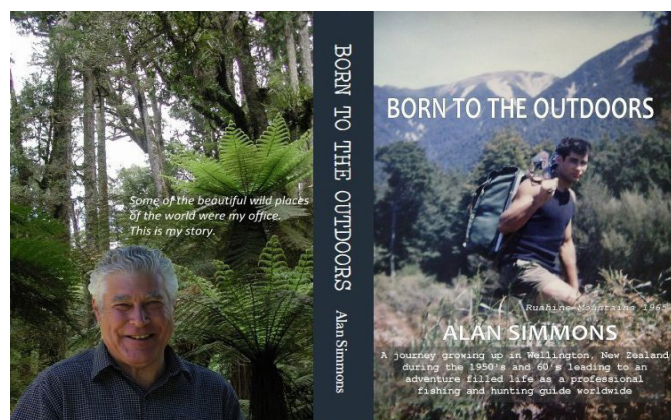
These books were designed to celebrate the rich tradition of waterfowling in New Zealand and to provide information to the growing number of enthusiasts who are eagerly collecting items which had previously been regarded simply as tools of the trade but which are now seen as highly collectible artefacts of our waterfowling history.

ON THE BOOK SHELF

The original books, *Duck Calls* and *Decoys*, sold out quickly. To satisfy the continuing demand for these, the author has combined the pair into this single volume, keeping the original format as far as possible, but incorporating new material which has come to light since the original publication.

An accomplished decoy carver in his own right, and a collector of calls and decoys, Gary has assembled a wealth of detailed and accurate information to provide an invaluable reference book for anyone with an interest in the history of waterfowling in this country, or in Kiwiana - New Zealand folk art.

Anybody wanting to buy a copy of the book should contact the publisher, Tim Birdsall, at birdsall@callplus.net.nz. Cost: \$85.00 + postage.



Hunting and fishing books are a dime a dozen, so it takes something exceptional to get this reviewer excited enough to read something from cover to cover, virtually non-stop.

This is what happened this Christmas holidays past when I tucked into Alan Simmons' (Class of 1965) *Born to the Outdoors*, a compendium of fishing and hunting anecdotes, as well as an insight into the governance of our wilderness areas.

The fact that I knew the author from dealings with the NZ Outdoors Party helped, but man, there was a lot I had to learn about the author and his contribution to all things outdoors.

I don't think there is a conservancy board, Acclimatisation Society or Fish and Game Council; advisory panel, tourism or professional guiding group that is/was in any way associated with our rivers or bush that Alan has not served on.

His battles with bureaucracy are well documented - but not in a chest-thumping manner. It seems to me, Alan had the philosophy of *God give me the strength to take on the battles I can win and walk away from those I can't!*

Alan has lived an adventure-filled life, roaming the wild places of New Zealand where along the way he has met with some interesting characters and made many world-wide friends. Like anyone who spends any time in the outdoors, there are always going to be 'incidents' - some humorous, while others have more serious consequences. They have been dutifully recorded in Alan's easy writing style.

Over the years he has worked as a deer culler, wool presser, fishing guide, and administrator as well as a worldly traveller - exploring the outdoors overseas.

What makes the book such an easy read, apart from the great content, is that it is broken down into a number of sections which relate to experiences or phases in his life. These may be as short as a page, while other topics are given more space.

The book jogs along at an easy pace, and there is one common thread - Alan's absolute passion and respect for our wild places. His has been a full-on life, including brushes with death and a suspected murderer, not to mention some of the best fly fishers and fly tyers in the world. It is a life that has seen Alan give as well as take, as clearly evidenced by his huge involvement as an administrator and advocate for our fish and game. To end with a quote from the author - *Some of the most beautiful wild places of the world were my office - this is my story.* **GRANT DIXON. NZ FISHING NEWS**

Brian Hurst (Class of 1965) took the time during lockdown to do the final edit on a memoir he has worked on for the last couple of years. It features the Wellington College Geography field trip of 1966, led by Ernie Barrington, and its pivotal role in his education. (This trip was featured in an article by Ernie Barrington which appeared in the 2013 *Lampstand*).



The dust cover of the book, entitled, *The Red Scarf* reads: *Brian Hurst was born in 1948 into a post-WWII society that was rebuilding after years of disruption. His journey from his birthplace in New Zealand to some 40 different countries around the world, including a 27-year career with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, closely records the changes that were happening throughout these tempestuous times.*

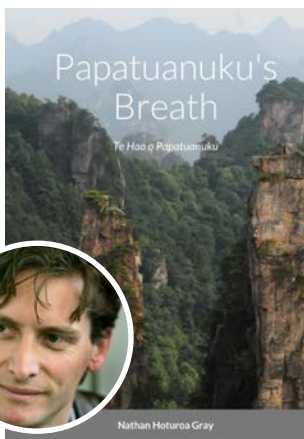
From the time he was ten, Brian carried the family's Red Scarf on his travels and various adventures. This scarf was brought out of hibernation on special occasions and makes its appearance in such diverse places as Scott

ON THE BOOK SHELF

Base in the Antarctic and Timbuktu in the Sahara Desert. It's iconic presence ties together many of these great adventures.

The printers at copypress.co.nz are running a reprint of this book and making it available for purchase on line or through their various retail outlet bookstores.

It's not a book about Wellington College per se but it does feature the College and may be of interest to some Old Boys. If you think there may be some interest in the book, Brian is happy to make a copy available if someone wants to check it out. (Ernie Barrington already has his copy). Brian's email is: bmlghurst@gmail.com



Covid-19 is the biggest disruption to human life over the past century. As the world confronts this dire public health emergency, many of the enforced changes will see the collapse of economies and industries worldwide, so writes Nathan Gray (Class of 1992).

However, at the same time the natural environment is securing much needed

breathing space from a species that has ruthlessly plundered every ecosystem towards mass extinction in its indomitable and mindless hunt for the dollar. What changes can humanity embrace through the tragic brunt of this pandemic that will give our species and planet a more sustainably viable path moving forward? How can we facilitate the innovative thinking and major structural change of society and its values required, to enable us to move forward with a more equitable everyday reality?

This book looks at the Covid-19 crisis and how it is impacting the current world order - examining various geopolitical approaches to curtailing the epidemic's spread and how best to tackle the 'new normal' moving forward. It also explores key Māori cultural concepts of manaakitanga, (looking after one another), kaitiakitanga, (connecting with nature and being a guardian over your immediate surroundings), taputanga, (following the rules of the 'new normal' with a sacred level of significance), haerengatanga, (going on this 'journey of great change' with everyone in tow), pukengatanga, (building our family units and communities with long-term gardening, waste management and hunter-gathering skills to forge a more sustainable approach forward), and finally whakapoukahatanga, (strengthening all those around you) to help underpin future societal thinking.

The link to purchase this book is: <https://www.lulu.com/en/us/shop/nathan-gray/papatuanukus-breath/>

paperback/product-vqwrzd.html or to see Nathan's entire list of his books www.lulu.com/spotlight/hutoroa and his personal website is www.greatwalldvd.com



Dan Kelly (Class of 2006) is leading an adventurous life these days. He tells us his story... *Kiwis love an overseas adventure but we don't often do them at home.*

A few years ago, a mate of mine suggested that we try to follow the Waikato River from its highest point to the sea: a tramping and kayaking mission that took us just under a month to finish. We had an epic time meeting people along the way and seeing both the water and land change, but what had started as a loose idea for a book on the river's environmental health, soon spiralled out into an exploration of our colonial history and some of the different layers that make up contemporary NZ.

The finished book is a 100-page full colour exploration of both our physical movement and the learning that came with it, turning around the key question for Pākehā like ourselves - 'What does it mean to live well in this land?'

Self-published via PledgeMe in August, you can pick up a copy from Strange Goods at 281 Karangahape Road, Auckland, or via post by emailing downstreamproject@gmail.com

IF ART IS MORE YOUR THING...

Barry Johns (Class of 1959) is an artist, resident in Christchurch where he has lived since 1967. He has recently created his own website at www.oogywawa.co.nz where he lists his paintings for sale. My paintings are essentially abstract in style - acrylic on canvas. OOGY WAWA has been chosen to reflect his long association with the wine industry. It is the Zulu term for 'Cheers'.



The Firth House Reunion that's still going strong - 50 years on

This is a wee story of a Firth House Reunion that didn't end. It centres on what we now know as FH Cohort 1970. It also reinforces what many of you will attest to when you have been fortunate to attend some form of school reunion – it doesn't matter how many years have passed since we all left the College, time cannot erode the bonds and friendships that we made there.

In early 2009, I bumped into Scott Smith in West Auckland. It had been 40 years since we had met and had arrived on the first day of boarding at what was the very imposing building that was Firth House, sited as it did, keeping an eye over the rest of the school. Into the unknown, scared, naive and totally unprepared for the year ahead, things fell into some form of order with the daily routine and was dominated by the then current batch of 'huge' House Prefects and their never-ending supply of rugby boots and laces, socks and anything else they wanted washed by the lowly 'turds'.

Who didn't remember the last day as a third former knowing that you would be returning a rung up the next year and a bit more immune from the attention of the next batch of Prefects.

So it was in that we ended that first year with a will to survive and a reliance upon each other (and the experiences of extra-curricular activities but that's another story)!

I don't recall how the news of the big Firth House Reunion set for early May

2010 came through, but in those early discussions with Scott, we thought it worth trying to see if we could contact as many of our old boarding mates before the big get-together the next year. With the help of a residential property database (and assistance from Steph Kane) we thought we'd start with a list of those who were there from the very first day of boarding in 1964.

Shortly after, I made contact with Peter Howe and together we split the list and started phoning. There was a thrill in speaking to someone after all those interceding years as they absorbed the 'out of the blue call' and idea. It was indeed a plan worth exploring.

After a couple of weeks, our list was as complete as it could be and the core were: Scott Smith, Peter Howe, Ewen (Poi Poi) Smith, Simon Lempriere, John McGowan, Gordon Osten, Andrew Speedy, Martin Watt, Perry Kerr, David Evans, Dale Sharp, Jeff Faulke, Tony Brooking and myself. Also contacted were Trevor Boyce, Richard Limbrick, Donald (Sunday) Hough and John Skurr.

Well here's a plan – why don't we get together for a few re-introductory sherberts before heading to Wellington for the big Firth House do? And so it was in late 2009, a wonderful couple of days and liquid nights were had in Taupo with our partners in tow. It became apparent from the

outset that our wives and partners (not withstanding their long-suffering lives with us), were indeed very much part of our group, as evidenced by their own friendships developing.

Our elation now in heading for the FH Reunion was sadly brought into reality



when Scott Smith, who bravely joined us and thoroughly enjoyed our first meeting in Taupo with his old mates, succumbed to illness and was too unwell to travel to Wellington. (Scott was to pass away that December).

We had such a great time at the Reunion in 2010 Wellington, and having met six months earlier in Taupo only added to the never-ending memories, discussions and hilarity.

What next? Well the previous Taupo and Wellington experiences were such a success so why not have another crack? In late 2010, a further return to Taupo was undertaken for another very sociable weekend.

By now we were thinking that we should make this an annual event. While not everyone could make every year and as some of the earlier participants had enjoyed those experiences but didn't wish to continue, we've settled down to a core group of some seven to eight couples.

In essence, we decided on only a few criteria. In a different town or city every year, including both North and South Island to spread the travel around. The timing of our get-togethers set for early November to suit our farmers. The organisation for the next year's event is also spread through the ranks with everyone taking a turn in choosing the venue and activities, (and as you will see from some of our previous venues, we are not averse to having vineyards close at hand)!



FIRTH HOUSE REUNION

2009	First Meeting in Taupo
2010	Firth House Reunion, Wellington
2010	October in Taupo, again
2011	Napier - wonderful hospitality at Dave and Anne Evans' place
2012	Napier again and graciously back at the Evans' place
2013	Queenstown
2014	Waiheke Island
2015	Nelson
2016	Martinborough
2017	Sydney
2018	Christchurch
2019	Rotorua
2020	Oakura, Taranaki - home town of Pete and Denise Howe

While it's a bit of a generalisation to say that most of us started from a 'Shell B' background, something must have stuck educationally because despite the sometime



Sydney, 2017

reckless and frivolous times spent in boarding, it gave us the grounding and resilience to move out into life. Fields of our occupations include: Air NZ International Captain, Quantity Surveyor, Accountant, School Principal, Property Management,

Motor Vehicle Industry Exec, Farming, Retail, International Consultant - Oil Industry, Financial Consultant, Commercial Property and Engineering business owner.

We say we will keep these gatherings up until there is one last couple still standing. (How many Zimmer frames can you fit in a restaurant)? Of course it's going to be like that one day but in the meantime, we so look forward to our annual event and I would encourage any other years who may have given it the odd thought to give it a go. To anyone reading this who did begin their Firth House stay at the beginning of 1964 and we have missed you, it's never too late to join us. Bring on many more of our little reunions.

BILL MUSHET. CLASS OF 1970
BILLANDSUEY@GMAIL.COM



Firth House Boarders, 1970

2021 Firth House Reunion Update

I am sure that our former Firth House Boarders will appreciate that locking in dates for this 2021 reunions has become a bit of a logistical nightmare as we come to the end of a pretty disruptive year. While the NZ Government continues to impose a two-week quarantine and the associated costs, this presently limits those who wish to attend from overseas, unless you pay the price by quarantining, availability and cost of flights and of course the accommodation costs - you'll be here not only for a good time, but also a long time.

That said, we would still like to proceed with plans to hold the belated Firth House Reunion and we are looking at mid/late-September. Once we can lock in some dates and work in with the College's calendar, you'll be the first to know the dates and arrangements. So in the meantime, please bear with me as I work out the logistics. Feel free to get in touch with any questions.

STEPH KANE | WCOBA EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Is this the most controversial M'Evedy Shield on record?

When John Scott (Class of 1980) returned for his 40-Years On Reunion, he recalled the most unluckiest Shield Day when after a fierce day of competition, Wellington College won the coveted trophy for the fifth consecutive year. However, a few hours later it was a different story when it was discovered that a scoring error had been made which turned a two-point winning margin into a ten-point deficit thus giving Rongotai College the shield. John shared his recollection with us.

I developed an ability to run quickly when I was quite young. Dogs terrified me and one day, one chased me down the road and up our driveway. My Dad said he has never seen a human move so fast either before or after that event!

I went to Paremata School and won most of the races I entered. But it wasn't until I got to College that my interest in athletics really took off.

I'd describe Athletics at Wellington College as a juggernaut led by Brien 'Toad' McCrea. It was a fantastic and rewarding time to be an individual athlete but part of a winning team. I competed and trained from the day I entered College until the day I left. I also joined a club. This meant more training time and more competitions. I never enjoyed that environment as much as I did competing for the school. The sprints and long jump were my favourite events.

In my first two years in the Athletics Team (Form 3 and Form 4), the Captain was Simon Maitland. He was very fast and very capable. I looked up to him and learned a lot from him. When the mantle got passed to on me, I took it and ran with it literally.

I had never considered being in a losing McEvedy Team and didn't consider losing to be an option. This is probably how the team was able to win the event four times in a row (and nearly five)! We had consistency, the right attitude and knowing what it took to win.

1978 was a very strong year. We had a great group of athletes and a lot of guys competing in many events. We had an awesome relay team.

In 1979, we actually had a bad 'flu go through the school and many of our athletes were out sick or struggling to perform well. We won McEvedy in 1979 by three points (Wellington College 166 Rongotai 163).

We rolled in to 1980 with the normal preparation and team commitment. All the members in this team had only experienced winning the Shield. Now with 40 years of hindsight you could say we didn't know how we could lose? Still, it was a strong team and we had the usual amount of preparation.

That year we lost a few very good athletes including Fraser Mexted, Robbie Irvine and Nick Allen. But we had a strong core and a good number of fit, young members. We were as confident as we had ever been.

I concentrated on my own performance and tried to do my best in those events. I remember at the end, the score was very close but Wellington College was declared the winner by two points. It was so much better for us than it was for Rongotai College. We celebrated as a school and carried off the shield at the end of the day. Remember in 1979, we had only won by three points. We thought it was another close victory. We went home that Saturday afternoon as jubilant winners of a fifth year in a row.

I took the Shield home to my house that night. I was informed on the Sunday that a re-count had reversed the results. Rongotai College had won by ten points. I recall taking the Shield back to school on Monday knowing that we were beaten. And worse still, I had to surrender the Shield to Rongotai.

Of course in the heat of the day, and the furore of the event, we were able to celebrate together as if we were winners for five years in a row. I would like to think we were gracious in defeat.

I valued the spirit of competition and sense of team achievement that I learnt at Wellington College. Those years in the Athletics Team haVCE helped me in my personal and business life.

I went to Massey University and completed a business degree. I didn't carry on with athletics once I left school, but I stayed fit and have remained an active person to this day.

I now have a NZ-based, international fresh produce company. We have production sites and offices throughout NZ, North and South America and Japan. I spend my time split between Los Angeles and Auckland.

**JOHN R SCOTT.
CLASS OF 1980
M'EVEDY
CAPTAIN
1978-80**





THE COURT IS IN SESSION

Coming out of Lockdown, the College's Senior A Basketball team kicked off its pre-season preparations by hosting a select group of Old Boys for a match behind closed doors. Being our first game together, we struggled early and fell into a big hole – but fought back to almost snatch the game at the end.

The idea of elevating it to the WC All-Star game was born out of necessity more than anything else. This year, the Basketball Committee has found itself looking for ways to generate funds within these uncertain and restrictive new times so organising a fundraising game and charging for tickets seemed like a decent idea. When some of our school's most successful recent players put up their hands to participate, I knew this challenge would be a great night for our little community.

The Junior A and B teams tipped-off the evening with an exciting showcase of our young talent before the main event. The main game did not go as smoothly as hoped for the Senior team, as the previous encounter against the Old Boys' roster was stacked with former pro's, US college athletes, and even a current NZ Tall Black – they didn't hold back in their play. The Senior A side put up a good fight for the first two

quarters but still trailed 34–53 at half-time. The second half was a different story as the Old Boys showed all their class and experience in dismantling the Senior As. Their end-to-end speed and exquisite ball movement resulted in a barrage of threes, tomahawk jams, and even a few alley-oop slams. The Old Boy All-Stars never took their foot off the accelerator; running away with it 124–67 and giving the Senior A's a big wake-up call in the process.

Despite the result, I was so pleased with the turn-out and support shown for all the players, old and new alike, in helping us raise \$700 for the programme. Due to the curtailed time-frame of matches this season, we could only fit the event in during the July school holidays but we are hopeful to build upon this success and bring it back in some format next year.

On behalf of the Senior As, I would like to say a big thank you to all the supporters, volunteers, and, of course, to the Old Boys for making this such a great night!

The 2020 Old Boy All Stars included Jordan Mills, Dion Prewster, Zach Young, Tupou Sopoaga, Johnny Helu, Bailey Gibson-Hood, Ethan Roache and Efrain Villalobos-Santana.

Alex Thomas, Class of 2007

Legendary basketball coach Joe Frost a man for basketbaling finesse



After more than four decades, basketball mentor Joe Frost (Class of 1968) hasn't mellowed when it comes to his coaching. If one of his players botches a regulation lay up, because he'd spent 90 minutes practising it, the kid will cop a frosty rebuke the same as any American player. As for the Americans: *You want the money, you do the work.*

His philosophy has paid off over the years when coaching in the national league, in club basketball and successfully at Queen Elizabeth College, Palmerston North Boys' High School and now Manukura.

Joe received the services to coaching 'gong' at the Basketball NZ Awards in 2018. Now 68 and still working, he received a Sport Manawatū services-to-sport award similar to one he received from Basketball NZ in 2018. He became a Basketball Manawatū life member in 2006.

Two years ago when his father died, he inherited the Samoan chiefly title of Papali'i. They were from the village of Fasito'outa, 19 kilometres from Apia. A Frost from York in England had landed there in the 1880s and married a chief's daughter.

Joe was best known as the Ubix Palmerston North coach when basketball boomed in the 1980s, when with Americans Tyrone Brown and Willie Burton the home stadiums rocked and they got to the 1989 national final in Auckland.

From Samoa he had been sent to

Wellington for schooling following his father who worked at the Ford Motor Company assembly plant. Joe left Wellington College and attained a degree in education from Victoria University, but was too much of a 'rouseabout' to be a teacher.

At school, Joe was more into Soccer, Rugby and Boxing. Basketball was played by kids from Europe, a lot of Greeks at the time. He did try it, and would grab the ball and have a go, but said, *he was useless.*

Later he took it up socially around Wellington. There he first watched American players Bill Eldred and Clyde Huntley, and saw how it could be played with finesse.

Joe didn't set out to coach, but just answered calls to help out. He ended up 'helping' with Saints, becoming their assistant coach.

He was working for Xerox when Ubix boss Murray Creighton asked Joe if he would set up a Palmerston North branch and maybe get a sports team to promote it. So Joe approached Chairman Bill Hay and in 1984 became the Palmerston North second-division team's third coach in three years. For \$6000 he brought out Americans Tyrone Brown and Joe Brown, paid them \$200 a week, provided a flat and that year, won promotion into Division One.

Usually the minnows, when 2.06 metre Burton arrived from Tennessee University, with Tyrone Brown they would light up clashes with rivals Saints and New Plymouth.

Joe would drive to Cheltenham to pick up a load of Hato Pāora College kids who would perform a haka and afterwards he would drive them back.

The team was well backed and earned big media coverage, but budgets were tight and Joe remembered one year Hay had to re-

finance his house to keep it afloat.

Later the Kiwi players wanted to be paid and when the association had to have Division Two and women's teams running up and down the country, it was a huge cost. The Americans would get enraged with the Kiwi refereeing and Joe had to placate them or massage their egos.

Off court, women flocked to the import players and proved a major distraction. This was also the era of happy baccy and Joe admitted he brought out two no-hopers, one of whom drank booze at half-time and was sent home.

Joe recruited gentle giant Duncan Taylor from Timaru, later tragically killed in a shooting in Awahuri on a police call out. Stan Hill arrived to manage the Majestic Hotel and Joe had to get the players to accept playing with a New Zealand great.

When Ubix PN lost the national final to Canterbury, Joe copped the heat and agreed to step down. While his team were outplayed, Canterbury had a blinder.

Although he returned in 1997 to coach the Manawatū Jets for three years, Joe has found his niche in schools, taking the QEC team to two nationals before the then PNBHS Rector, Dave Syms called. The team was playing on a concrete floor and when Joe took them to a national title, Dave built the wooden floor he'd promised. Dave arrived at one training and asked why senior players were sitting out, until Joe told him they hadn't been pulling their weight.

Son Tia Te Mata-Frost played schools Basketball in Kansas and Texas, and daughter Shani excelled at Tennis and Netball, until she had knee trouble.

STUFF

Cricket coach moved to Pakistan for a job that paid nothing - but it changed his life.

While battling his demons, Mark Coles (Class of 1986) found healing and hope in an unlikely place: a dusty cricket pitch on the other side of the world.

Seat number '54 bloody F'. That's where Mark found himself – right down the back of the plane, travelling from Auckland to Dubai. For some people, a long-haul flight would feel like the start of an adventure. For Mark, it was terrifying. *When I checked in, I was a nervous wreck, he recalls. I couldn't even say my name to the woman at the counter. I ended up on the plane thinking, What the hell am I doing?*

From Dubai, he travelled to Lahore – Pakistan's second-largest city. Before he knew it, Mark was in the backseat of a Toyota Hiace, flanked by armed guards, but they couldn't protect him from the 35-degree heat.

In the darkness, the van pulled up to an imposing compound with iron gates. The driver tooted the horn, and another guard whisked Mark up to a room with a bed, a shower, a toilet and a TV. Out of 37 channels, only two were in English. Mark was alone – and wide awake. *I remember lying on the bed thinking, 'You got yourself into this. This is what you wanted, remember? You can't go home. You're stuck here now, so you're just going to have to pull up your socks and get on with it, because there's no way out.*

As a cricket instructor, Mark had travelled to Lahore to take on a daunting new role, as the head coach of the Pakistani Women's Cricket Team. The players had just been trounced at the 2017 Women's Cricket World Cup, in which they lost every game.

The team had never had a foreign coach, let alone a Western man who had no knowledge of Muslim culture. What's more, Mark had never coached an international side. *There were 30 Pakistani girls standing in front of me. Some didn't speak English. Many were looking at me, like, 'Yeah, I have no idea what this white bloke is saying'. My glasses kept fogging up and I couldn't*

stop sweating.

I said, Look, I don't really know what has gone on here in the past. But I've watched you play against New Zealand, and we're playing them again in a month's time. We need to get ready. All I ask is that you do your very best. That way, no matter if we win, lose or draw, we've still won.

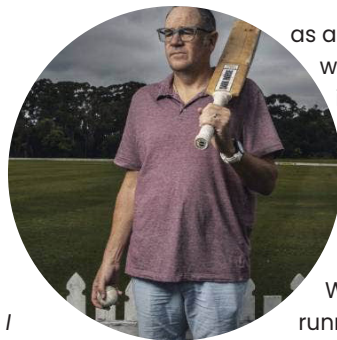
The dry, barren cricket fields of Lahore couldn't be more different from the lush banks of Wellington's Basin Reserve. As a boy, that's where Mark spent Saturday afternoons watching his father, Michael Coles, a fast bowler for the Wellington side.

In his teens, Mark developed severe back pain – possibly because he had been bowling so much. Doctors advised that his playing days were numbered. That prognosis was devastating for a young man who had always dreamed of making the Black Caps. But around the same time, Mark discovered another hobby – one that relieved pain, rather than caused it. He learnt how to get on the grog.

At Wellington College, I made the 1st XI. I went to a party at the captain's house. Someone pushed some alcohol down me. I went home, and mum and dad had just laid some brand new cream-coloured carpet. I christened it for them.

By his early 20s, Mark was boozing heavily. He would embark on 15-hour binge sessions with his mates. Sometimes, he would wake up on the side of the road. *I was always insecure, and always doubted myself. Alcohol gave me the confidence that I never really had. Alcohol became my best friend, because it's always there – and it never answers you back. It helped to put a mask over what I saw as a lack of success in my life.*

Mark tried many jobs, from radio announcing to selling masking tape. He was drawn back into the cricket world



as a coach. For 15 years, he worked with local teams, including the Wellington Blaze, and had stints with men's and women's teams in Western Australia and Vanuatu.

Whenever he found himself running on empty, Mark – like many men, turned to the bottle. It damaged his relationships and undermined his performance as a coach but it also helped him to cope with his low self-esteem. *Everybody wants to play for New Zealand, right? I didn't fulfil my potential as a cricketer, and that was really frustrating. Even in my 40s, I was still yearning to become someone that I was never going to be.*

In March 2017, Mark was coaching full-time in the Waikato. He was under pressure at work, and felt anxious and overwhelmed. One day, he found himself in darkest space he had ever been. At the local pub, he embarked on a five-hour bender, before going home to his partner and young family at dusk. *I remember saying goodnight to my seven-year-old daughter. I told her, I've got to go away for a while. She said, Where are you going? I said, I've just got to go away, okay? Mum will look after you. Always remember to say please and thank you. Then I kissed her goodnight.*

Mark closed the bedroom door, and told his partner, to call the police, because he was going to kill himself. She refused. When Mark tried to grab his keys and leave the house, his partner stood in the doorway. *She told me, You're going to have to kill me to get out of here, because I'm not letting you go. So I went to the spare room and slammed the door. I lay there all night thinking, 'What the hell have I just done?'*

The next morning, once he was in a calmer and safer space, Mark went for a long drive, and ended up at The Warehouse in Hamilton. He spent an hour sitting on a bench inside the store, staring into space 'in a trance-like state'. There, he realised that everything he treasured was at risk. If he wanted save

THE OLD BOY SCENE

his twelve-year relationship – and avoid losing his two school-age daughters – he needed to seek professional help.

Mark saw a counsellor, who helped him to recognise that he was a binge alcoholic. He took time off work, reduced his stress levels and built healthier habits in his life. But he still had a nagging sense that something was missing.

Four months later, Mark was lying on the couch at home, watching NZ play Pakistan in the 2017 Women's Cricket World Cup. New Zealand 'absolutely destroyed the poor Pakistani girls'. An outlandish question popped into his mind: what if the team needed a new coach? Mark made an enquiry, but didn't expect anything to come of it.

One night, the phone rang. A 'chap from Pakistan' was asking him to be the head coach of the women's team. Mark thought one of his mates was playing a prank. Minutes later, an email arrived. The offer was real. His partner said, *Mark! Are you crazy?* I said, *Well, you do know that I have those tendencies.* But my childhood dream was to play international cricket. If I couldn't make it as player, I could still have a bloody good crack as a coach – without my friend alcohol by my side.

Initially, the job would be a labour of love. The Pakistan Cricket Board was offering Mark the head coach role on a volunteer basis. He even had to pay for his own flights to Lahore. But he wanted to prove that he was committed, so he did so.

On my first day, I heard some bloke on a loudspeaker, echoing from a nearby village. I turned around, and all the girls had sat down on the grass. I said, *Girls! No, no, no. No time for sitting down, we've got to keep moving.* Another coach said, *Um, Mark, it's prayer time.* I said, *Oh!* And I sat down with them.

Captain Sana Mir, who had more than 200 international matches under her belt, remembers the arrival of her new Kiwi coach. *He was quite sensitive and very respectful of our culture,*

which made the girls very open to what he was bringing.

Women's cricket was introduced in Pakistan in 1998. Until then, women and girls had not been allowed to play cricket because of the country's conservative Muslim values. According to global indexes, the country still ranks poorly on gender equality.

When Mark arrived, he discovered that female players were often treated like second-class citizens. He heard critics suggest that women's cricket was a waste of money, and that the women should be 'in the kitchen or looking after children'. When he discovered that his players hadn't been paid their salary for six months, he went into bat for them.

One player was so poor that her running shoes were two sizes too small, and her boots were two sizes too big. Another woman, who couldn't afford cricket balls, had melted a bunch of plastic bags over a hot fire, and fashioned the plastic into a ball. Mark was stunned. *I had no idea that the gap between these countries was so big. But the Pakistani girls are so determined that when someone says No to them, they find a way.*

One player would spend two hours on a bus to reach the ground in Lahore. Someone from her village recognised her, and told her family that she was playing cricket. Her father and brother beat her up for bringing shame on the family. She was determined to keep playing and cut her hair short to make herself look like a boy, so that people wouldn't bully her.

We ended up picking her for the national side, says Mark. *The girl who was rooming with her said, 'Did you*

know that she goes to sleep in her cricket uniform?' She was so proud to be part of the team that she was wearing it to bed.

A month after his arrival, Mark and the team headed to Dubai for a clash with NZ in a three-game ODI series. They were beaten in the first two games.

Mark sat in his hotel room, his mind overflowing with negative thoughts. He sent a *WhatsApp* message to the players, telling them to gather in the foyer at 7.00pm for an important meeting. When they turned up, he took them to an ice cream shop. I said, *My treat. Chocolate, strawberry or vanilla – you choose.* They looked confused. Then I said, *That's the end of the meeting. We've got a game tomorrow. I'll see you in the morning.*

The next day, the team beat NZ for the first time in history, winning by five wickets. Although it was just one match in a string of defeats, it built trust between Mark and the team.

He was offered a two-year paid position, requiring him to live in Pakistan – in a compound that had snipers sitting on the roof. He could only return to New Zealand to see his family once every three months or so. *Some days, I wanted to pack my bag and make a run for it. But I knew that if I left Pakistan, I would have felt like a failure. I just had to get through, day by day – and sometimes, second-by-second.*

Although I was missing my partner and my daughters, the players had so much enthusiasm on their faces that it filled me with joy. I felt like the luckiest person in the world to be able to coach them, and I had to keep a smile on my face, because that's what they deserved from me.

In 2018 and 2019, the team achieved a series of milestones, including beating the West Indies team 2-1 in an ODI series, and tying with South Africa 1-1 in an ODI series on South African home turf.

The players looked after



him. One Christmas, Mark was sitting alone in his room, feeling glum. A player text him, asking to 'have a hit'. He begrudgingly agreed. The woman picked him up and took him to a café where five other players were waiting. Blow me down, there were all these presents, helium balloons and a cake. Then I went to Sana's house and her parents had prepared a Pakistani feast for me. I had the most wonderful day. Those little touches just kept melting my heart and telling me that I needed to stay there.

In mid-2019, after Mark lost his uncle and grandmother in a short period of time, he decided it was time to come home. It was tough to say goodbye to his Pakistani family, but he returned to his own family as a changed man. He still enjoys a beer from time to time, but no longer uses alcohol to mask his emotions. His now-wife, reckons Mark's two years in Pakistan made a world of difference. *Mark had always battled with his own confidence. Now, he's much more aware of what he's capable of, because he has learnt how to believe in himself. He lives in the moment, and he's a better father too. That's a testament to the work he has put in.*

The family now lives on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, where Mark coaches a club team. He thinks about the Pakistani players 'a hell of a lot'. They text him and ask how he is. Sometimes, they ask him to return. But he says that chapter of life is over. He fulfilled his boyhood dream – not as a player, but as a coach.

I hope that one day those girls say, 'That crazy old white bloke taught us a few things'. It was never just about winning. That's not all we set out to do. We set out to enjoy each other's company – in good times and bad. And we did that.

JEHAN CASINADER. STUFF

EDITOR'S NOTE: When I contacted Mark to seek permission to reproduce this story, he told me that he is just waiting for the countries to open so he can look at a new role. He was heading to Japan to take up a position as High Performance Manager but this thing called COVID stopped that!

Out-going Toyota Chief Executive 'passes the light' to the new CEO for New Zealand's biggest car brand



Toyota New Zealand (TNZ) has promoted Neeraj Lala (Class of 1992) to the position of Chief Executive Officer, effective from 1 July. Neeraj was formerly TNZ Chief Operating Officer.

He replaces Alistair Davis (Class of 1974), who has retired from the position he has held for twelve years and will retain a connection with TNZ as non-executive chair of the board. Neeraj will be only the fifth local Toyota CEO since its establishment more than 50 years ago.

It's arguably the most important job in the NZ automotive industry. TNZ dominates the new-vehicle market, with a 15 per cent market share for passenger/SUV sales year-to-date and 20 per cent in light commercials, which includes both the Hilux ute and Hiace van.

Neeraj says this is also a time of change for Toyota, as the global company transitions from a traditional automaker, known for its cars, trucks and vans, to a mobility company focused on future

technologies.

It has been a privilege to serve under Alistair's leadership over the past decade and I appreciate his encouragement of my career development at Toyota. Alistair's focus on people, culture and sustainability are well embedded in the company and in the leadership team.

I intend to carry on with that core focus, while advocating for an even better use of data and digital assets to get closer to our customers, particularly in these challenging and competitive times.

EDITOR'S NOTE: When I contacted Neeraj to congratulate him, he told me it was an honour to receive the light from Alistair and it was a special occasion when Alistair's retirement function was held, very much with a Wellington College theme. Neeraj says he is a proud product of Wellington College.

Farewell Boss 'Take the light and pass it on'

The Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His Face shine upon you; And be gracious to you; May the Lord turn His face towards you, And give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26 NKJV



THE OLD BOY SCENE



BACK ROW: Dave Paetz, Bill Jackson, Hugh Williams, Jim McCulloch, Jim Wilkinson, Peter Browne
FRONT ROW: Peter George, Brian Shearer, Don Somerville, Graeme Fogelberg, Graeme Wilson, Murray Nobel

They began College together in 1953 and some 67 years later, some of them met for a catch-up. They were students from the Class of 1957 and earlier this month, they came together over lunch in Wellington.

A bigger event would have had fellow classmates flying in from overseas and from around the country to

celebrate the occasion, but did not happen because of the Covid-19 situation.

Graeme Fogelberg, who instigated the Lunch said those who were able to come for lunch were delighted to catch up with others. Some hadn't seen each other since their school days while others attended their 50 Years-On Reunion back in 2007.

The group joined Gregor Fountain for Morning Tea and then they enjoyed a look around the College and the Archives before heading to the Wellington Club for lunch, which included an invitation for me to share the occasion with them.

By the end of the lunch, it was heartily agreed to meet up again in a year's time.

Literary Achievement

Sir Timoti Kāretu's (Class of 1956) just-published te reo Māori collection of a lifetime of insights on Māori dance arts has won the non-fiction section of this year's Prime Minister's Awards for Literary Achievement.

Sir Timoti, from Ngāi Tūhoe and Ngāti Kahungunu, is a leading academic, a translator and author, and a key driver of the revitalisation of te reo. (See the 2019 *Lampstand* feature on Sir Timoti).

Winners in all categories will be awarded \$60,000 in recognition of their outstanding contribution to New Zealand literature.



Friendships and Festivities

We enjoyed having Bruce Heather (Left) and Rodney Callender (Right) join Principal, Gregor Fountain for the special occasion of Bruce's 80th Birthday in May, together with their wives Margaret and Vivian. A sumptuous cake festooned with 80th decorations was served.

The group then departed for lunch, leaving of course via the spectacular Callender Colonnade of the AGC Hall.

A Kiwi sportsman you have never heard won \$2 million in an online poker tournament

In a matter of days and without leaving his home, a Kiwi poker player, September, won the equivalent of what top All Blacks would be lucky to bank in a year.

Thomas Ward (Class of 2007) won an eye-popping US\$1.35 million (NZ\$2m) in prize money for finishing fourth in the World Series of Poker No-Limit Hold'em Main Event on GG Poker, an event that created the largest winning prize in online poker history. The most well-known WSOP (World Series of Poker) is held in Las Vegas.

The tournament had a US\$5000 buy-in with an entry list of 5802 players and a total prize pool of US\$27.5 (NZ\$39.4m). The tournament was held online in 2020 due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

Thomas was one of 38 players to win through to the final day before making it to the final four.

The winner of the World Series of Poker No-Limit Hold'em Main Event tournament, Stoyan Madanzhev, of Bulgaria, claimed US\$3,904,686 (NZ\$5.8m).

China's Wenling Gao finished second and was the best of the female players with a prize of US\$2.74m (NZ\$4.1m) and US player Tyler Rueger took home US\$1.92m (NZ\$2.9m).



Thomas has been playing all over the world and in online tournaments for several years where he has amassed more than US\$1m (NZ\$1.5m), making his latest payday a career-best effort by a significant margin.

He was second in another US\$5000 buy-in tournament in Macau back in 2015 that netted him prize money of US\$481,960 or more than \$700,000 in New Zealand currency.

STUFF

EDITOR'S NOTE: I got in touch with Thomas to learn more about his incredible success and he replied back to tell me that he first started playing poker with friends for fun, then slowly moved to online. After leaving Wellington College, he went to university for a few years while

playing online but realised that he couldn't do both so chose poker.

Thomas said he's not actually based in Thailand but in Macau, where he plays in many of the casinos there and rarely plays online. He left Macau because of Covid.

Thomas said he'll continue to play online until the casinos reopen.

He's still thinking what to do with his winnings - at the moment, it's safely banked away but he is considering buying some real estate.

Once the borders are open again around the world, Thomas said he wants to travel to Europe and the States again with the intention of returning to Las Vegas to play in person again.



Huge congratulations were conveyed to Old Boy Tom Blundell (Class of 2008) on his terrific and gutsy Boxing Day Test century at the MCG for the Blackcaps in December.

Tom made current and past students extremely proud when he scored his second test century and his first opening the innings after being recalled to the Black Caps side for his first test in two years.

The 29-year-old became the first New Zealander to reach three figures in the series, and the first at the MCG, before being the last man dismissed for 121 as the Black Caps were bowled out for 240 to lose the test by 247 runs.

Appreciating Fine Wine!

It took eight years playing rugby in the South of France for former All Black, Neemia Tialata (Class of 2000) to appreciate fine wine. His journey from All Black to Wine Maker is a wonderful story of family and friendship.

In 2011, after eight seasons with the Hurricanes, and five with the All Blacks, he signed with Top 14 side Aviron Bayonnais.

He and his family, wife Sally and their two daughters fell in love with the French way of life experiencing the lifestyle in the Basque city of Bayonne, the pink city of Toulouse and Narbonne.

Of all the wonderful things they loved how at lunch (especially on a Sunday) time stopped so that friends and family could sit around a table and eat good food, drink good wine, argue, laugh, reminisce, cry, tell stories and just enjoy each other.

It was on those long, slow Sundays that Neemia dreamt of bringing French rosé and red wine home to New Zealand so that friends and family here could experience the French tradition for themselves.

It was during his time in France that



Neemia met Camille, who hails from a small village, Ginestas, where they have an annual harvest day at their small family vineyard. Everyone from the family (including Camille's 93 year old grandmother) gets out and picks grapes - vendange. Neemia and Camille became good friends (now business partners) and Neemia was adopted by Camille's family and friends.

Neemia joined Camille to their annual harvest and that was the day the two started the dream of turning DEUX CHEVAUX into reality. Camille has studied viticulture and works in the technical side of wine making, together we started this boutique brand.

DEUX CHEVAUX current products include their own French Rosé (Yaya) and Cabernet Sauvignon (Sadé) from grapes grown in vineyards surrounding Canet D'Aude with the help and support of a local cave cooperative.

Now back in Wellington New Zealand, Neemia and Sally lead busy lives in Wellington. Sally is a Pharmacist in Brooklyn and Neemia is busy helping

New Zealanders experience DEUX CHEVAUX.

Neemia says *DEUX CHEVAUX is the product our own French Rosé (Yaya) and Cabernet Sauvignon (Sadé) from grapes grown in vineyards surrounding Canet D'Aude with the help and support of a local cave cooperative. This is our dream and we are proud to bring DEUX CHEVAUX to New Zealand (and very soon the rest of the world). We are so passionate about our wine and just as passionate about the moments drinking this wine with family and friends. The moments when time stops with friends and family are the moments that become lifelong memories. Enjoy.*

Visit DEUX CHEVAUX's website <https://deuxchevauxwines.com/> and place your order - delivered from the South of France to the shores of New Zealand - you too can enjoy a memorable wine moment.

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/2deuxchevaux/>

EDITOR'S NOTE: I ran into Neemia recently when he called into the College to deliver a selection of his wine to the College's Rugby Club, who in turn, presented the selections to the Club's Coaches and Managers as a way of thanks.



THE OLD BOY SCENE



📍 Myles Gazley (Class of 1989) joined Gregor Fountain in Gregor's weekly e-video to the College Community to discuss Myles's experiences during and since lockdown, and the 'Support Local Project' that he led to support local businesses.



📍 We were delighted to have Trevor Barber's daughter Liz Bromiley and her partner Tony Bliss visit the school.

Trevor (Class of 1941), was a Firth House Prefect, played 1st XV Rugby and captained the 1st XI Cricket.



📍 In March, Sam Judd (Class of 2000) called into Wellington College as part of the World Vision NZ Conference.

Sam co-founded Sustainable Coastlines in 2008 with the mission of enabling people to look after the coastlines and waterways that they love. A pioneer in the war against plastic and waterways restoration over the past twelve years, he led and built the charity into a high-impact and much-loved organisation.

Sam recently left Sustainable Coastlines to establish Te Mahere Whakauka (The Hope Project), a large-scale project focused on regenerating at-risk communities, land and waterways through job creation.

Commenting on his departure from Sustainable Coastlines, Sam said he is enormously proud of the organisation's achievements, impact and the great talent possessed by the trustees and 16-strong operational team. *For many years, I have publicly said that I am trying to put myself out of a job, says Sam, And now we have done that. I am confident that this kaupapa is in great hands and I leave knowing it will go from strength-to-strength.*

For info on Te Mahere Whakauka / The Hope Project, contact Sam Judd; sam@whakauka.org or Mobile: 021 058 9349



📍 Gregor welcomed members of the McEvedy family from Australia at Wellington College in March. Gregor said, *how great it was to learn more about Dr McEvedy, their ancestor, who donated the shield for 'clean and wholesome sport, sportsmanship and celebrating the joy of effort.*



📍 Head Prefect, Andrew Latta and Principal, Gregor Fountain caught up with Old Boy, Commander Tony Millar (Class of 1981) at the Governor General's Waitangi Day Celebration next door at Government House in February.



📍 Wellington College teacher and the school's Athletics Coach, Mark Tinkle (Class of 2004), was placed second in the Senior Men's High Jump at the Athletics Wellington Senior Champs in February.



📍 Pascal Saker, (Head Prefect 1995), visited Wellington College. Pascal is remembered fondly by long-serving staff. He received his Head Prefect's badge on the same day, in February 1995, as his father's funeral. Earlier this year, he brought in his blazer so that we can pass it on to a current student.

THE OLD BOY SCENE



i Nick On (Class of 2012 and Dux) recently won the Aorangi Undulator Mountain-Running event (a 30km trail race through the Haurangi Forest Park in the Wairarapa, beating staff members - Craig Blacklock (Left) and Phil Kendon.

Phil said that Nick has now morphed into one of the fastest lower North Island trail runners. He won this event, beating both Craig and me by a matter of hours and at the end of the race, Nick still looked like he had just taken the dog for a walk!

Nick has completed his medical training and is now a house officer, planning on becoming a GP.



i Author, Jamie Wall (Class of 1998) (refer to the *Lampstand* 2019 for his book review) returned to Wellington College for Assembly in June to share ideas about the challenges and opportunities associated with the changing landscape of secondary school rugby in NZ.

i It was only a year ago that Sam Sutton (Class of 2019) was sitting on the bus with a group of Wellington Phoenix supporters, on his way to Eden Park to watch his first game of professional football. *I remember being really excited getting on the bus, it was all packed with Phoenix fans and I was just a little boy really excited to go watch a game*, he said. A week later, On Saturday, Sutton became the 146th player to play for the Phoenix.

Last month, Wellington Phoenix announced that the midfielder has signed a three-year contract with the club, ensuring he remains with the Phoenix until the end of the 2022/23 season. *It feels like a dream come true to sign my first professional contract, it's a long time coming and I've been working hard for this - I've had to sacrifice a lot and work really hard off the pitch, but it's all been worth it*, Sam said.

Prior to joining the Club's first team last season, Sam spent three seasons in the Phoenix Academy programme, making 40 appearances for the Phoenix Reserves in the ISPS Handa Men's Premiership, scoring two goals and impressing with his ability.

Wellington Phoenix Head Coach, Ufuk Talay says that *Sam is an exciting player and at 18 years old he's still got a lot of developing to do - but he's on the right track and already he's one of the hardest workers on the squad during practice. We believe Sam has all the tools and attitude to become a future star in the A-League, and the Club expects big things for him next season.*



Sam says that he is looking forward to next season with the Phoenix. *It feels like a dream come true to sign my first professional contract, it's a long time coming and I've been working hard for this - I've had to sacrifice a lot and work really hard off the pitch, but it's all been worth it. So my goal is to keep moving forward, keep training hard and work my way up - I'm going to aim as high as possible and contribute to the team.*

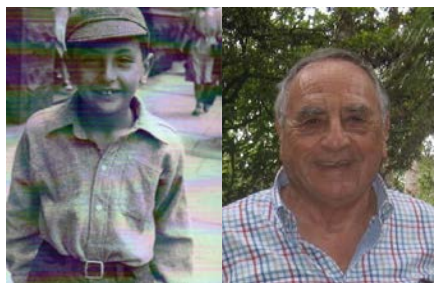


i Congratulations to Jamie Gibson (Class of 2010) who in October, in the second round of the 2020-21 Plunket Shield season, scored his maiden century in first-class cricket. Jamie made his first-class debut for Wellington in March, 2016 in the 2015-16 Plunket Shield. He made his Twenty20 debut in December 2019, for Wellington in the 2019-20 Super Smash. In June 2020, Jamie was offered a contract by Wellington ahead of the 2020-21 domestic cricket season.

THE OLD BOY SCENE

A survivor's arduous journey

Old Boy, Peter Baruch (Class of 1956) recently presented his story at a special Zoom event in September. Fellow Old Boy, Neville Ward thought readers might like to read excerpts from Peter's incredible story.



was born in 1938 in Poland's second largest city Lodz. Pre-war Lodz had a Jewish population exceeding 300,000.

Life in pre-war Lodz was very comfortable for us as a middle class Jewish family. I was an only child but I had a very large extended family at that time. Most of my family including my Father were involved in the textile industry. Then came 1939 and everything changed as Nazi Germany conquered Poland.

Polish Jews were faced with a dilemma - to stay or to go. Most elected to remain and sit it out, including my wider family. They perished in the Holocaust. My parents, for reasons unknown to me, decided to leave everything and get out. We survived!

We were fortunate to have an introduction to Chiuni Sugihara, through my Father's business associations. We were told he was prepared to issue transit visas to Japan - far from the turmoil of Europe. We headed for Kaunas and obtained the transit visas.

Our journey then took us to Moscow, on the Trans-Siberian Railroad to Vladivostok. A cattle boat took us across the Sea of Japan to the port of Tsuruga.

Always living in very primitive and dangerous conditions, we spent six months in the Commercial Port City of Kobe where I had my third birthday. We received visas to New Zealand where eventually we made our home. We arrived in Wellington in October 1941. The journey had taken my family two years.

I grew up in Wellington as did my three older children, firstly attending Kelburn School before entering Wellington College in 1952. Peter gained University Entrance in 1956. We had a successful business and prospered. Sadly, both my parents died there when I was still very young.

We moved to Australia in 1990 and settled on the Gold Coast. My family and I live happily in this wonderful tolerant country, Australia, because of the compassion of this one man - Chiuni Sugihara.



The 2021 Wellington College World Vision Super Six met with Old Boy Paul Ballentyne (Class of 1991).

Paul's Moana Road business is the platinum sponsor for the 2021 Runathon. Paul is also a former teacher and organised the World Vision Runathon for five years so there was plenty to discuss.



Congratulations to Old Boy Serge Van Dam (Class of 1992). He was awarded Angel Association New Zealand's Arch Angel Award at the 13th New Zealand Angel Summit in Auckland.

Serge is an experienced high-tech company founder, director and investor. He loves globally-minded Kiwi software companies and is actively engaged with companies such as Montoux, Landlord Studio, Wiptser, Common Ledger, Tourwriter, Raygun and CoGo and is an exited investor in Publons and IMeasureU.



There's not too many Old Boys who return to visit the College and find a building named after them.

In this case, the Science Block is actually named after former Headmaster, Harvey Rees-Thomas. Harvey's brother Alastair (Class of 1968) called into the school while on holiday from British Columbia with his wife Nancy and couldn't resist putting in a claim to the name.

The Arch Angel Award is the highest honour in New Zealand's angel investment community, given to those who exemplify the quintessential angel and who are champions for the endeavour making a significant difference to New Zealand's start-up ecosystem. As well as their personal capital, Arch Angel recipients share their time, insights, deeply relevant skills and their networks with high growth start-up companies.

THE OLD BOY SCENE



i A Kiwi mountain bike rider living in Canada has 'knocked the bastard off' by climbing the accumulative height of Mt Everest in an epic 24-hour lockdown challenge.

Tom Bradshaw (Class of 2010) is a former NZ age-group representative who moved to British Columbia last year to follow the Enduro World Series international circuit. But with all of his races cancelled due to Covid-19, he decided to tackle a new challenge, 'Everesting'.

Tom rode 17 laps of a single trail loop on Mt Fromme in North Vancouver until he had climbed 8848m – the height of the world's tallest mountain. He finished at 1.30am, more than 24 hours after he started, having burned a whopping 17,000 calories during the mammoth ride.

Everesting has been around for a little bit, but most of it is done by road cyclists and they go up and down a sealed road until they reach the distance, Tom said. But basically my motivation was, I live over here in Vancouver and race on the Enduro World Series semi-professionally, and during lockdown, all the races for summer were cancelled and there wasn't anything to aim for.

Sticking to one of his local tracks in order to adhere to Canada's lockdown rules, Tom set off at 1.00am. His theory for starting in the middle of the night was to get the toughest part out of the way when he was still feeling fresh. He rode the first nine hours alone, but was later joined by other riders in the afternoon. He finished the challenge, having climbed an incredible 9600m. Tom said, *That last lap felt really good.*

Development Direct, Matt Reweti (Class of 1990) caught up with Old Boy Dean Moses (Class of 1994) of Mean Doses Brewery. Dean related his career path to Matt.

"I started home brewing in 2010. I got a couple of Old Boy friends together and we went thirds in a 20-litre starter kit. I wanted to make more beer than I could drink, so I roped in two more school mates. I had these different groups of friends who I'd take the brew kit to and we'd make beer together.

My next step was to leave my public service job and work in a brewery. You could say I learned more of the ropes there. I went back to the public service but I knew I wanted to open my own brewery. 18 months went by and another brewer asked if I wanted to take on his site. I hadn't wanted to be based in the city – I always thought I'd be in the suburbs. Yet a lot of infrastructure was there and things like Council permits were already in place.

The first brew I made here in Tory Street was in March 2019. It was to be a test brew. As it was March, the hops were being harvested and I could do a fresh hop brew. It turned out to be pretty awesome.

We distribute most of Mean Doses beer in kegs to pubs. Over lock-down, I gave some thought to how we could package our beer. We've completed one canning run which enabled us to sell more to cafés and restaurants. Beer in cans will give bars another chance to stock our beer. Likewise liquor stores and any retailer with fridges.

I regularly brew the Mean IPA which has a mix of US and NZ hops. I also have a Hazy IPA and a more-seasonal Red IPA which sell quickly. I like brewing seasonal beers like a porter or stout in colder months. My small batch size allows me to turn over beer fast and keep it fresh.

Covid19 forced me to pivot to on-line sales. Once I received Ministry of Health approval for what I was doing, I was able to do contactless delivery. It was a team effort with my family helping to package and deliver. The people at Regular opened their app to local businesses and that's how we got through. That and the government subsidy.

Support local for us means – yeah come in and buy from us here. But it also means going out and supporting your local pubs, bars and restaurants. You can make a difference to us by keeping the whole supply chain afloat.

www.meandos.es.co.nz | 130 Tory Street, Te Aro, Wellington | 04 213 9561

THE OLD BOY SCENE



At the end of a season like no other, the NRL finished with a result like every other year: no argument, not much of a contest until the dying minutes and definitely no asterisk.

The nomadic Melbourne Storm, a team living out of a suitcase for months on the Sunshine Coast and playing for a state in seemingly perpetual lockdown due to Covid-19, cemented their status as the NRL's best of the last decade with a pulsating 26–20 victory over minor premiers Penrith Panthers at Sydney's ANZ Stadium.

The Sydney Morning Herald said *Kiwis giant, Nelson Asofa-Solomona (Class of 2013) was one of the Storm's best in the match.*

Once the final was out of the way, Nelson was able to return to Melbourne to see his four dogs for the first time in four months. *Weirdly enough, that's been the toughest thing for me, because I'm always around dogs, he said. It's good to have a dog around, but I definitely miss them. I've got two sausage dogs, a husky and a staffy.*

Nelson doubled his tally of canines this year, getting the two sausage dogs. He said it helped him get through the boredom of lockdown, during the time when the NRL season was put on ice.

He's hoping to make a trip back to the country later this year. *That's the plan, but obviously with Covid, we don't know what's going to happen, he said. It's mostly all of my mates, they're all back in Wellington and I miss those guys.*



A BLAST FROM THE PAST • It was great to have Brien (Toad) McCrae visit us in September and have him recount just a few of the thousands and thousands of memories he holds of the College. A visit to our Archives was called for, to catch up with Mike Pallin, Gary Girvan and Martin Vaughan and a chance for the four to relive the great 1983 Wellington College NZ Relay. With thanks to Toad's great and engaging fundraising ideas in his time here on the staff, the Ronald McDonald House was established and the campaign to build the sports centre kicked off. I am sure there are many of our Old Boys who have fond memories of running in the relay up and down the length of NZ and swimming across Wellington Harbour among many other memories. **Watch out for a big announcement from the Toad early next year... to be advertised by the WCOBA.**

In 2020, all nine WCF Junior teams have Wellington College legacy names. The WC Kershaw team is named after Old Boy, the late James (Jim) Kershaw (Class of 1924). Jim Kershaw attended Wellington College from 1920 to 1924 and was Wellington College's first 'All White.'

Throughout his life, Jim was very proud of Wellington College but somewhat saddened that his school did not provide for his beloved Football (Soccer) in their sports programmes.

In 1933, Jim played for the top NZ team later dubbed the 'All Whites,' while on tour against Australia. The first game he played as an All White was held in June, 1933 and Jim scored on his International debut. In all, he played a total of twelve matches for his country and scored thirteen goals

After retiring from the game, Jim remained involved in Football. He was manager of the NZFA representative team which toured Australia in 1954 and an overseas NZFA tour in 1964. Jim also served on the council of the NZFA for 15 years and was the Association Chairman from 1959 to 1963. Jim died in November 1997 (aged 91).



NZ Soccer Touring Team in Sydney in 1933. Jim is on the far left.

THE OLD BOY SCENE



Y13 students, Sammi Ammar and Aditya Sohani have been working on a community podcast series to connect current students with former students. The first episode features Alex Ross – our 2007 Head Prefect. Alex reflects on his time at Wellington College and his experiences studying at Cambridge University (including rowing in the famous boat race against Oxford) and working and living in London. Special thanks to Jerome Fa'asalele for his work editing this for us. Please click here to watch this terrific interview. <https://youtu.be/vpUsLo4KWvQ>

Andrew Underwood (Class of 2007/Deputy Head Prefect and McEvedy Captain) is now based in Vancouver and spoke to Radio NZ in January about his e-commerce platform company Commerce.js.

Andrew and co-founder Devan started their tech company in 2015 and this year they have managed to secure NZ\$2.5 million from a venture capital fund to get their technology sold to online retailers and compete with other eCommerce giants in the U.S.

Andrew spoke to RNZ about the challenges they have faced along the way and how they are now working on bringing their product to market. You can hear the interview on Radio NZ and full details of the venture capital funding announcement can be found on the Commerce.js blogsite.

The 2007 *Wellingtonian* said: *The 2007 McEvedy team was led by an outstanding athlete in Andrew Underwood. He is the fastest athlete in the history of the school, now holding records in all three major*



Former Headmaster, Roger Moses was only too happy to share a photo of a catch-up at his local with Old Boys. (L-R): Nu Filo (Class of 1999), Neemia Tialata (Class of 2000), Roger Moses, Soti Fa'Amausili (Class of 2000) and Otto Rasch (Class of 1999). I'm sure there was many a story of past 1st XV matches shared throughout the evening.



WHEN OLD BOYS VISIT THEIR OLD SCHOOL WHILE WORKING ON THE JOB.

Chris Middleton (Class of 2005) with his former teachers; Rob Corliss and Pat Smith. Chris and his team had to make a urgent visit to Wellington College when two fires 'suddenly' broke out in two different toilet blocks. Thanks Chris for looking after your old school.



A MEETING OF CREATIVE MINDS

The forthcoming NZ Festival saw two Old Boys heavily involved with the programme. Bret McKenzie (Class of 1994) was one of the Festival's Guest Curators and Tanemahuta Gray (Class of 1990) was the Kairautaki Maori – Strategic Maori Advisor.

How great to have captured these two renowned Old Boys together at the launch of the Festival.

sprint events; 100m, 200m and 400m. He is also the current national schools' 400m champion for two concurrent seasons and only the misfortune of being ill this year prevented him from retaining his title for a third season. His performances on the track are both an inspiration to the other team members and also a delight to watch. (Chris Wells, McEvedy Coach).

hello@commercejs.com / Facebook: Commerce.js [WELLESLEY COLLEGE](#)



THE OLD BOY SCENE

Old letters resurface after 72 years

In September, the Wellington College Archives team received an intriguing series of letters, found among Old Boy, Tim Beaglehole's (Class of 1950) papers. They were written by the students from Wellington College in Berkshire, England in the late 1940s and addressed to Tim in his capacity as 5A Class Captain. One letter read:

Dear Beaglehole, I am writing to you to express the gratitude felt by us in Talbot House for the most welcome food parcel we have just received from you. As well as being grateful for your kindness, we are always delighted on seeing your parcels, with your practicality in choosing the things we want.

It might interest you to know the way in which we distribute the food; the school numbers of each person are written on slips of paper, the slips of paper put in a hat, and then drawn out in front of everybody, the lucky numbers coming and choosing what they want; they keep their choice themselves and eat it at their pleasure. The remaining unfortunate numbers are kept until the next occasion arises. The point of having numbers and not names is of course firstly because they're quicker for me to write out – and secondly, to make the ballot

absolutely fair and free from bias.

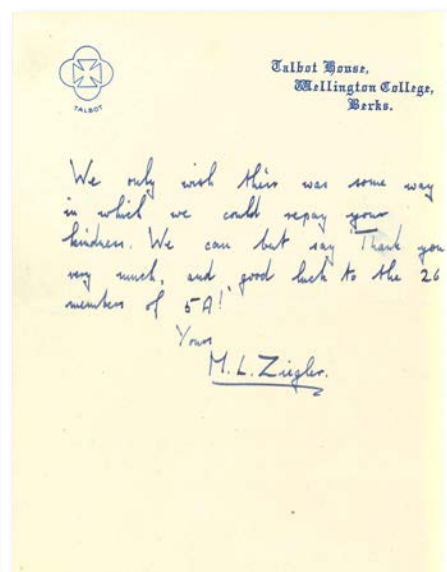
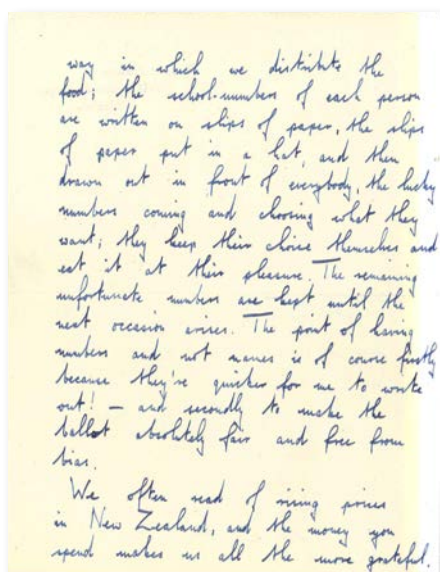
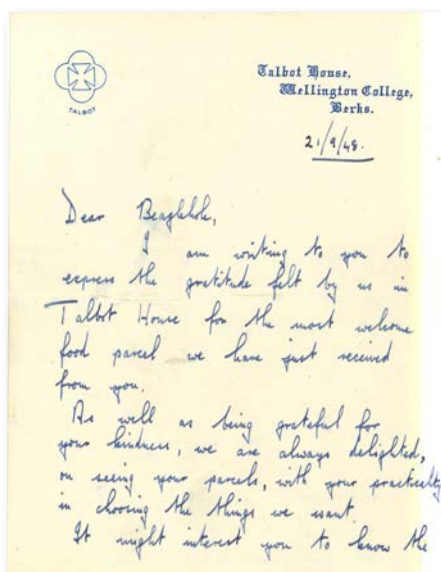
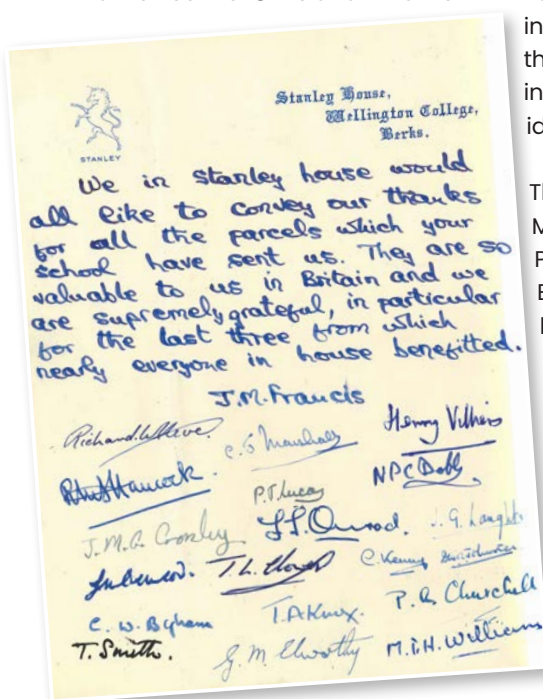
We often read of rising prices in New Zealand, and the money you spend makes us all the more grateful. We only wish there was some way we could repay your kindness. We can but say Thank you very much and good luck to the 26 members of 5A. Yours M.L. Zeigler.

In part, this letter reminds us of the strong connections that New Zealand had with Britain at this time. Migration to New Zealand from Great Britain since the 1840s and Britain's

insatiable desire to purchase New Zealand butter and frozen lamb from the 1880s had shaped the identity of New Zealanders as being 'British'. Schools like ours embedded this idea in the national psyche through replicating the British public school model, introducing an English style curriculum, sports – like rugby, cricket and rowing and cadets. We were part of the empire.

Despite the two world wars significantly weakening Britain's status as a world power, New Zealand's connection with Britain had, in many ways, been strengthened by the war experience, not weakened. An independent New Zealand national identity was yet to come.

The biography of former Prime Minister (and Wellington Central MP) Peter Fraser explains that a Famine Emergency Committee was set up by the New Zealand Government in March 1946, not to support New Zealand's post-war economic recovery, but to support Britain's. The Committee launched an 'Aid for Britain' campaign that encouraged the public to send food parcels to the United Kingdom. The generosity of Tim Beaglehole's class was probably a result of the committee's work.



THE OLD BOY SCENE

➤ Y13 Student, 1st XV Captain and Prefect, George Sims was the 2019 recipient of the Wellington College Old Boys' Association Scholarship that assists Y12 students to take part on the Spirit of Adventure excursion. The programme is designed to empower young New Zealanders to reach their full potential through the challenge of the sea.

Upon George's return to school this year, he conveyed the following message to the WCOBA: *I would like to thank the Wellington College Old Boys' Association for the opportunity to set sail on a ten-day voyage on the Spirit of Adventure in January this year. It was an adventure I will never forget as it was such a different experience.*

The voyage taught me about



leadership, while at the same time, gave me the opportunity to make awesome new friends and simply put, great fun.

My highlight of the trip was the trainee day on our last day of sailing. All 40 students were able to run the ship by

ourselves and selected people to do the jobs needed to sail the ship.

Once again thank you for the opportunity! I wouldn't have been able to do this without your support!

George Sims, Class of 2020



➤ We had a lovely visit from George Andrews (Class of 1961) who flew in from Auckland to donate to our Archives, some memorabilia from the estate of Gordon McLauchlan (Class of 1947) which included Gordon's framed photo of the 1947 Boxing Team, along with the scrapbook of College memories of Gordon's friend Peter Riddell (Class of 1947). While George was here, he enjoyed catching up with his fellow French Master, Ted Clayton.

George has been making documentaries about New Zealand for more than 40 years, including legendary documentary series *Landmarks*. In 2002 he was made an Officer of the NZ Order of Merit, for services to television. You can read about George's remarkable career path here: <https://www.nzonscreen.com/profile/george-andrews/biography>

➤ This large silver fern brooch, belonging to Frank Glasgow, was given, on permanent loan, to Wellington College Archives by his great nephew, Paul Curry (Class of 1980), in 2004. The brooch was worn by members of the 1905 'Originals' All Blacks team on their jacket lapels before the days of team blazers embroidered with a fern.



Hector Douglas 'Mona' Thomson (Class of 1897) was also a member of the 1905 'Originals' All Black team.

Hector was a public servant, rising to become Under-Secretary for Immigration and also died in 1939

Ernest Henry 'Ernie' Dodd, (Class of 1897), played in the New Zealand

national side in the 1905 test match against the touring Australian side. Ernie died in WWI in France, 1918.

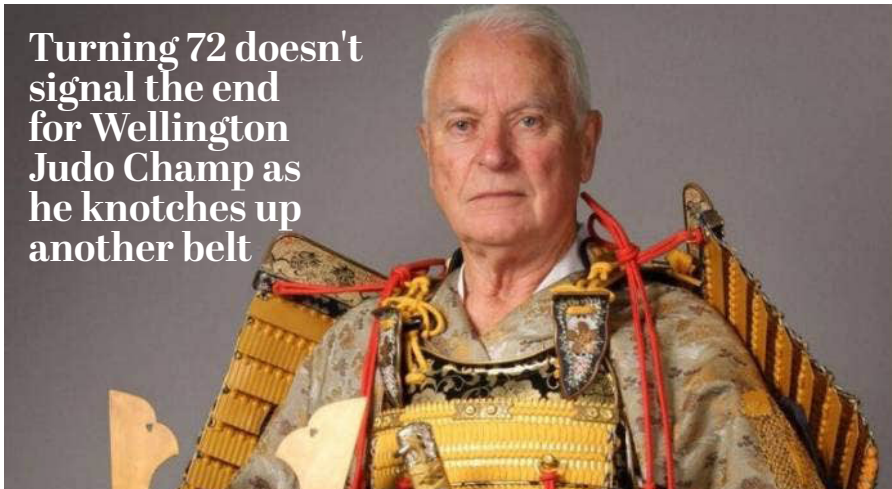
When Paul returned for his Class of 1980 Reunion in October, he was delighted to see the brooch on display in the Archives Museum.



On the back is engraved the name Frank Glasgow, 'The Songbird'. Frank played the guitar and led the singing hence his nickname, 'The Songbird'. Frank worked as a Bank Officer included being Manager at Ohura. He died in 1939.



Turning 72 doesn't signal the end for Wellington Judo Champ as he knotes up another belt



Judo master, Alan Hoverd (Class of 1966) turned 72 this year, but after more than 50 years in the sport he's still fighting fit.

At a judo presentation in December 2019, Alan was promoted to sixth dan, a position held by fewer than ten people in the country. The rank, denoted by a red and white belt, is a step up from coveted black belt status, and generally marks the line between student and teacher.

From a generation that turned mostly to rugby and cricket for their weekend rough and tumble, Alan was hooked on judo at first sight.

He was introduced to the sport entirely by chance when, walking down Willis St while at Wellington College, he heard yelling and thumping from a tiny window down

at street level. *People were crouched down looking in, and we saw people in what looked like pyjamas running around in the basement.*

As the smallest in his class at Wellington College, he was taken with the sight of a small man with a moustache throwing his much larger fighting companions around. *It's not about being Superman, or biceps, but flexibility and balance.*

Alan used to turn up to his job as a lab technician at Victoria University with black eyes and bruises. His boss took to asking, *Are you off to bump-and-thump tonight?*

While there was still a healthy respect for the higher grades in the club, *in the old days it was more like street fighting. Us young guys, we were just fodder.*

After five decades, Alan hung up his lab coat at the university in 2015, but judo was something he would never quit. *Even if you can't physically do, you stay involved - some old folk come with zimmer frames.*

Alan first represented the country in Australia in 1969, and in October won gold with his judo partner Colin Berry (Wellington College Staff Member), at the national championships in Rotorua, aged 70. He has had more podiums than anyone in the country, but these days he was paying for his dedication to a full-contact sport. *We do suffer*, he said. The sport was ancient and traditional. At the presentation, Alan performed the same moves as an unarmed Samurai would have in battle.

When he's not training himself, Alan teaches at the Budokan judo Club in the city. *People come in and say, 'Oh Alan, you're still teaching judo!' I smile and say, 'You are what you eat,' and all that.*

His next goal was promotion to seventh dan, of which there were only two others in the country. The sport was a constant chase for perfection, and something you could never master. *You might get good, but I still have so much to learn.*

STUFF

Our Property Team were busy over the 2019/2020 holidays and one of their tasks was to rehang the refurbished Memorial Brass Plaques back up in our Hall. We featured one of the plaques last year after it was restored to its original glory – now they are all restored.

The side walls on the Hall Stage first had to be strengthened then replastered and repainted to hold these plaques – and it took six strong blokes to carry and hold each one [the largest weighed 300kgs+ (47stone)] to set it them place. Thanks guys – we very much appreciate you restoring these plaques to glory!



Wellington College students take up workplace learning while at school

Are you in a position to help support the Wellington College Gateway Programme?

The Wellington College Gateway Programme has been in place for 14 years and has opened the door for many students to attend a work placement of their choice one day a week. This allows students the opportunity to experience first-hand, the jobs they are considering for their future. It significantly enhances their probability of employment when they leave Wellington College.

A number of students have been offered full-time work **and** apprenticeships after proving their commitment and work ethic while on their Gateway work placement.

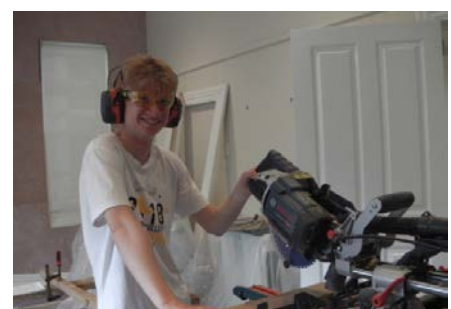
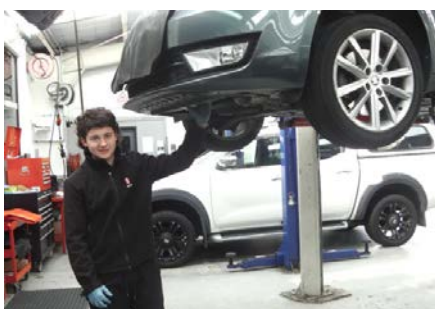
Perhaps you could help with the placement of future Gateway students by providing them with the opportunity to work in your business? Alternatively, you may be interested in becoming a mentor to a student. On the other hand, you could visit the class to talk about your area of expertise.



Our vision for the next three to five years is to develop an infrastructure to house the Construction and Gateway students, to enable students to transition from school, well-equipped to meet the economies demand for work-ready tradespeople. To do this, we need the services and expertise of the wider local community. Is there anyone who is interested in assisting in some way with our goal to build a tiny home on-site, construct garden sheds and/or repurpose a shipping container?

We would love to talk with you about any ideas you may have around project-based learning, to help the students serve the community and give them real-world learning opportunities.

If you have any questions or thoughts, please contact Dawn Hall (Gateway Coordinator) Mobile 027 455 3855 or d.hall@wc.school.nz or Graeme Cowie (Gateway/Construction Teacher) 027 472 6943.



OBITUARIES

THE ASSOCIATION HAS LEARNT OF THE FOLLOWING DEATHS IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS. IN SOME CASES, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SHARE THEIR STORY WITH OUR READERS (INDICATED WITH ❖).

Class of 1932

RANDS, Maxwell Barrett
1914 - 2019 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1928 - 1932
Firth House

Class of 1939

ANDREWS, Bruce Allan, Dr
1922 - 2020 Late of Sydney
Wellington College 1935 - 1938

Class of 1940

PAGE, Allan Russell
1922 - 2020 Late of Victoria
Wellington College 1936 - 1938
Firth House

PATTLE, Alexander Thomas
1923 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1936 - 1940

Class of 1942

JARMAN, William Desmond (Bill)
1924 - 2020 Late of Wanganui
Wellington College 1938 - 1939
Flt. Sgt. RNZAF WWII and J Force

UNSWORTH, Jack Percival
1924 - 2020 Late of Otago
Wellington College 1938 - 1941

Class of 1943

WILLIAMSON, Desmond Leaux
1924 - 2020 Late of Otago
Wellington College 1939 - 1941

Class of 1944

❖ **ALLWRIGHT**, Sydney Graeme
1926 - 2020 Late of Paris
Wellington College 1940 - 1944

CAMERON, James Craig
1926 - 2020 Late of Horowhenua
Wellington College 1940 - 1944

GIFFORD, John David
1926 - 2020 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1940 - 1945
Firth House Prefect 1945

❖ **HANSEN**, Murray Kenneth Marshall ^{OSM}
1926 - 2020 Late of Bay of Plenty
Wellington College 1941 - 1942
Firth House

SHEPHERD, Douglas
1925 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1940 - 1942

Class of 1945

CARRINGTON, John Dane Price
1927 - 2019 Late of Horowhenua
Wellington College 1941 - 1943
Firth House

HICKS, Ronald James
1927 - 2019 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1941 - 1944

PARKINSON, Lionel James
1927 - 2019 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1941 - 1944
1st XV 1944

Class of 1946

BOWERS, Donald John
1927 - 2020 Late of Manawatu
Wellington College 1942 - 1947

Class of 1947

COLLINS, Peter Bernard
1929 - 2019 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1943 - 1946

CUMMINS, Harold Rayner
1928 - 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1944 - 1946

MARRIOTT, Neville Victor
1929 - 2019 Late of Bay of Plenty
Wellington College 1943 - 1947
Firth House

RIDDING, Reginald Alan Branton
1928 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1943 - 1946

Class of 1948

❖ **ABERNETHY**, Ian Alan George ^{FRNZOGP}
1930 - 2020 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1944 - 1948

❖ **BURNETT**, John Colledge (Snow)
1930 - 2020 Late of Coromandel
Wellington College 1944 - 1948
Staff 1954 - 1957

ISAACS, Colin John
1931 - 2019 Late of Bay of Plenty
Wellington College 1944 - 1948

❖ **KEENE**, Kemball Bernard Roderick
1930 - 2020 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1944 - 1948

KIRBY, Richard Vaughan
1930 - 2019 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1944 - 1949

McKAY, Graeme McKenzie
1930 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1944 - 1947

SLEEMAN, Geoffrey Russell
1931 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1944 - 1948

STOUT, Geoffrey Lawrence
1930 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1944 - 1946

Class of 1949

BURT, Ian Joseph
1932 - 2020 Late of Bay of Plenty
Wellington College 1945 - 1948

❖ **GARRITY**, Timothy Peter
1931 - 2020 Late of Otago
Wellington College 1948 - 1950
Firth House Prefect 1950

GOODSON, Ashley John
1932 - 2020 Late of Taranaki
Wellington College 1945 - 1950
Firth House

❖ **LAURIE**, Ian Stott
1931 - 2020 Late of Victoria
Wellington College 1945 - 1949
Dux 1949

❖ **McLAUCHLAN**, Gordon William ^{ONZM}
1931 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1945 - 1949

MITCHELL, Rex Bruce
1932 - 2019 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1946 - 1947

PHILLIPS, Glyn Rees
1932 - 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1945 - 1946

PULLENGER, Kenneth Robert
1932 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1945 - 1947

SKINNER, Anthony George (Tony)
1931 - 2019 Late of Canterbury
Wellington College 1945 - 1949
Firth House

Class of 1950

❖ **BERRYMAN**, Keith Hugh Nicolas
1929 - 2019 Late of Wanganui
Wellington College 1946
Firth House

❖ **PATRICK**, Laughton
1934 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1946 - 1950

Class of 1951

BAINBRIDGE, William Athol (Bill)
1933 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1947 - 1950
Firth House

ROBINSON, Graeme Bruce
1934 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1947 - 1950

SCRIVENS, William Patrick (Paddy)
1933 - 2019 Late of Manawatu
Wellington College 1947 - 1951

❖ **SIMMONDS**, Kenneth (Professor)
1935 - 2020 Late of England
Wellington College 1947 - 1950

Class of 1952

PATERSON, Colin Grant
1933 - 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1948 - 1950
Firth House

Class of 1953

BREGMEN, Brian Eric
1934 - 2020 Late of Horowhenua
Wellington College 1949 - 1950
Firth House

GRENFELL, David Lander
1935 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1949 - 1953

Class of 1954

BISHELL, Alan John Frederick
1936 - 2020 Late of Northland
Wellington College 1950 - 1953
Firth House

COLLINS, Derek Charles
1935 - 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1950 - 1952
Firth House

DAVIS, Barry Charles Roy
1936 - 2018 Late of Nelson
Wellington College 1950 - 1953

❖ **NICOLSON**, Alistair John (Jock)
1936 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1950 - 1954

PEARSON, Bryan Carol
1936 - 2019 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1950 - 1954
1st XV 1954, Firth House

❖ **THOMAS**, Peter Brian
1937 - 2020 Late of Waikato
Wellington College 1950 - 1953

Class of 1955

BROWN, Thomas Pendreigh <sup>MB ChB (NZ),
FFARCS, FFARACS, Dip Occ Med 1997, MRACMA</sup>
1937 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1951 - 1955

❖ **GROCOTT**, John Wesley
1937 - 2020 Late of Canterbury
Wellington College 1951 - 1955
1st XV 1957, 1st XI 1954-55

HIGGINS, John Mervyn
1937 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1951 - 1952
Firth House

SCOTT, Donald Beattie
1938 - 2019 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1951 - 1956
Firth House

WILLS, Lloyd
1937 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1951 - 1953

Class of 1956

❖ **HILL**, Murray John, Professor
1939 - 2020 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1952 - 1957
1st XI Football 1956-1957

McRAE, Alexander Malcolm (Alec)
1938 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1952 - 1956
1st XV 1956

RICHES, David George (Reverend)
1938 - 2020 Late of North Carolina
Wellington College 1952 - 1955

ROUTLEDGE, Roger Gareth
1939 - 2020 Late of Otago
Wellington College 1952 - 1955

Class of 1957

ASPEY, Vincent John
1940 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1953 - 1957

CARLEY, Keith William Rev Dr
1940 - 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1953 - 1957

KILMISTER, Kenneth Graham
1938 - 2020 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1953 - 1955

MANDER, Graeme Howard
1940 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1953 - 1956

MORRIS, Clive Russell
1939 - 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1953 - 1956

SMITH, Charles Ernest (Charlie)
1938 – 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1953 – 1956

❖ **SOUTHWORTH, John Joseph**
1939 – 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1953 – 1957
1st XV 1957

YOUNG, David William
1940 – 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1953 – 1956

Class of 1958

ALLAN, David Selbie
1941 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1955 – 1957

HOBBS, Richard Derisley Thomas
1941 – 2019 Late of Victoria
Wellington College 1954 – 1958

Class of 1959

ARTHUR, David Alexander
1940 – 2020 Late of Horowhenua
Wellington College 1955 – 1959

❖ **KWOK, Ivan** ^{ONZM}
1941 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1958 – 1959
1st XI Hockey, Firth House

TURNER, Michael Duncan (Mike)
1942 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1955 – 1959

Class of 1960

BURKE, Rodger Joseph
1942 – 2020 Late of Manawatu
Wellington College 1956 – 1958

YOUNG, Antony John
1942 – 2019 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1956 – 1959

Class of 1961

❖ **CHAPMAN, Wayne Seymour**
1944 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1957 – 1961

Class of 1962

SINCLAIR, John Donald
1943 – 2019 Late of Poverty Bay
Wellington College 1958 – 1960
Firth House

Class of 1963

HUDSON, Edward Allan
1946 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1959 – 1963

TOOLEY, Ross William 1946 – 2019
Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1959 – 1961

Class of 1965

CAMERON, Kenneth McDonald
1948 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1961 – 1965

CLARK, Graham Jefferson (Jeff)
1947 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1961 – 1965

HUNTER, Arthur James Alexander (Artie)
1947 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1961 – 1963
Firth House

PRICE, Murray Alexander
1947 – 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1961 – 1965

❖ **TAYLOR, Stephen James (Steve)**
1947 – 2020 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1961 – 1966
Mjr (Ret) NZ Army

Class of 1966

MARTIN, Philip Gourlay
1949 – 2020 Late of Bay of Plenty
Wellington College 1962 – 1966
1st XV 1966, Firth House

ROWE, Gregory Robert
1949 – 2020 Late of Hawkes Bay
Wellington College 1962 – 1966

Class of 1967

CAMPBELL, Alan John (AJ)
1949 – 2020 Late of Kapiti
Wellington College 1963 – 1966

Class of 1968

POULIS, Spiros
1950 – 2019 Late of Greece
Wellington College 1964 – 1967

Class of 1970

THOMAS, Stephen Wade
1952 – 2019 Late of Western Australia
Wellington College 1966 – 1969

Class of 1972

❖ **HILL, Gerard David (Gerry)**
1956 – 2020 Late of Auckland
Wellington College 1968 – 1970

Class of 1975

SCOTT, Ian Douglas (Scotty)
1957 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1971 – 1974
Firth House
Pimmerton Volunteer Fire Brigade

Class of 1978

CHIN, Roger Min
1960 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1974 – 1976

Class of 1981

MIDDLETON, Moray Bruce
1963 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1977 – 1979

Class of 1983

MALCOLM, Stephen Paul
1965 – 2020 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1979 – 1981

Class of 1987

CHILDS, Gregory Edward
1970 – 2020 Late of Scotland
Wellington College 1983 – 1986

Class of 1988

BURTON, Garry Mark
1970 – 2020 Late of Wairarapa
Wellington College 1984 – 1986

SHANLY, Kurt
1970 – 2019 Late of Wellington
Wellington College 1984 – 1988

LIFE STORIES

Ian Abernethy, Class of 1948



Dr Ian Abernethy, who passed away aged 89, will be a familiar name to thousands of people. He served as a general practitioner in Havelock North for just over 40 years.

When he came to Havelock North the population was around 3500 people.

A medical career almost did not occur as it was suggested he go into the family clothing business, but as this didn't appeal, *I decided to have a shot at getting into medical school.*

During his studies, he met his future wife, Patricia, and they would marry two days after his final medical exam, of which he reflected later *I don't recommend to anybody.* Patricia was in Ian's words, *A real Hawke's Bay girl*, having grown up here.

They came to Havelock North to a wedding of one of Pat's school friends, and he felt *it was just a corker of a place.*

Ian and Patricia, however, were at that time in the process of deciding where they would live, and possible overseas study for a specialisation.

Many of his peers were going to Australia and Canada to do this, and the latter country had some appeal. But when Dr John Rea, a GP in Havelock North, put his

thriving practice on the market to study to become a pathologist, they thought this opportunity was too good to turn down.

The plan would now be to start off in Havelock North, accumulate some savings, and then go overseas to study a specialty.

At about the stage Ian and Patricia had planned to do this, they had three young children, Malcolm, Ian and Lynaire (Duncan came later). The sensible thing, they decided, was to stay and carry on, especially as they enjoyed Havelock North.

The desire to further his knowledge, and therefore be of more service to his patients would be a strong motivation for Ian.

Before coming to Havelock North, he was at Palmerston North, and had an interest in anaesthetics. Upon investigating what maternity services were existing in Hawke's Bay before settling here, he noted there were no epidural anaesthetics here. Ian decided to go to Sydney to investigate epidurals at the Crown Street Women's Hospital.

However, not everyone was sold on epidurals in the medical profession here, and he would begin his anaesthetics first in a private hospital, before moving to the public hospital. Ian would conduct anaesthetics for around 30 years, and the skills to administer this were later taken up by others.

He would deliver babies for 20 years in his practice. An achievement he was proud

of, was gaining entry at the hospital for fathers to attend births in the delivery theatre.

He spoke to Frank Cooper in 2015 saying: *And I think once you've heard a baby's first cry you would understand, because these little babies that have swivelled their way into this world arrive, and usually the first thing that happens is that they give a little cry, and it's always just wonderful to hear that little cry and the louder it is the better. And it makes up for getting out of bed in the middle of the night and driving down through the frost and getting changed and going in and spending an hour or two or whatever – and then being welcomed with this little cry.*

Being interested in the wider aspects of the medical profession, Ian attended in England, a meeting of the World British Medical Association, of which New Zealander Professor Douglas Robb (1899–1974), was President during 1961/2. At that meeting he was introduced to Lord John Hunt (1905–1987) who founded in 1952 the College of General Practitioners (which in 1967 was added the Royal prefix).

Ian thought the idea of a College of General Practitioners was worthy of joining as it had lifted the standard of GPs in England and was 'a wonderful idea'. In time, a New Zealand College of the Royal College of Practitioners was set up, which is the professional body and postgraduate educational institute for general practitioners. Ian believed in furthering education in your chosen field.

LIFE STORIES

The technical aspects of medical equipment were of interest to Ian, and he explored the use of an electrocardiograph (ECG) (measures electrical activity of the heart) in his practice so in 1968 he was the first GP in Hawke's Bay to buy his own.

There wasn't a great use for this expensive piece of equipment in general practice, so he took it to the Hawke's Bay Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Hospital and set it up there, recalling in 2015 that he was sure they didn't have one then. This stirred up the hospital administration who decided that they needed to look at purchasing such equipment.

Despite his workload, he was active in the Havelock North Rotary Club from the beginning, which began in 1963, and would later initiate a charitable trust to contribute towards the costs of tertiary study for young people.

Many young general practitioners today would likely gasp at the responsibilities and workloads of Dr Ian Abernethy and his peers. Ian would be the first to acknowledge the support he received from wife Pat, during his 40 years in private practice in Havelock North.

Michael Fowler, *Hawkes Bay Today*

Graeme Allwright, Class of 1944



Graeme Allwright, who died aged 93, was an aspiring New Zealand actor who migrated to France in 1951 and rose to fame there as a singer and songwriter of folk ballads in the mid-1960s.

Born in Wellington, he spent his early childhood in Hawera and Whanganui before returning to Wellington, where his father Syd became stationmaster of Wellington Railway Station. Both Syd and wife Doris were accomplished singers and were well-known in musical and repertory circles in the late 1930s, in which from an early age they involved Graeme and his elder brother Peter. The family formed a singing group, the *Melody Four*, which performed in hospitals and for private events, and once a week on Radio 2YA.

Graeme attended Wellington College, where in his final year, 1944, he was saddened by Peter's death on active service with Bomber Command in Italy. By then he had become an aspiring actor, and from 1945 to 1948 took part in numerous productions for the Wellington Repertory Theatre Company, the Religious Drama Society and the Light Opera Company alongside Peter Harcourt, Selwyn Toogood (Class of 1933) and Dick Champion (Class of 1941), among other early Wellington theatre personalities.

He gradually progressed to major roles, leading to hopes for a professional acting career abroad,

and in 1948 he obtained entry to the Old Vic Theatre School in London, assisted by a small government grant obtained in part through the auspices of Prime Minister Peter Fraser, to whom Graeme's emerging talent had come to the attention. He covered the cost of his passage to Britain working as a general hand on a cargo ship.

At the Old Vic school, he acted in several student productions with sufficient merit to impress both Dame Edith Evans and Anthony Quayle, who in 1951 invited Graeme to join the company of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, of which he was then director. But Graeme had met and fallen in love with a young French student at the school, Catherine Dasté, and instead followed her to France, where they married in December 1951.

Catherine was the grand-daughter of Jean Copeau, the great renewer of French acting methods and set design in the early 20th century, and the daughter of Jean Dasté, a theatre director whose company the young couple then joined.

But Graeme's lack of French limited him to back-stage work until 1956, when he was sufficiently fluent to take on acting roles. In the meantime, and subsequently in between these, he took on a variety of jobs in country areas including beekeeping, bricklaying, plastering, then as an orderly in a psychiatric hospital.

While in France, he taught himself to play the guitar, and in the 1960s began adapting into French some of the newly emerging folk anthems of the American civil rights and war protest movements. Encouraged by friends, he obtained gigs at Parisian Left-Bank cabarets, and then in 1965 as a supporting act for a concert of the French pop singer Barbara. There his talent was spotted by a Phillips executive who commissioned a first album, which appeared in 1966 under the title *Le Trimardeur (The Tramp)*.

Two other albums followed quickly, in which Graeme combined transpositions into French of songs by Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger, Tom Paxton and Peter, Paul and Mary among others, together with his own compositions and original French lyrics. His songs of social and political protest, their unique Americano-French rhythms and the slightly melancholic air infusing many of them struck a responsive chord with a French youth audience.

His repertoire became the sound of the

1968 student protest movement in Paris and elsewhere, and Graeme was amazed to find the audience singing along to his lyrics on concert tours throughout France.

In the 1970s, he began to tour internationally, both through Europe and North America, and to French-speaking countries in Africa as well as to India and South-East Asia. At the same time he was translating songs of leading French poet-singers such as Georges Brassens for English-speaking audiences. In 1976 he met and became friends with Leonard Cohen, who invited him to transpose some of his songs to French, which Graeme did with notable success with numbers such as *The Stranger Song* and *Sisters of Mercy*.

In the 1980s, in between singing tours, Graeme returned to the French stage, taking the principal role in a classic play by Molière that also toured to Africa. From then until his last public concert in 2017, he continued both singing and theatre tours, as well as recording more than 20 albums.

Inspired in part by frequent stays in an ashram in Pondicherry, India, Graeme became committed to the search for peace and justice throughout the world. To this end he rewrote, together with collaborator Sylvie Dion, more pacific words for the French national anthem, *la Marseillaise*, which they recommended to French President Nicolas Sarkozy. The new anthem was sung by Graeme in Wellington in front of Gandhi's statue on October 2, 2009, for the World March for Peace and Non-Violence.

Aside from this visit, Graeme returned privately to New Zealand twice before undertaking a concert tour in 2005-06. This tour (which included a visit to Wellington College for an Assembly) was filmed by a French film crew and subsequently broadcast in France under the title *Pacific Blues*. Graeme's commitment New Zealand-France relations was also recognised by having a street named after him in Le Quesnoy, the French village liberated by New Zealand troops in November 1918.

Although having become a French citizen, Graeme remained a passionate Kiwi. He supported the anti-apartheid and anti-nuclear movements here, being especially appalled about the Rainbow Warrior affair. When asked in 2004 about his dual identity, he replied: *It's true that I love France. Nevertheless, my roots are in New Zealand. There is no doubt about it.*

Graeme is survived by first wife Catherine Dasté, their children Nicolas, Christophe and Jacques, and by second wife Claire Bataille, and their daughter Jeanne.

The Dominion Post



LEFT: Three members of a French Film Crew assembled with Headmaster Roger Moses (centre) and Graham Allwright (second from right) in the Staffroom.

Keith Berryman, Class of 1950



Keith passed away in April 2019, aged 89 years. Born in Blenheim, Keith attended Wellesley College from 1944 - 1945, and Wellington College from 1946 - 1947 as a boarder before returning to live

on the family farm in Ward, Marlborough.

Keith was the loved husband of Margaret who he married in 1961. He was a proud father of one daughter and three sons, and grandfather to ten grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Keith was a keen horseman and huntsman and had the chance to become a jockey but stuck with farming. Keith was first and foremost an excellent stockman and ran three studs - Border Leicester's, Suffolk's and Dorset Downs, becoming both judge and inspector for these breeds. A testament to his ability is the fact that he won the Walker and Hall Challenge Shield for obtaining the most points at a Royal Show on two occasions, once when farming in Marlborough and the again while living in Wanganui.

It was after attending a Royal Show in Hastings and returning to the South Island that Keith and Margaret, along with other breeders, threatened to graze their stock on Parliament grounds when denied access to the ferries. This made headline news and all because the vet had failed to turn up to inspect the stock prior to boarding the ferry. A necessity in those days is thankfully no longer required.

The Berrymans moved to a much larger property in the King Country in 1984 and they eventually retired to Wanganui in 1999. Keith was a keen gardener, always providing the family with masses of vegetables. He also had a love of fishing and enjoyed surf casting with the family along the Kaikoura coast.

Wellesley College

John (Snow) Burnett, Class Of 1948



Snow Burnett was Head of English at Otaki District High School (now Otaki College) over two periods in the 1960s. His blond hair led to students referring to him affectionately as

'Snow' Burnett.

In extramural activities, Snow was heavily involved with coaching both Cricket and Rugby as well as producing Dramas which were presented in the Otaki Memorial Hall. He had a wonderful command of the Queen's English and had a string of quotes that were often used as class lines for those who failed to hand in their homework. They were asked to write 20 lines of *Procrastination*

is the thief of Time. Snow held a number of overseas teaching positions. He ended his teaching career as Deputy Principal of Dilworth School, Auckland in 1988.

He and his wife Jean retired firstly to New Plymouth and then to Thames - *I was looking for a place to launch my boat.* Even at 84 years of age, Snow was still a keen golfer.

He was an accomplished sportsman who had played rugby and cricket at Senior A club level, captained the Wellington Colts rugby team, played Brabin Cup Cricket and represented Wellington in rugby for one season.

Upon completing his MA at Victoria University in 1953, Snow attended Auckland Teachers' College. The following year he returned to teach French, German and English at his alma mater Wellington College. He married Jean in 1957. At that time, all secondary school teachers were required to teach in a 'country' or rural school. They selected Suva Boys' Grammar School in Fiji, as it followed the NZ Curriculum.

Snow returned to New Zealand in 1959 and, by chance, met up with an old Wellington College and Victoria University mate by the name of John Northern. The latter had taken up a position at Otaki District High School, which had opened that year and he was instrumental in persuading Snow to successfully apply for the position of HOD English there.

After only two years in Otaki, the Education Department asked him to take up a position in Indonesia at Jakarta University. He taught post-graduate students and assisted staff members complete their theses in English.

Having been granted two years leave of absence from Otaki, Snow returned to Otaki College until the end of 1966. During this period he was approached by the local Chinese spokesman, Mr Jo Gow, to run weekly Wednesday English classes at the College to help improve their accuracy and fluency in spoken English. This innovation was to become a most rewarding, successful undertaking that was greatly appreciated by the Chinese community. Snow was also elected onto the Otaki Borough Council with his main brief being improving the Otaki Beach surrounds and amenities.

Late in 1966, he was offered, via the NZ Diplomatic Service, a Colombo Plan position in the Bangkok Language Institute. This entailed supporting upper-echelon Thai officials and commercial personnel. During this time he wrote a book *Readings in English for College Students - with Exercises* that was published for use in Thai Secondary Schools.

On returning to New Zealand in 1969, Snow became HOD English and French at Opotiki College for one year before returning to Fiji as Head of Preliminary English at the University of the South Pacific in Suva. This posting lasted for four years. In 1975, he was appointed as HOD of English and French at Dilworth School in Auckland and was appointed Deputy Principal later that year. Snow quickly settled into the rhythm of boarding school life and soon established a reputation as a strong leader and a man who would not tolerate disruptive, anti-social behaviour or bad manners. It was a very sound appointment at a time when a firm and resolute management style was called for. At a much later time, he recalled that he found Dilworth a serious challenge. He described the School at that time as 'a wild place' and the inhabitants as 'rough and ready'. Boys accepted the new Deputy with a mixture of fear, respect and tolerance and in short order he became a popular figure even for those who were on the opposite side of the law from him.

Snow remained at Dilworth for 14 years until his retirement from a wonderful service of teaching. Retirement from teaching did not mean a complete withdrawal from the work world. With his wife Jean and other family members, Snow invested in a motel in New Plymouth.

Otaki and Dilworth Colleges Alumni Magazines

Wayne Chapman, Class of 1961



To the many staff at Buddle Findlay, lawyer Wayne Chapman who died in January, 2020 after a short illness was a colossal personality. He'll be remembered not just for his legal skills but also for his immense connection with people.

Wayne Chapman was 75 years old and a property law consultant at the firm's office in Wellington.

Paul Beverley is the Buddle Findlay national chair and described Wayne as the tōtara at the firm. *He'd been with us for 55 years. That's an incredible contribution. He was a partner for a long time before becoming a consultant. He was active, with an office here and he was with us every day. He was our Kaumātua, the senior figure in the firm and as he transitioned through his career, that mana he had was carried with him wherever he went.*

Wayne was highly supportive of every staff member and always available to them. *When we found out that Wayne had died, there were obviously a lot of tears in this office, and many of those mourning Wayne were actually quite young people. They really connected with Wayne too.*

LIFE STORIES

Paul said Wayne was more than just a lawyer, *The number of conversations we've had this week about how everyone would talk to Wayne about a conflict or another issue in law just speaks volumes about who Wayne was. This includes me, I'd go to Wayne with a problem and simply say, 'I just need a wise head' and he was always there. He was a person with a big heart, a fantastic sense of humour and a real presence in the office. Nationally we will all really miss Wayne as he made an indelible impression on the firm.*

As Paul remembers, there were not too many situations that Wayne had not dealt with, *I'll always remember him telling me in relation to some of the strategic projects we do here. He had a great dry sense of humour and he said to me 'I really support the projects you're doing. I've seen all of them a few times before and it's great you're still going with them.*

Wayne attended Victoria University in the 1960s. He was admitted in 1974, and was made a partner in 1975. Before his admission and during his law studies he worked as a law clerk at what is now Buddle Findlay.

While he was at university, he was building up legal experience, so he didn't have to wait three years to become a partner, said Buddle Findlay consultant Alastair Sherriff.

Alastair knew Wayne very well. They were great friends and had worked together for decades. He joined the firm in 1974 as a law clerk when it was known as Buddle Anderson Kent. Alastair was admitted in 1975. *We just had a Wellington office back then. Wayne always knew everything about the trust account. He kept us on the straight and narrow throughout his whole life. He had tremendous ethics and rules. He was the go-to guy. He was as honest as the day is long. He was safe, trustworthy, gentle but firm – you knew where you stood with Wayne.*

Alastair said Wayne was a people person and essentially a people's lawyer, which is why he was universally loved. *He went out of his way to take an interest in people. He cared for them and he was like that to everyone in the firm and to his clients.*

Wayne was appointed to the NZ Law Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal in December 2004 and to the NZ Lawyers and Conveyancers Disciplinary Tribunal following the passing of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006. He continued that work up until the end of his life.

He was also the Wellington District Law Society President in 1994. He held other roles including at one stage being on the Council of Legal Education for a period of six years. He was President of the Wellington District Society of Notaries and a member of the Sutherland Self Help Trust Board.

Doctor John Adams (Class of 1961) grew

up with Wayne. Their friendship extended from attending the same primary school at Karori West and Wellington College from 1957 – 1961. *Wayne was in the top academic 'A' stream through College. He achieved an A grade Scholarship to Victoria University and was doing Medical Intermediate but switched to Law.*

John remembers lectures being supplemented by many games of '500' in the common room. *Wayne's father was General Manager of the Dominion newspaper and after Wayne's paper deliveries on Saturday, we would pack the Dominion Anglia van with togs, towels, girlfriends and a dozen flagons of 4X from the Southern Cross and head to Raumati Beach for the weekend.*

John remembers Wayne as a great listener and wise counsel about matters professional and personal to their group of friends. *The subsequent friends he developed as a result of the famous annual fishing event known as 'Boys Week' at Tūrangi which he was instrumental in arranging has lasted decades. The sitting around the table (Wayne sat at North End) and fire, solving the issues of the world and more private issues about which chaps do not usually confide, will be my everlasting memory. We have lost a very loyal friend.*

District Court Judge, Craig Thompson also fondly remembers those annual fishing trips. *Wayne was introduced to trout fishing at Tūrangi by his father-in-law in the late 70s and he decided that he should get a team together to do more. The first 'Boy's Week' happened in June 1980, and has been repeated every year since – in fact for the last few years there have been two weeks – the one in June and a repeat in the somewhat easier climate of August/September. So, for 40 years Wayne was very much the Skipper of a happy and, it has to be admitted, occasionally rowdy crowd.*

In 1992, he was the mind behind the 'boys' getting together and, with him and organising the partnership arrangements and the conveyancing to buy a house in Tūrangi – which has been the much-loved base for great times on the lakes, the rivers and the mountains of the Central Plateau ever since. As those who knew him well would expect, Wayne never allowed the fishing to interfere with the catering arrangements, and always ensured that dehydration never became an issue.

A service to celebrate Wayne's life was held at Wellington College. He leaves behind his second wife Marie and three adult children, Christopher who is a lawyer in London, Anna, a computer engineer and Richard who is an actor.

NZ Law Society

Tim Garrity, Class of 1949/1950



Tim held the position of Curator of Pictures at the Hocken Collections at University of Otago for almost twenty years, from 1978 to 1997. His background in philosophy and skills as an artist equipped him

well to carry out the variety of duties in this role. He also developed relationships with the visual arts community which greatly benefited the Library, developing the collection and creating important links with key practitioners.

Born in London, Tim arrived in New Zealand in 1948 and began boarding at Firth House, rising to a House Prefect in 1950. After leaving Wellington College, he began his career as a painter. This led him to travel extensively overseas after study in Wellington, Christchurch and Auckland. He worked with Colin McCahon between 1962 and 1963 and represented New Zealand at the 1963 Paris Biennale.

Tim administered the Auckland Gallery's Research Library from 1975 until the end of 1977, when he left to go to Dunedin. As a respected artist with an international reputation, Tim could establish a rapport with other artists who then gave material to the Hocken Pictures Collection or involved him in supporting written or other projects. Tim's own researches led to the writing of a chronology of Dunedin art collector and philanthropist Rodney Kennedy for the publication *The Kennedy Gift: Rodney Kennedy (1909-1989)*.

An interest in McCahon's work was maintained throughout his working life and he wrote the introduction to the Hocken Library's publication listing all the McCahon holdings entitled *A Tribute to Colin McCahon 1919-1987*. Tim also produced *James Brown, caricaturist: a complete catalogue of the paintings, drawings and lithographs by James Brown (1818-1877)* in the Hocken Library, and wrote the note introducing John Buchanan as an artist, in *John Buchanan: artist botanist and explorer*, a catalogue of his



pictures in the Hocken Library, which was published to accompany an exhibition of Buchanan's work in 1988.

Another publication from that year, *Geometric, abstract and minimalist painting at the Hocken*, shows Tim's approach to curating an exhibition exploring aspects of the Hocken collection which are less well-known.

Tim's enthusiastic encouragement of first-hand study of the collection meant that he was greatly appreciated by Otago's artists as well as by researchers from further afield. Tim was always unstintingly generous with his own time and knowledge.

Some of Tim's work can be found at www.aucklandartgallery.com/ including the 1965 on the previous page. *Hocken Library Collection, University of Otago*

John Grocott Class of 1957



It took John Grocott at least 45 minutes to say his goodbyes before he left the room.

The Shirley community stalwart was a familiar face around Christchurch and was

involved in almost all aspects of his cherished suburb. The accountant, sports enthusiast and father of four, died in January, 2020.

He always took an interest in others and was quick to lend a helping hand, son Tim Grocott said. *Dad loved people and people loved him. He was a tireless worker for the community – whether it was schools, community groups, businesses, or other organisations. He was always happy to help out.*

John was born to parents John and Mabel Grocott in Auckland, in 1937. He was the middle child of his two siblings, Judith and Paul. The family moved to Richmond, Nelson, briefly, then to Karori in the mid-1940s.

John attended Karori School and Wellington College, where his time was dominated by sports. He became a formidable cricket and rugby player, making the school's top teams for both codes.

One of his proudest sporting moments was when his rugby team won the Quadrangular Tournament – New Zealand's oldest secondary school rugby tournament – for the first time in 1955.

John moved to Christchurch to study a BCom in accounting at the University of Canterbury in 1956. He continued his sporting passions, playing Basketball and Rugby for the University and Merivale clubs.

He met Lola Becker at a dance a friend

had invited him to. The pair hit it off and their relationship blossomed. They married in 1961 and had four children: Sara, Eve, David and Tim.

John's first job after graduating was at Taylors Dry Cleaning and Laundry in Christchurch. He stayed with the business for 23 years, working his way up to the role of Company Secretary.

He then spent the next 20 years working in a partnership at Saunders and Hughey Accounting. *Being his own boss suited Dad and allowed him the flexibility to indulge himself in his various sporting passions*, Tim said.

John continued to excel in the sporting arena and was selected to the Canterbury Junior Rugby team, which played at a curtain-raiser for a Springboks v All Blacks fixture in 1956.

He also became involved with the East Christchurch Shirley Cricket Club (ECSCC), which became a major part of his life.

He played Senior Cricket for the Club between 1956 and 1982 as an opening batsman and ended his playing days in 2010 in the President's Grade.

John established Junior Cricket at the Club in 1958 and ran the Club's coaching programme until 1971. He obtained his level two coaching certificate in 1968 and started coaching morning programmes for first-year players in 1980.

John was also the Club's Secretary between 1957 and 1960 and its Treasurer and President over ten years.

He also acted as Treasurer for the Shirley Sports Club for 16 years, that was, a joint venture with Shirley Rugby.

His life-long commitment to the Shirley community was rewarded when he was elected a life member of the ECSCC in 1979 and presented the Sir Jack Newman award for services to grassroots Cricket in 2010.

John was also made a Life Member of the Canterbury Metro Cricket Association in 2015. Friend and ECSCC member Roger Parlane said John's involvement in the community was 'immense'. *His presence and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by the East Shirley family and the many other organisations to which he contributed.*

John's dedication to community and sport did not stop there.

He began playing at Canterbury Basketball in 1956 and became Club Treasurer in the early 1960s. About the same time, he was elected to the committee of the Canterbury Men's Basketball Association and became its President in 1970.

He also became an executive member of Basketball NZ and helped with both

the National Coaches Association and the National Referees Association, and audited Basketball NZ.

In later years, John's main involvement was through refereeing. He refereed at local Christchurch competitions for about 40 years, helping grow the game particularly at the secondary school level.

John's 60 years of service was honoured with many accolades, including the Sir Lance Cross Memorial Award for exceptional services to Basketball, life memberships of Basketball NZ and the Canterbury Basketball Association, and a Long Service Award in 2018.

John continued to be highly involved in his community. He was a part of the Christchurch Business Association for almost 50 years, chaired the board of trustees at Shirley Boys' High School for a time and voluntarily audited many community organisations.

Tim said his father would be remembered for his happy nature and big heart. *He was larger than life ... You always knew where Dad was because you could hear him talking and laughing. I think that's how we would like to remember him. Always happy, always talking, always interested in what you were up to and most importantly, always happy to help out.*

Former Canterbury and New Zealand Basketball President, Peter Crowhen said John always ensured things were done properly. *John was a perfectionist in everything he did. He was also most content with the back-room role rather than being in the limelight.*

John is survived by wife Lola, children Sara, Eve, David and Tim, and eight grandchildren.
Stuff

Editor's Note: It was an honour and privilege to represent the College and the Association at John's service, joining his many friends, class and team mates from his days at Wellington College. The service was held at Shirley Boys' High School where John's son Tim is Headmaster.

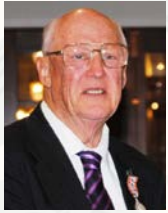
Past 1st XV members will always remember John as one of the core group of senior Old Boys who organised and attended every Quadrangular to support the team. It was very special to have seen John at the 2019 Quadrangular in Wellington and late last year, John was a special guest of our 1st XI Cricket team, when the boys played at the Willows. He will be sorely missed.

John was also an integral part of the Canterbury Branch of the WCOBA and ensured we were kept up-to-date on local news and deaths.

Steph Kane, WCOBA

LIFE STORIES

Murray Hansen, Class of 1944



The 2016 *Lampstand* recorded the QSM honour bestowed on Murray for Services to the Community. Murray had been a Justice of the Peace in Kawerau for 45 years and a member of the Kawerau Rotary

Club for 46 years. He mentored many JPs and remained an active member of the Eastern Bay of Plenty JPs Association.

Since the founding of Kawerau, Murray showed a strong commitment to the community through the many Rotary activities he was involved with, as well as the numerous local committees of which he was a member. Murray was also a driving force behind the establishment of the Kawerau Community Association.

Gerry Hill, Class of 1972



Some people touch you so deeply you feel like a lifelong friend though you've met them only two or three times. Gerry Hill, who died in January, was one of those. I imagine everyone who met Gerry

liked him very much.

Gerry had an interesting background. His father was Toby Hill, a well-known trade union leader who played a major role in the 1951 waterfront lockout as national secretary of the Waterside Workers' Union.

His mother was active in local women's organisations and Gerry remembered growing up in a house that was full of lively conversation, a gathering place for politically engaged people including prominent unionists and MPs of the day.

Merchant seamen were also frequent visitors, often just back from international voyages with what Gerry called, *good stories and things you couldn't get in New Zealand*.

As soon as he could, he went to sea himself, working in the galleys, preparing and serving food for passengers and crew. His father was Secretary of the Cooks and Stewards Union in the 1970s.

Gerry was elected to its national executive in 1984 and a few years later, when he became its Auckland secretary, he and partner Sally James moved north.

I first met him ten years ago when I was researching Auckland's history for a series of *Herald* supplements. By then the Cooks and Stewards Union had long since disappeared into an amalgamated body and he and Sally had established a bed and breakfast business they called The Great Ponsonby Arthotel.

It was a warm and cosy house with

Pacific-inspired furnishings and a parlour of books on Auckland and New Zealand's heritage and places of interest. Gerry offered walking tours of Ponsonby, pointing out where Michael Joseph Savage had lived and locations of events important to the labour movement.

Sharing a love of local history, we hit it off. He knew me from my columns and I knew him from his letters in the *Herald*. We did not agree on very much but that didn't matter.

When he published a memoir of the Cooks and Stewards Union the year before last, he sent me a copy. Typically, it's all about the union, not him. Its stories are of an era when only New Zealand companies could operate on New Zealand's coasts and it was normal for unions to decide who they could engage.

Young Gerry and his comrades fought for a roster to replace the system that let chief stewards choose who they wanted from a 'corner' of union members waiting for work. They were less successful with campaigns to save the overnight ferries from Lyttelton, which ended in 1976, and Norman Kirk's shipping line, sold by the next Labour Government.

When Railways started operating the Picton ferries, the Cooks and Stewards Union became an ogre in the public mind, leaving hundreds of holidaymakers stranded on an ANZAC Day weekend in 1975. Toby Hill blamed railway managers who didn't know how to run ships.

The last dispute on Toby's watch ended with Railways agreeing to fly Lyttelton-based cooks and stewards to Wellington for work on the Picton ferries. Soon, Gerry concedes, some members were being flown to work from 'remote and romantic parts of our green and pleasant land'.

He proudly recalled 'Operation Hope', a famine relief shipment to Ethiopia in 1985 that was his initiative. Inspired by Bob Geldof's 'Live Aid' project, maritime unions donated their labour, the Union Steam Ship Company donated a ship.

Banks and other corporates contributed money and the Lange Government matched them dollar for dollar. The Wheat Board donated grain, the Ministry of Works, a bulldozer and schoolchildren brought offerings to the ship before it sailed for Africa.

When Gerry wrote the book he had already been diagnosed with motor neurone disease. He and Sally were no longer operating 'The Great Pons' and had moved into the house next door. Gerry was in a motorised chair when I visited. His movements were restricted and life was a daily ordeal that he described with not a word of self-pity. He was still much more interested in problems outside himself and in the welfare of others.

His mind was as lively as ever and his spirit cheerful. That morning he had driven the chariot up the street and bought ANZAC biscuits from little girls selling their home baking. When I left, he came with me as far as the drive and lingered there, enjoying the sun on his face.

John Roughan, *NZ Herald*

Gerry became a well-known figure in Ponsonby. Passionate and flamboyant, he sometimes ruffled feathers – because he cared. He persuaded the former Auckland City Council to change the name of 'Pompallier Street Park' to 'Pompallier' Park to correctly associate the name of the park with the historical Bishop Pompallier – and to also upgrade the park. He also persuaded the Chairman of the ARC to speak at the opening (which was actually quite easy) but also he persuaded no less than the French Ambassador to come and speak which was quite a feat.

Mike Lee

Murray Hill, Class of 1956/1957

Murray Hill was the Founding Director of the Seed Technology Centre at Massey University from 1976 to 1997.

This was followed by him setting up the New Zealand Seed Technology Institute at Lincoln University in 1998 where he was the Director and Professor of Seed and Crop Science until he retired until 2004.

Murray started his career with the Department of Agriculture at the Seed Testing Station in Palmerston North where he became Officer in Charge. During this time, he also completed his PhD at Massey University on ryegrass seed production.

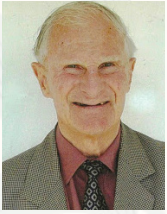
The Seed Technology Centre had a strong international presence with both many international students and short courses. At Lincoln he initiated the Seed Industry Short Course which has run in June/July for 20 consecutive years.

His interests in Seed Drying and Seed Storage led in the mid-1990s to many FAR run training workshops and interaction with seed growers and culminated in the publication by FAR of *The Drying and Storage of Grain and Herbage Seed* book edited by Murray Hill.

After finishing at Lincoln, Murray and his late wife Karen moved to Queensland where they established the Seed Technology Institute Australia, based at the Gatton campus of the University of Queensland. After returning to New Zealand he bought a 10-acre block at Gladstone which he described as his perfect retirement home – next door to the Gladstone pub, a trout stream on the boundary and plenty of fruit and nut trees!

Murray passed away in June 2020. He made a huge contribution to the New Zealand seed industry over more than 40-years and will be missed by all those who worked and studied with him.
The Foundation for Arable Research (FAR)

Kemball Keene, Class of 1948



Dr Kem Keene, who died in July, was well-known both as a local Pahiatua veterinarian and in the horse racing industry - breeding and racing horses. He was 89.

Kem was born in 1930, in Wellington. His education began at Karori Primary School, often riding to school on a pony with his sister Janice. His love for animals was great, he nursed sick ones and bred chickens, rabbits and also picked up outcasts and strays. His Shetland ponies used to get him into trouble when escaping and getting into gardens.

Dad's family originally came from Te Pahi Station on 90 Mile Beach in Northland, said daughter Carron Perry. The family would pack up the caravan and travel north from Wellington for their holidays.

He then attended Wellington College, obtaining a scholarship to Sydney University to study Veterinary Medicine. He travelled to Sydney on a boat at the beginning but managed to return on a float plane five years later.

Because Dad's scholarship only paid for his education, there was very little money for board. He did lots of washing dishes jobs to get money for food and his fellow students did get meat sometimes from someone - he later found out it was horsemeat.

Living above stables in the loft he started to follow the horses. He studied their form and then would catch the train out to Randwick. He would put some money on one race he'd picked. If it came in, he would have his second pick. But if it didn't make a collect he would go back to the train and wait for it to go back that night as he just couldn't afford to lose, and there were times he sat in the parked train all day waiting till it returned back to town.

After returning home in 1953 for the final part of his BVs degree (having to do a year of practical vet practice) he was posted to Urenui in Taranaki. When he arrived, the previous vet had just left so he was handed a set of keys for a car and maps for his first job. (Dad hadn't driven a car let alone owned a driver's licence but he wasn't going to tell them that). When he managed to get to the 'call', smoke was emanating from the car as he'd driven the whole way with the hand brake hard on.

The next placement was in Waipukurau with vets Doctors Dreadon and Quinliven, and this is where Dad met Mum. Kay wanted her horse drenched, but unfortunately the horse was a bit unruly and drench got all over mum's brand-new jodhpurs she had bought specially to meet the new vet. Dad offered to get them dry cleaned and a romance blossomed from there.

They were married in 1955. Two years and one month later I arrived in November, followed by Roger two years and (one month after that). Dad said he had it all planned to remember the important dates in his life.

He bought a racehorse, Polo Star, which he trained and rode gallops on at the Waipukurau track but had little success, said Carron. He wasn't a practical builder but nevertheless built a dog kennel attached to the outside laundry wall for our corgi, Cindy. There was a fire in the laundry one day and Cindy wouldn't come out of the kennel so he wrenched it off the wall and carried dog and kennel to safety. The next day, it took four men to pick up the kennel to move it. Amazing what adrenalin can do.

Dad and Mum then moved to Pahiatua to start a practice with Ran Jacob, trading as Jacob & Keene. Dad treated both large and small animals at the clinic. He was involved with the Pahiatua Rugby Club and was instrumental in purchasing the town library for \$1.00 at the eleventh hour to be transported to the Halls Road sports grounds.

Dad spent time on the committee of the Pahiatua Golf Club, and during this period the present-day course at Mangatainoka was purchased. He was the first one to gain a hole-in-one on the new course a Par 3 on Blue Gums. He also played tennis at the Mangamutu Club and played a good game too. There were many parties at home following sports events.

But horses were in Dad's blood and it was a passion, not a job, to make horses well. He would fight to save them. Many a night we would go out with him on late night calls and help. There was a night when some ponies got hit by a train, one of which he managed to save and the scar went from hip to hock, hundreds of stitches inside and out taking hours and many days to get it right.

Dad was our team vet for the four years when I represented Wairarapa/Hutt Valley in Pony Club Championships around the country.

Dad's first foray into thoroughbred breeding began with the purchase of brood mares, Bezequec and Tauringa. The first foals born were a filly and a colt. The filly was their first racehorse, Royal Marriage, and the colt was High Sail, who was sold and went on to run in the Melbourne Cup. Dad's dream of owning a runner in Melbourne never eventuated. He formed a syndicate and imported a stallion from England, Holy Smoke II, and stood him at Kimbolton.

Dad and Mum bought an 18ha property on the outskirts of Pahiatua to further their breeding operation, Keeneland Stud, breeding and selling at yearling sales around the country and the Gold Coast in Queensland.

Dad was with Mum in Tokyo for the Japan Cup (after winning the trip through the Friday Flash) when Bonecrusher took ill. Dad saved Bonecrusher's life through his expertise in reading and analysing bloods tests. He was also called in to look at Mandela, who had foot problems, and was able to diagnose that the horse had selenium poisoning. Mandela eventually returned to racing and won the Geelong Cup and ran in the Melbourne Cup.

In the early days, Dad worked closely with Brian Goulden of Massey University developing the use of cardiographs and most of the breeders and trainers know the benefits of these when buying horses at sales. Dad had a very keen interest in blood testing and it has been said that he was one of the most respected and one of the best of assessing blood tests.

Dad went on to be a regular at most sales and race meetings around the country, working for many successful trainers in his lifetime in New Zealand and Australia. All up, Kem had won in excess of 100 races, said Carron.
NZ Herald

Ivan Kwok, Class of 1959

In the 2019 Lampstand, we honoured Ivan Kwok who was honoured with the ONZM for Services to the State.



A former Treasury Solicitor, Ivan's life was remembered in June at Pipitea Marae, Wellington where it was heard he made an enormous impact in Crown-Māori relations and exemplified the very best in the public service. Ivan used to say there are two types of lawyers - those who find problems and those who solve them. According to Chris Finlayson QC, Ivan was firmly in that latter camp.

Ivan worked for The Treasury from 1975 to 2016 and provided service to successive governments and Ministers of Finance.

Ivan was also Treasury's Principal Advisor from 2005 to 2016. During his career, he made a substantial contribution to most of the major economic issues facing New Zealand and the Crown, which included superannuation schemes, commercial loans, debt-raising, institutional structure, sale and financing of Crown agencies, and the rescue package for Air New Zealand.

He was very-much respected by Māori having built trust and confidence with iwi and was a key individual in some of the most complex issues involving the Treaty of Waitangi Settlement process, most notably for his role in the ground-breaking Central North Island forestry settlement in 2007/2008. Ivan was involved with commercial law reform and contributed to the Law Commission and the Regulatory Advisory Committee.

Ian Laurie, Class of 1949

LIFE STORIES



Flinders University shared the sad news that Foundation Professor of French, Professor Ian Laurie, passed away.

Ian made an enormous contribution to the

University, leading its humanities disciplines for many years and laying the foundations for Flinders' excellence in French teaching and engagement through more than 30 years as a senior staff member.

With French, the first non-English language taught at Flinders, Ian established the University's immersive approach to languages and its reputation in French language and literature. As such, his contributions influenced Flinders University's research and learning partnerships not only during his tenure, but also in the years to follow.

Ian progressively broadened the French programme beyond the traditional literary and advanced language curriculum. Under his leadership, Flinders University pioneered tertiary-level introductory language classes, cultural studies including French cinema and cuisine, and linguistics including languages in addition to French, such as Romanian and Latvian.

His notable appointments included Phillippe Beaussant, who was later granted membership of the prestigious Académie Française, and Emeritus Professor Trevor Fennell, who was awarded the Order of the Three Stars (the highest civilian order for meritorious service to Latvia) through contributions to Latvian language, literature and culture.

Together with his senior staff role, Ian shaped and nurtured the University's emerging identity as a member of its council from establishment in 1966, through to June 1970.

Ian joined Flinders University from a ten-year stint at the University of Cambridge in the UK, following an earlier role at Victoria University in New Zealand.

A graduate of Victoria University, he earned his PhD from Cambridge and also studied at the Ecole Normale Supérieure and the Ecole Nationale des Chartes in Paris.

He was honoured by the French government with the prestigious rank of *Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques*, for his contribution to the promotion of French in Australia, notably through establishing and leading an annual residential program in France for Australians wanting to deepen their knowledge of French language and culture relating to their field. Participants came from a variety of professions including law, politics, engineering, oenology and teaching.

A medievalist with a particular interest in 14th century French poetry, Ian published articles and book chapters in the field of medieval French and Occitan literature and co-edited reference works and critical editions, including the *Dictionary of Literary Biography on the Literature of the French and Occitan Middle Ages: Eleventh to Fifteenth Centuries*; and *Eustache Deschamps: Selected Poems*.

His wide-ranging community roles included Director of the Adelaide International Film Festival, President of the Alliance Française, Chair of the Board of the Workers' Educational Association, Chief Examiner in French for the Public Examinations Board and food and wine writer for *The Advertiser*.

Ian retired from Flinders University as an Emeritus Professor in the mid-1990s. He is survived by his wife, Dr Anne Martin, his daughter Nicolette and his grandson, Dr Timothy Laurie.

The 1950 *Wellingtonian* acknowledged Ian as the Dux for 1949. Ian was a student at Island Bay Primary School and started at Wellington College in 1945. He was a member of the Orchestra, becoming leader in 1949. He also won the Edward Espy Martin Prizes for French, German and Latin and a Turnbull Scholarship.

Ian returned to the College in 2017 for the 150th Celebrations – he appears in the photo taken of all of our Duxes who attended the celebrations and was second oldest to Ted Clayton.

Ian's father, Allan Stott Laurie was also a student at Wellington College, and played and coached rugby for many years. He was the younger brother of Jack Dighton, and used the surname of their Dighton stepfather for a while.

Gordon McLauchlan, Class of 1949

In the 2019 *Lampstand*, we acknowledged Gordon McLauchlan who was honoured with the ONZM for Services to Historical Research.



Auckland journalist, writer and social historian Gordon McLauchlan died in January, 2020. He was 89.

Gordon was a long-time columnist for the *Herald* and author of more than 20 books, including *A Short History of New Zealand*, *A Short History of New Zealand Wars* and *The Life and Times of Auckland*.

Fellow writer and art commentator Hamish Keith said Gordon was New Zealand's greatest storyteller and an *unbelievably lovable person*. Gordon has been a narrator of our life, its strengths, its weaknesses, its quirkiness on television and in columns as a journalist and as an

author of books. He was a remarkable man. He could be absolutely acerbic without being hurtful and unbelievably witty, he said.

Mr Keith said he was at Gordon's 89th birthday, when his publisher, Bateman Books, presented him with a revised version of his last book, *Stop the Clock*, which looks at growing old gracefully.

Broadcasting Minister Kris Faoi said Gordon held a statesman-like place in New Zealand's media, which was fittingly acknowledged in last year's Queen's Birthday Honours, when he was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

From his writing on our social and historical subjects, to his contributions in broadcasting, Gordon was respected for the valuable addition he made to the debate on so many aspects of what it was to be a New Zealander and where he thought New Zealand was heading. Gordon took no prisoners, and you might not always have agreed with his point of view, but you had to appreciate the level of thought and the balance that he gave to his views and observations, Faoi said.

Broadcaster Brian Edwards said on the Kiwi Journalists Association Facebook page, he came to regard Gordon as *one of the most thoughtful, moral and wise people I had ever known. His knowledge of New Zealand culture, history and literature seemed to me unparalleled.*

Former *Herald* editor Gavin Ellis said *Gordon's literary legacy is exceptional, saying he led a rich life that I hope we will see retold.*

Gordon was born in Dunedin and lived in New Plymouth, Pahiatua, Taihape, Napier, Auckland and Wellington before settling in Auckland. He was educated at Wellington College and spent a year at Victoria University before joining the *Manawatu Evening Standard* as a reporter.

He worked as a journalist, feature writer, sports writer and sub-editor before becoming a freelance journalist/writer in 1973. He became a full-time writer in 2000. Gordon was a well-known media personality who, in addition to his writing, fronted television programmes, winning Presenter of the Year at the 1987 Television Awards. He worked in radio and edited the New Zealand Herald's books pages. Gordon spent ten years as the editor-in-chief of *The New Zealand Encyclopaedia*.

Gordon was a long-standing member of the Frank Sargeson Trust. He was also founding chair of the Michael King Writers' Studio Trust, and was a literary associate of the Trust.

From 2011, he was a regular contributor to RNZ Afternoon's *The Panel* discussion programme.

In 2016, he wrote *Great Tales from Rural New Zealand* (Bateman Books) and in

January 2020, his last book, *A Short History of Farming in New Zealand*, was also published by Bateman Books.
NZ Herald

Jock Nicolson, Class of 1954



Alistair, or Jock as he was known by most throughout his life, was a Wellingtonian through and through.

He was born here in 1936, the youngest child with two sisters. He attended

Wellington College between 1950 and 1954. He and I were not at the College at the same time, and I well recall how I found out just how many years separated our time there. We were returning from Sydney together (I think we had been at some underwhelming conference) and had spent much of the flight yarning about our secondary school years. We found that we had had numerous masters in common (Flea; Mad Mac; Horse; and Ted come to mind). After we had exchanged stories, I asked Jock what his last year was. He replied 1954. Without thinking I responded by saying that was before I was born. Over the next 30 odd years, he never let me forget it.

From College, Jock went to Victoria University. As Jock told the story, his decision to read law was something of a chance one. But it was a sound decision nonetheless. Jock was well suited to the law.

Jock joined Chapman Tripp & Co, then as now, one of the country's largest firms, as a clerk in 1956. He was admitted as a Solicitor and called to the bar in 1960. In 1962, Jock was involved in establishing the firm's Auckland office, and he stayed there until 1964, when he returned to Wellington.

In 1966, he took a year off for a camping trip through Europe. Anyone who knew Jock will have been entertained by tales of that adventure.

After returning to Chapman Tripp, Jock was involved in establishing the Whangarei office. Back in Wellington, he became a partner in 1968.

In 1970, Jock and several other partners left to form their own firm, Stone Kurta & Co, which in 1971 became Stone & Co. That was a momentous move, in the very settled environment of the legal profession at the time. It took courage, and Jock was never short of that quality.

In 1984, Stone & Co merged with another Wellington firm and an Auckland firm to form Rudd Watts & Stone. That move was also a momentous one. At the time, I was with the other Wellington firm, so it was then that our paths crossed.

To those of us who were in partnership with Jock, he was a valued professional colleague and friend. He was a lawyer of

great ability, and enormous professional integrity. He held himself to the highest professional and personal standards. He was uncompromising in his observance of those standards, and imparted them to others. But he also had great sense of fun. His booming laugh from the other end of the office is an enduring memory.

Jock gave back to his profession. He was elected to the Council of the Wellington District Law Society in 1984, and served in the offices of that Council until his year as President in 1991. He then went on to serve on the New Zealand Law Society Council, as Vice President and Treasurer, and in other roles.

His work in the elected offices of the Law Society led Jock in a change of direction. From 1992, he scaled back his core professional work to devote his energies to serving the Society part time, as secretary of several of the Society's committees and of the New Zealand Law Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal. His passion for maintaining the ethics and standards of the profession drew him to this aspect of the Society's work. This was work of great importance for him. He remained at the Society until 2005, while also remaining closely involved in the firm as a consultant.

Jock liked people. He developed a strong empathy with all those with whom he worked. The loyalty his clients showed to him is a fine tribute to the wisdom of his advice, and the strength of his personal relationships with them. He also earned the respect and affection of the host of lawyers and support staff with whom he worked, over many years. His wise counsel was much sought. He acted as a mentor to many.

In later years, when Jock had stepped back from active practice, the firm, by this time MinterEllisonRuddWatts, very sensibly retained the benefit of his wisdom and professionalism, and his empathy with the young. He was an elder statesman. He conducted classes for new law clerks and young lawyers. As Jock put it, this was also a way for him to keep up to date with the gossip.

John McCay, a senior partner in MinterEllisonRuddWatts, in an email he sent to staff advising of Jock's death, summed up his contribution to the firm very eloquently: *Jock has been the living embodiment of the trusted adviser. He has been a scholar, a gentleman, a teacher, a musician, a mentor, someone who cared deeply for the people around him, who has been devoted to his profession and to helping others, who always had a twinkle in his eye and was never afraid to embrace a bold shirt/tie combination. He will be sorely missed, but we are the richer for having had him with us for so long.*

Jock had interests outside the law. He served the community more widely, in a number of roles. He performed voluntary service for Aged Concern, the

Citizens Advice Bureau, the Samaritans, and other community causes. Jock gave freely of his time and expertise, without any thought of self promotion.

He was a very talented musician, who could well have had a musical career if he had so chosen. He valued greatly his musical involvement, playing in his quartet, and attending orchestral concerts. He was also a keen bridge player, in a group which has played together over many years.

Jock was proud of his Scottish heritage. He kept in close contact with his wider family on Skye, and visited there often. Jock loved the Marlborough Sounds. He and his family had a holiday home in Kenepuru Sound, where they enjoyed many family holidays.

Jock suffered a stroke some years ago. His response to that setback was typical Nicolson stoicism and determination. It befell him not long before his daughter's wedding. He resolved to recover, so that he would be able to walk her down the aisle. That he was able to do so speaks volumes for his strength of character and his resolve. Happily, he was able to enjoy more years, and to become a doting grandfather.

But the final battle was too swift and severe for him to combat.

Jock is survived by his wife Lorna, two children, Kirsty and Donald, and two grandchildren, Ella and Alex.
Associate Judge Kenneth Johnston (Class of 1975), High Court of New Zealand

Laughton Patrick, Class of 1950/51



Laughton Patrick could coax madrigals out of morons. That's how one former student described the man who inspired generations of Wellington actors to find their singing voice.

Laughton, who died aged 86, had a lengthy career in the capital's music scene, as Head of Music at Wellington Teachers' College in the 1980s and 1990s, and then as the singing tutor at Toi Whakaari, New Zealand Drama School. He also spent time as a teacher at Upper Hutt College.

He was known as someone who could inspire music from anyone, be it in an individual lesson, or when commanding the Wellington Town Hall filled to the brim with school students.

A talent from a young age, he became the school pianist at Wellington College, before training as a teacher at the Wellington College of Education and gaining a BMus from Victoria University. Former Toi Whakaari Director Annie Ruth

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first knew Laughton when she started Teachers' College in the early 1980s.

I had never seen myself as a singer, and in one of the plays I was acting in at Teachers' College I had to sing a little bit of operatic stuff, really spoofily, and he said, 'I want her in the choir'.

The experience was transformational for her. *He believed, absolutely, that everyone can sing, and I learnt that even I, who had been told to just mouth it when I was at school, could sing.*

After working at the Karori Teachers' College, he took up a role at Toi Whakaari, where he worked alongside Ruth. She saw how he inspired every student he taught. *He gave us that joy, both on the stage and off. When my own mother was dying, my sister and I sang to her for the last couple of hours of her life, and I knew from him that it didn't matter that I wasn't going to have a great voice, it was the intent that was there, and I think it helped my mother a lot.*

When Ruth moved on to the Stage and Screen programme at Whitireia, she called Laughton back to help her students with a 'fiendishly difficult' sonnet by Shakespeare.

By that time, motor neuron disease had started stealing his ability to play the piano (before eventually taking his singing voice as well). *He needed Jenny, his wife, to hold his hands above the keys because he didn't have the strength to do that, but he still was playing, and he still inspired those kids.*

Watching him lose his ability to play and sing was difficult. *Sometimes it feels to me as though the process of dying, for anyone, seems to attack the very thing that is your lifeblood, and for Laughton that is what happened. On many, many levels, not just in terms of the music, he inspired me.*

Even when she would visit him at Mary Potter Hospice, after his disease had taken his ability to play piano and sing, the pair would sit and 'rave' about books they had read. *He was intensely alive right up until he died.*

Laughton met his wife, Jenny, when they were pre-teens at Sunday school. *He was my first boyfriend, really; my cousin and I shared him for school dances, she said.*

Laughton was Jenny's second husband, and the pair did not have children together, but when they married in 1975 he became stepfather to Lynn, Tim and Simon. They now have six grandchildren.

The family, including his nieces, nephews and in-laws, formed a family choir, and Christmas carols became a biennial institution for many in Wellington, with eating and drinking rounded off by a rousing rendition of Handel's *Hallelujah* chorus – *but only if we have enough tenors, he would say.*

His influence can be felt across New Zealand's creative scene, through the students he taught. *Right from early times when he was a teacher at Upper Hutt College ... they did extraordinary shows there, Jenny said.*

Over the past 25 years, Laughton composed and directed the music for shows for Capital E National Children's Theatre, and also worked on shows at Downstage, Circa, Auckland Theatre Company and Centrepoint. For the last one, *Scarlet and Gold*, Laughton could no longer manage the stairs to the greenroom at Circa, so the cast came to his home and performed around his grand piano.

They all loved coming up, and he was so cheerful about it. He loved interactions with actors and singers. It was difficult watching him lose the ability to play the piano, she said. It was the only time he wept over his disability. But his brain was never affected by it, it never is with motor neuron, and he was able to read books and do cryptic crosswords. He's passed that talent on to me now.

Playwright Jacob Rajan, a former student, described Laughton's classes as an oasis of calm during the turbulent years of drama school. *With his warmth, wisdom, humour and passionate enthusiasm he could coax madrigals out of morons. With that extraordinary gift of fluency in a universal language, he could speak to any of us, taking all our fractious, vain, self-conscious crap and turning it into harmony.*

Laughton was recognised with a Mayor's Award for significant contribution to Wellington theatre in 2017.

Outside his musical life, he tramped most of New Zealand's great walks with Jenny, and travelled extensively overseas. He was a gardener, and enjoyed carving eccentric furniture.

The Dominion Post

Ken Simmonds, Class of 1951

Emeritus Professor of Marketing and International Business BCom MCom (NZ) MGCE (Guipuzcoa) DBA (Harvard) PhD (London) J Dip MA FCA (NZ) FCMA FCIS FCIM



Ken focused his research on global strategy, international business management, strategic marketing, and strategic management accounting. He was a Fellow of the Academy of International Business and a Fellow of the Academy of Marketing.

Ken established marketing at Cranfield School of Management and held the first Chair of Marketing at Manchester Business School (where he was Geigy Professor of Marketing). He has also been Ford

Foundation Professor at the University of Chicago and Professorial Fellow at Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford.

He served on many corporate boards and advisory panels and undertook numerous top-level consulting projects for large multinationals including IBM. He also devised creative strategies for a wide variety of firms of all sizes, industries and services.

His honours included New Zealand management educator. Fulbright scholar, 1959; Smith Mundt scholar, 1959; University New Zealand traveling scholar, 1960; Ford Foundation fellow, 1961; Inter-University Council fellow, 1978; Social Science Research fellow, 1980; Croucher Foundation fellow, 1983.

John Southworth, Class of 1957



John Southworth (80) died in February 2020 of medical complications – following a surgery for pancreatic cancer some years before. Four months earlier he was well enough to visit Japan for the Rugby World Cup – part of a regular four-yearly pilgrimage for John along with an annual one to the Melbourne Cup.

He was 'an Aro Street boy' and the son of Bill and Mollie Southworth. Before starting at Wellington College in 1953, John attended Te Aro Primary School. He started playing rugby at the Athletic Rugby Club (where one of his coaches was future All Black Coach Bill Freeman) and was a loose forward for the 1957 Wellington College 1st XV.

John always looked back at his time at College with nostalgia, attending class and 1st XV reunions and keeping in touch with life-long mates he made there. On a trip to Samoa, he was particularly delighted to catch up with his old rugby friend Felix Wendt.

After leaving College, John studied for a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at Massey University but switched to a veterinary science degree at Queensland University, graduating BVSc in 1962. He practiced initially for dairy clubs at Wanganui, Tauranga and Raglan before setting up private practice in Hamilton, specialising in equine surgery.

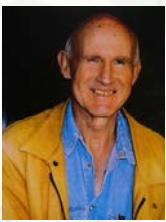
John developed a strong interest in breeding and racing thoroughbred horses and he and his first wife Desley, who he had met while at university in Queensland, bought a cattle farm on the fringes of Hamilton where their bloodstock were raised and trained. He was a committee member of the Waikato Racing Club and later a countrywide racing appeals judge. He always made a point of meeting up with his old 1st XV Coach, Frank Crist at race meetings in the Hawkes Bay.

In the latter part of his career John was New Zealand Animals Remedies CEO for Hoechst AG and on retirement he set up a business developing and testing new animal remedies.

His partner Margaret and his sons, John, Gilbert and Phillip, survive him.
Bill Southworth, Class of 1962

Peter Webb, Class of 1959

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the 2019 Lampstand, we included a personal tribute from Peter's friend, Barry Green (Dux, 1959). Barry subsequently sent me the story of Peter's legal career which arrived after we had gone to print.



Peter and I were partners in the law firm of Bell, Gully & Company – from 1967 until 1992.

On leaving Wellington College in 1959, Peter enrolled in the Faculty of Law at Victoria University. At the same time, he joined Bell Gully as a clerk in the Featherston Street office.

An able student, he received his LLB degree in 1965, and completed his Master of Laws in 1967. He was then invited to become a partner in Bell Gully. The firm enjoyed a high reputation within the legal profession, and in the eyes of the public. It valued graduates of sound character, with academic ability, a strong work ethic, and a healthy sporting record – especially in cricket!

Peter fitted this description exactly. At that time, Bell Gully had a cricket team, made up of partners and staff. The team practised with a tennis ball at lunch times on the roof of the building – in preparation for its annual fixtures, which included matches against clients and the rest of the legal profession.

Peter featured in the team as a talented enthusiast – it helped that he had distinguished himself playing senior club cricket, and had represented NZ Universities in the 1963/64 season.

As a partner, Peter made his mark in the firm, specialising in company and commercial law. He was fortunate to acquire valuable skills, while assisting his senior partner, Lyndsay Papps, – a much-in-demand and overworked commercial lawyer.

Through this association, Peter became a specialist and developed his own reputation in company, commercial and financial law. He was a strong, competent and reliable lawyer, who was respected not only for his legal knowledge, but for his practical advice in dealing with complex and difficult negotiations.

The esteem in which he was held led to his appointment as a director of various

companies – including Goodman Group Ltd, Goodman Fielder Wattie and Quality Bakers NZ Ltd.

In 1985, Peter became a fellow of the UK based Institute of Directors, and was recognised by Government with appointments to prestigious positions.

From 1994 until 2004 he was Director, Research & Policy at the Institute of Directors, NZ, and from 1998 until 2005 he was Chairman of the Overseas Investment Commission.

Within the firm, Peter was a loyal and generous spirited partner – a team player. Team building carried over to other aspects of office life. One of his jobs in the early days was to interview new applicants for the position of clerk. Naturally, one question on his list was, ...and do you play cricket?

The best interests of the firm and its members were always his first priority. His sound practical advice was greatly missed, when he retired from practice. We salute you, Peter, as a lawyer, a sportsman, a colleague and a good friend.
Euan Abernethy, Colleague

Steve Taylor, Class of 1965/1967



Steve grew up in Silverstream in the Hutt Valley attending Silverstream Primary School from 1953 to 1960. There were many neighbours around the Taylor home whom the family knew well. Steve

was always sociable and made friends with neighbouring children and school mates easily. Throughout his life he got on well with a wide range of people.

Silverstream offered many opportunities for outdoor activities with his friends, such as swimming, fishing, building tree forts, biking and scooter racing. Steve played sport both at primary school and for the Upper Hutt Rugby Club.

Steve was a keen cub and scout, later joining the Petone Sea Scouts. He was a member of the 'Gang Show' staged in Wellington in 1960. There was mass singing, skits and boisterous humour and Steve greatly enjoyed participating and the company of the other scouts. It was natural progression for Steve to be fully involved in stunts at university.

Family camping holidays in summer around New Zealand were a highlight of his childhood and gave Steve a great experience and knowledge of New Zealand and a love of the outdoors. Steve's father Jim was an Old Boy of Wellington College enabling Steve to attend the College. He caught the train and tram daily through his Wellington College years.

Steve's ambition was to have a career

in the Police so joined the Police Cadets from school. Steve's idea of fun and entertainment was at odds with the Police College's rules and regulations. The Police and Steve decided to part ways. Steve then decided to have a different involvement in the law, which required going back to Wellington College after a year away. It says a lot about Steve that even though he was now a year behind his contemporaries, he could put his ego to one side and get on with it. Steve was a Prefect in his final year and a member of debating and rugby teams.

At Canterbury University law school, Steve participated fully in university activities both in and out of the lecture rooms. He introduced several innovations to sporting activities for capping week. For example, the mile run was held over the customary four laps. The modification was that at the end of each lap every participant was required to scoff a pie and down a pint. It did not take long for the inevitable to happen and so Steve was responsible for the introduction of the 'chunda mile'. In between times, Steve was President of the Law Students' Society and on the Canterbury debating team.

After graduation, Steve practised law in Marton, Whanganui, Blenheim, Upper Hutt and Masterton. He had a strong sense of social justice and was always prepared to help the underdog, so his private practice was primarily centred around criminal and family law.

For a man skilled in the arts of the courtroom he was surprisingly naïve as to the promises of payment of fees by some of his clients. Steve was therefore seen as a bit of a soft touch. So, while he was extremely busy and competent at the bar that did not necessarily translate into a steady income from his private practice. He had a kind and generous nature and helped many who were less advantaged than he was.

Steve felt keenly the duties owed both to the client and to the court, and his service to both was exemplary. Wherever Steve lived he became fully involved, both in local community activities, and in service to various district law societies by serving on the local District Council or committees.

The armed services formed a large part of Steve's life as Steve had a strong sense of service to his country. After being part of the NZ Cadet Corps at school, Steve later became a member of the Naval Volunteer Reserve. Later still, he joined the Territorial Air Force gaining the rank of Squadron Leader.

After retiring from the TAF in 1997, Steve served the NZ Army in both the Territorial Force and the Regular Force. That included volunteering for, and being accepted, to a posting to East Timor in 2001. Steve retired from the Regular Force in 2012 with the rank of Major. He had the almost unique distinction of serving in all three of the Services.

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Steve appeared in court martial representing both Air Force and Army personnel from the mid-eighties up to the time of his death. It is a mark of Steve's professionalism and skills that he was the representative of the Armed Forces Defence Counsel Panel up to the time of his death.

Steve was a devoted family man with his brother Bruce, his sister Gillian, wife Diana, four children, Catherine, Rachael, Sarah and Andrew, four grandchildren and extended family. He loved nothing more than having the family and friends around to the family home where he could play being the wit and raconteur.

But his organisational skills as displayed in the military, or the courtroom, were completely lacking when it came to the BBQ. He would be so engaged in pouring drinks and telling stories he would completely forget to turn on the BBQ so the actual eating part of the dinner started closer to midnight.

Within the legal profession Steve was a mentor to many and a friend to all. It is a measure of the love and respect in which Steve is held, that there is to be a special sitting of the Masterton Court to mark Steve's passing.

Steve died suddenly of a heart attack in October aged 72. Steve was not perfect, as few of us are. If Steve's primary fault was loving and trusting his fellow man too much, then that is an epitaph that many of us would be proud to receive.

Bruce Taylor (Class of 1963) and Peter Barker (Class of 1965)

Peter Thomas, Class Of 1954



Born in Wellington, Peter was the eldest son of Alf and Molly Thomas. He was raised in Karori, went to the local school and then went on to Wellington College in 1950.

Peter excelled at athletics both at the Karori Athletics Club and at College, winning the Old Boy's Challenge Cup 880 yards Intermediate and Knox Gilmer Cup One-Mile Intermediate in 1953. Peter played rugby in the Second Grade C Team in 1953 with Ken Gray and the coach was Sam Meads. He was also a member of the 1953 Senior Cross Country Team – Winners of Intercollegiate Team Race.

This team was never supposed to have entered the race as Cross-Country was deemed 'too tough' for the boys by the then Headmaster Heron. They were banned from entering a Team.

The team went ahead with that advice and entered the race anyway and went on to win it. The irony of it all was that Headmaster Heron had to present the

trophy to the Team at Monday's Assembly. That would have been an interesting morning!

His younger brothers David (Class of 1966) and Wade (Class of 1970) (Deceased) also attended Wellington College.

Peter was a man of many careers and vocations taking him to many towns scattered throughout New Zealand.

He initially left College to attend Flock House, just out of Bulls, to train to be a dairy farmer and after graduating, went farming for a few years before getting into major earthworks contracting. Projects included the Hawkes Bay Pakowhai flood project in the 1960's and then on to Turangi for the Tokaanu power project and Twizel for the Upper Waitaki power development in the early 1970's, contracted to the Ministry of Works.



Wellington College Senior Cross-Country Team Winners Intercollegiate Teams Race 1953

Standing:

D J McLeod, J D McGuire, J S Marshall, K G Douglas

Sitting: W B Cook (Captain), P B Thomas

Obituaries

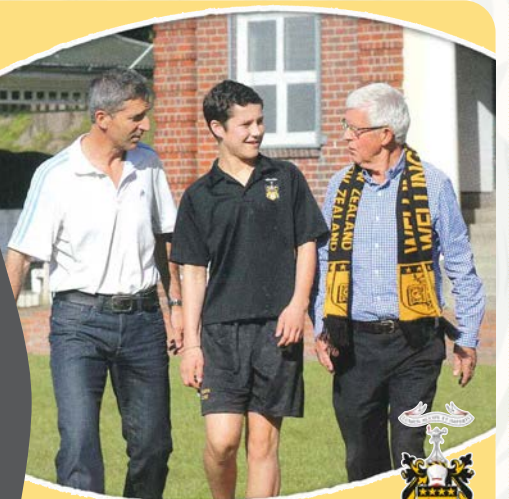
The Old Boys Office is responsible for maintaining and updating data on our members, including the reporting of death notices.

These notices come to us from many sources including fellow classmates, family members, and returned mail. We may also become aware via newspaper notices and obituaries, university or associations that the deceased may have belonged to.

To notify the WCOBA of a recent death, please contact oldboys@wc.school.nz If you are providing an obituary, please also try and include a photo.

PASSING ON THE LIGHT

A gift in your Will to Wellington College is a gift to creating confident, articulate, compassionate, caring and creative young men of energy and integrity, for generations. To find out more, please contact the Director of Development, Matt Reweti, via email at m.reweti@wc.school.nz or telephone 021 189 1105.



CONNECTING WITH THE WCOBA

UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

Stay up-to-date with WCOBA news, events and services by ensuring we have your correct contact details. We like to keep our Old Boys and friends updated via regular email updates, social media and through the annual *Lampstand* (if you have requested to receive a hard-copy or you have opted for the on-line version). We'll stay in touch by email unless you advise us below.

Updates

- Please send me e-newsletters
 Please do not send me e-newsletters

Lampstand

- Please post the *Lampstand* to me
 Please email *Lampstand* to me

Events

- Please email me about events taking place in: _____ (your town or region)
 Please post notifications of events taking place in: _____ (your town or region)

Additional Information: Any additional information you can share about you or family members who attended Wellington College will help us to understand you better. Information on any clubs/extracurricular you were involved in, or interests you have now, can help us to tailor the content we send you.

Your Name: First/Preferred and Surname: _____

Your Email Address: _____ Your Mobile No: _____

Your Years at Wellington College: Year Started _____ Year Left _____

If you haven't received an email from us in 2020, it means we don't have your most recent email address or we don't have one at all.

If you require more information about • Making a Donation to Support the WCOBA and Archives • Taking out a Life Membership Subscription • Purchasing a WCOBA Tie • Purchasing Golf Balls or a Calendar • or any other enquiry, please contact us.

Return these enquiries and/or details to: oldboys@wc.school.nz or to our address, as listed below.

TOP FIVE REASONS TO ATTEND YOUR SCHOOL REUNION

- 1 **To Reconnect With Old Friends and Staff.** Chances are that you haven't seen one another in years and may even have lost touch altogether. Few events offer the opportunity to reconnect with people that were once important to you like a school reunion, and you may never see them again if you skip the event.
- 2 **To Reminisce.** Look back at your school years and share a few laughs with the people that were by your side for all of those great times as well as catching up with former staff.
- 3 **To Party Like It's Decades Ago.** When careers and kids come along, opportunities to let your hair down and reminisce can be few and far between.
- 4 **To Satisfy Your Curiosity.** If you've ever wondered where people ended up and what they have done with their lives this is your chance to find out.
- 5 **Because Social Posts Aren't Real Conversations.** Seeing pictures and FaceBook, Instagram and Twitter status updates from your old friends or even sending a few messages back and forth just isn't the same as seeing them in the flesh and catching up. As hard as it may be to believe, some people don't even have social networking accounts. If you haven't seen your school friends since you left Wellington College, there's no better place to catch up before you all went your separate ways.

Founded in 1891, and one of the earliest established alumni associations in New Zealand, the WCOBA was created for the perpetuation of memories, maintenance of friendship, enrichment of Old Boys and support of the School.


The Association is a group of over 10,000 active members, all of whom share the common experience of having attended Wellington College.

The purposes of the *Lampstand* are to report news of the College and its alumni, provide content that relates to the shared and diverse experiences and interests of Wellington College alumni.


The *Lampstand* is guided by the school's principles of accepted standards of good taste. Opinions expressed are those of the signed contributors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editor or the official position of Wellington College.

KEEP IN TOUCH

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WELLINGTON COLLEGE GOLF BALLS

A fundraiser to help fund the Old Boys' Office & the Archives for 2021

SRIXON GOLF BALLS WITH A GOLD FINISH

\$16 FOR A SLEEVE OR \$55 FOR A DOZEN

DOMESTIC SHIPPING AND HANDLING INCLUDED

FOR FEBRUARY 2021 DELIVERY, ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 31/01/21

**Orders for Golf Balls and the Calendar can be made on-line at
<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/140602>
or email oldboys@wc.school.nz if you wish to pay another way.**

**A4 2021 Monthly Calendar • + a bonus January, 2022 •
Yearly Overview for 2021 and 2022 • Plenty of room for your notes**

**\$20.00 each, which includes postage and packaging (NZ) •
\$26.00 (Australia/Pacific) • \$30.00 (Rest of World)**

**The proceeds from sales will help fund the Archives team to work on
further photo restoration and colourisation, framing and arranging
future displays and exhibitions.**



**Wellington College Old Boys' Association • PO Box 16073, Wellington, NZ 6242
Telephone (04) 802 2537 • Email: oldboys@wc.school.nz**