



# Whangarei Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Incorporated

Patron: Al Kirk BA Dip SM

PO Box 5034, Whangarei, New Zealand

Telephone 09 470 0196 Facsimile 09 430 4172 Email [g.weaver@wbhs.school.nz](mailto:g.weaver@wbhs.school.nz) Website [www.wbhs.school.nz](http://www.wbhs.school.nz)

Newsletter Issue 6, December 2008

## NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with some satisfaction that I look back on what the Old Boys' Association has achieved in 2008. I know that these will be mentioned in more detail in the newsletter but your Committee has worked diligently throughout the year. We are fortunate that we have Old Boys who have all wanted to contribute, so a huge thank you to David Templeton, Mike Lee, Murray Inder, John McComb, Bill Mallett, Rob Dickie, Al Kirk, Grant Shaw, Greg Weaver, Aaron Moore and John Williamson.

Before I go any further I would just like to make brief mention of one of the Association's stalwarts, Rob Dickie. Rob underwent a life changing operation a couple of months back that necessitated the removal of his vocal chords, so he has huge adjustments to make. However, I know that he is a man with the fortitude and pedigree to overcome this setback in his way of life and I would like to extend the very best wishes of the Association to Rob, and his wife Dale, and trust that we will see him on deck a bit next year.

Looking ahead there are some changes afoot for the way the Association is structured and not the least of which concerns our Secretary Greg Weaver. Greg was employed by the School as the Development Officer and his salary has been paid by them for the past 4½ years. With his contract coming to an end early next year it seemed a perfect opportunity to employ Greg under the Association umbrella so that he can continue his great work for us. So along those lines I am pleased to report that we have secured Greg Weaver as our Development Officer.

Greg will continue to be the "Face" of the Old Boys' Association. Please also remember that the sole purpose of the Association is to support the School and its pupils so this is a very big step for us. Some of the highlights this year have been a successful dinner acknowledging the wonderful services of Doug Goodison as a pupil and teacher, the creation of the Fideliter Fellowship and its inaugural inductees, the Venerable Old Boys' and this year's recipients and the Sports Day, which will be a bigger emphasis for us next year as we are hoping to lift its profile and importance

along with the Golf Day as a fundraiser but also a great day out.

In 2009 I would like to see the Association work with School on a mentoring scheme, not just a day or so but a matched one on one mentoring where boys can have a good look at an industry or career and see if it is for them. Old Boys' would also have an opportunity to see what standard of young men are coming into the work force.

Apart from the Committee I must thank all the Old Boys who have contributed in some way to the Association and its operation this year, not just those who have given financial support for specific projects and general funds but also those who have given generously of their time. And of course those who have supported the Association through attendance at functions or special events, without you it would be very difficult indeed so thank you very much.

We will, sadly, always be struggling for funds but, that is just how it works, the more we get the more we give away. Our newsletters continue to provide our main source of contact with our Old Boys' and without the support of David Silich it would be just beyond us to produce the newsletter as you read it today. – Thank you David for your support.

We look forward to making events in 2009 even better and hoping that you may again enjoy the Fellowship that your School days provided. Merry Christmas to you and your family.



**Kevin Salmon**  
President

Email: [kevin.salmon@extra.co.nz](mailto:kevin.salmon@extra.co.nz)

## THE JOHN CRAWFORD MEMORIAL CUP AND PLAQUE AND THE JACK GLANVILLE PRIZE FOR DUX OF THE SCHOOL



**BRENDON SCHICKER**  
DUX 2008

This goes to a young man who was: Placed 1st equal place in Chemistry; 1st in Physics; the recipient of the McNab Memorial Prize for 1st place in Biology; recipient of the Roger Lupton Prize for 1st place in Statistics in Modelling; recipient of the Roger Lupton Prize for 1st place in Mathematics with Calculus. He was also the winner of the Rod Watson Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in NCEA (2) Sciences in 2007. He is a wonderful young man of quiet disposition who has been a quality Prefect. He has huge academic potential and plans to study a Bachelor of Engineering at the University of Canterbury in 2009.



**SIMON BLOGG**  
PROXIME ACCESSIT 2008



**CALLUM HARRIS**  
HEAD BOY 2009

# HEADMASTER'S PERSPECTIVE 2008

2008 has been a fantastic year in the life of Whangarei Boys' High School – from the outstanding Education Review Office report early in Term 2 to the consolidation of initiatives begun in 2007 (e.g. Prefects giving book reviews in Assemblies, Word of the Week, Blokes can read posters, Black Jackets Senior Choir, Carruth Full Hostel choir, Talent Quests etc) – the list goes on and on. The school has had a wonderful year and the progress that we have made in a number of areas – particularly with Maori achievement has been pronounced. Our academic successes were acknowledged at the beginning of the year, as we always do, with our academic assembly and a large number of boys were awarded Academic Colours. We also acknowledged our 8 Scholarships and these boys were certainly deserving of their success. We have had our fathers involved, as we always do in two key areas this year – Dads'n'lads Car Rally and a new initiative set up by Assistant Principal Peter Ludlow a Dads'n'lads Fishing Weekend with fishing guru Bill Hohepa. The Hostel has continued to grow and we have built on the property development in the Hostel with finely killing off the old coal boiler and replacing it with gas! No more cold showers! The Old Boys' Association has continued to flourish and the Fideliter Fellowship has now become a very special part of that Association with five members added – 2 at the ANZAC Service (VC.DFC Lloyd Trigg and our DFC and Bar Derek Ward) and then at the Old Boys' Dinner in early July when we acknowledged legendary teacher and rugby coach Doug Goodison, we also inducted 3 more members into the Fideliter Fellowship Joe Morgan (Rugby), Peter Sloane (Rugby) and David Sirl (Athletics).

The success of our shooters on the national stage as well as the international stage has been well publicised and our sailors who continually push the boundaries – not only national competition but international competition, also have had a great year. On the staffing front the school acknowledged and farewelled 2 icons – long serving Property Maestro, and Head of Technology Gordon Eddie and also our long serving Deputy Principal Geoff Seletto (who heads back to Australia), were farewelled at the end of October with a wonderful assembly culminating in a full school haka. Old Boys would, most certainly, have been proud and those who attended from the community also acknowledged this very special and significant event. Whangarei Boys' High School continues to flourish and to develop boys into fine young men. We have had a great year and are in good heart and certainly look forward, very much, to another exciting thrilling and positive 2009.



**Al Kirk**  
**HEADMASTER**

## FAREWELL TO TWO TEACHING LEGENDS

The School is sad to farewell its Deputy Principal Geoff Seletto. The archetypal Aussie has decided to head home with wife Angela to Melbourne. Geoff arrived in 1996 as Assistant Principal (from Rathkeale College) and was promoted to Deputy Principal in 2001 after Wayne Buckland departed to become Principal of Bream Bay College. Geoff has grown in the job and thrives in it. He has the most wonderfully calm demeanour and the ability to see the funny side of things even when pressure is on. He is highly organised and has the curriculum and assessment responsibilities in the school. His ability to work with all staff and to have the respect of all the boys is testament to his professionalism and to his passion for educating young men. He has done a fantastic job as Deputy Principal and the school certainly have valued his input during his 13 years at this school. Geoff's biased support of any Australian team (particularly Cricket) has been cause for concern to some of us for some time, so it is fitting that he returns back to his home so that he can stand tall and share his pride in his beloved Magpies without

feeling guilty! Melbourne Cup afternoon will never be quite the same without him!

The School also farewells Mr Gordon Eddie. Gordon has been on the staff since 1986 and has been Head of Technology for the majority of that time. Apart from being Head of Technology his



key role has been in charge of property. This took on huge proportions in the mid-nineties when the school was effectively rebuilt and Gordon has had the responsibility of property matters ever since. He can take huge pride in all of the work that he has done in the school – not only as a Technology maestro and Graphics master, but also the way the school looks is in no small measure due to his passion for detail and his ability to think outside the square and solve a number of problems with minimal cost. It is fitting that he retires from teaching to move into Architects H & K (where he has been working this year while on leave). The relationship the school has

had with Architects H & K (formerly Harrison & King) has been strong and sustained, and we are delighted that Gordon is able to move into a job that he loves. He will be most certainly missed – but his legacy will be around for a very long time.

**Rugby Park 1959 v British Lions. Were you there?**



# MOASCAR CUP REUNION



At the annual dinner this year we took the opportunity to have a reunion of the surviving members of the Moascar Cup winning 1st XV from 1953.

Often referred to as the 'Ranfurly Shield' of secondary school rugby, the Moascar Cup has been played for by thousands of college boys since it started its chequered career in 1920. To many youths the chances of playing for the Moascar Cup represents potentially the biggest rugby occasion of their playing careers.

The Cup is unique. It was won by the New Zealand Mounted Rifle Brigade in Egypt shortly after the end of World War I. The brigade was stationed at a base camp at Ismailia with 10 Divisions made up of six British, three Australian and the one New Zealand Division. All were waiting repatriation to their own countries and sport was encouraged to fill in the time to keep everyone occupied. So a rugby tournament was initiated and a trophy for the winner was designed, the Moascar Cup. As you can see from the picture it is a magnificent trophy with the base being made up of the thick central part of a propeller of a German plane brought down in Palestine and a silver cup with four handles on top. A very striking design.

The Moascar Cup was first won by the IVth Mounted Rifle Brigade of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force at Moascar in the Middle East. Hence the name with 'Moascar' being Arabic for 'camp'. At the end of WWI the trophy was made available to the NZ Rugby Union and, in an attempt to foster college rugby, they put the Cup up for competition amongst secondary schools in New Zealand.

The Cup went from Christchurch to Auckland Grammar to New Plymouth to Te Aute and finally ended up with Palmerston North Boys' High in 1927. There it remained for over two decades and was competed for in annual matches against Te Aute College. In 1951 Northland College challenged Te Aute and brought the Cup to the North. The following year Kaitaia College challenged and won the Cup and in 1953 Whangarei Boys' High finally had their day in the sun when they challenged for and won the Cup with a 3-0 victory over Kaitaia.

The Cup stayed with Whangarei Boys' High School for two years, defending it against Kaitaia

once and Northland

College twice before

it was again lost to

Kaitaia in 1955.

They held it for two

more years before

losing it to Northland

College in 1957 who held it

until 1962 when it was won by Pukekohe High School. Northland College had another tenure from 1965 to 1970 when it was won by Wesley College and the Cup has not been back in the north since.

It was with pleasure that we were able to formally recognise the surviving members of that winning Whangarei Boys' High School 1st XV with 10 of them attending the dinner and another 3 unable to make it on the night. Regretfully 6 members of that team are no longer with us.

We are very pleased that we were able to update the 1st XV photo from 1953. Let us hope we can honour other significant Whangarei Boys' High School teams at future functions.

## TRIVIA

*Moascar Cup team member  
Colin Cunningham set a senior  
long jump record back in 1955  
which still stands today.*

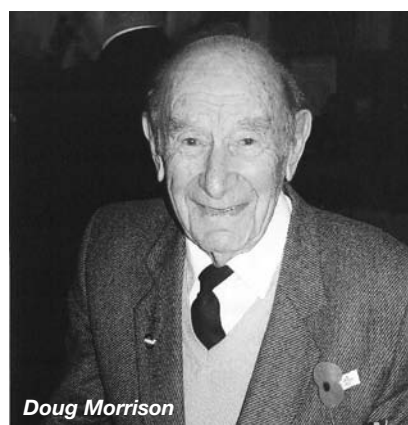
## OBITUARY

It is with regret and sadness that the WBHS Old Boys' Association has had to record the passing of a number of its Old Boys during 2008 and some also who we had not noted previously. We would like to extend our condolences and sympathies to all those who have lost loved ones during the year but would like to make mention of two in particular.

**Lt Col Douglas George Morrison (1904-2008)**

One of Whangarei Boys' High School's most prominent Old Boys, Lt Col Doug Morrison, who passed away during October at the grand age of 104. Doug has been a stellar supporter of the School in recent years and was always on hand at the School's ANZAC Service, as he was this year, to read the ode. He attended Whangarei Boys' High School from 1917-18 and only left due to the School being closed because of the influenza epidemic that was around at the time. Apparently the boys were in town celebrating the declaration of peace at the end of WWI and the School was shut while they were away. He never returned

and stayed to work on the family farm. His presence around Whangarei and the School will be missed and I know that all Old Boys and current School extend sincere condolences to Joan and the family.



Doug Morrison



Fred Philpotts Minature and Medallion

**Frederick Philpott (1918-2008)**

We also wish to acknowledge the passing of Fred Philpott (WBHS 1930-35) who passed away in September. Fred was the Junior Steeplechase Champion in 1931 and he very kindly donated the bronze medallion he was awarded for this to the School Archives some time ago. Our condolences and sympathies are extended to Fred's family and friends.

# THE FIDELITER FELLOWSHIP

The Association, in conjunction with the School, was very pleased to this year introduce our own version of a hall of fame, The Fideliter Fellowship. Through this we will be able to celebrate Old Boys who have been successful in business, the professions, the arts, medicine, politics, the military and of course in the sporting arena. Each year a selected few will be inducted into The Fideliter Fellowship with suitable notation of their achievements. Their photo and citation will be displayed in the Assembly Hall.

While in future years it is anticipated that inductees will be nominated by Old Boys and the general public, with the final selection being by the Fideliter Fellowship steering committee, this year the inductees were chosen by the WBHS Old Boys' Association Committee. The full criteria and nomination process is on the School website [www.wbhs.school.nz](http://www.wbhs.school.nz) under the Old Boys tab. Anybody can nominate somebody as long as the nomination is at least seconded by an Old Boy.

So if you are aware of somebody you may like to nominate please complete the forms and send them into Greg Weaver who will check them for accuracy and completeness before passing them to the steering committee for consideration. And to ensure you have enough time to do so the close-off for nominations this year will be extended to January 31st 2009.

The first of the inductees this year were inducted at the School's ANZAC Service on 18th April and these were Lloyd Trigg VC, DFC. and Derek Ward DFC & Bar. A further three were inducted at this year's annual dinner and they were all sportsmen – Peter Sloane and the late Joe Morgan for rugby and Dave Sirl for athletics. A summary of each induction is below.



**LLOYD TRIGG VC, DFC.**  
WBHS 1927 to 1932  
Orchestra 1929, Rugby 1st XV 1931, Colours 1931  
KIA in Atlantic 11 August 1943 after sinking a submarine with his aircraft fully ablaze. Awarded Victoria Cross and Distinguished Flying Cross.



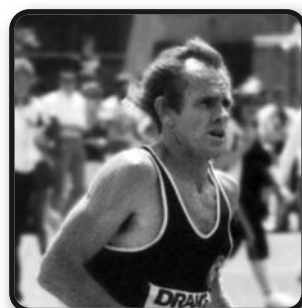
**DEREK WARD DFC. & BAR**  
WBHS 1932 to 1936  
Head Boy 1936, Rugby 1st XV '35 & '36, Colours '35 & '36  
KIA in North Africa 17 June 1942 while protecting two of his men from German fighters. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross on two occasions for his skill and bravery.



**JOE MORGAN**  
WBHS 1959 to 1963  
Senior Gymnastics Champion 1962, Rowing Team '63, Rugby 1st XV '62 & '63, Colours '62 & '63  
Played a record 167 games for Northland and also 22 games including 5 tests for the All Blacks. Scored one of the great tries for All Blacks. One of Northland's favourite sons tragically killed in 2002.



**PETER SLOANE**  
WBHS 1963 to 1965  
Rugby 1st XV '65, Cricket 1st XI '65, Colours '65  
Played 147 games for Northland and captain for 6 years. Played 6 games including 1 test for the All Blacks. One of New Zealand rugby's most respected coaches and a great ambassador for Northland and New Zealand.



**DAVID SIRL**  
WBHS 1957 to 1961  
Prefect '61, Rugby 1st XV '60 & '61, Colours '60 & '61  
World renowned athlete. Competed at international level for 30 years. Set world record in 1987 that stayed for 20 years. Part of winning NZ World Cross Country team in 1975. Inducted into NZ Sports Hall of Fame.

## CYCLE TRACK

For those of you who do not live in town, or even those of you who do but do not get up the cycle track very often, you will be interested to see the changes that have taken place along the cycle track. Firstly the grounds were cleaned up courtesy of some community workers from the Dept of Corrections and then the pine trees that former teacher John Rawson had arranged to be planted back in 1982 were cut down. John tells us that these trees were in fact pruned over the years by his son Peter (WBHS 1987-90) so they were certainly part of the folklore of Whangarei Boys' High School.

As can be seen from the three photos the area has had a huge transformation.



*Before*



*After ground cleared*



*After trees down*



# BUILDING PROJECTS

## THE END OF THE CARRUTH BOILER

The WBHS Old Boys' Association was very pleased to be able to participate in a small ceremony to mark the start of the development of the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge. This was the occasion of the formal opening of the new gas heating system that had been installed at Carruth House, a system that was only possible due to the generosity of our Old Boys. All former Carruthians would know that up until then water heating in the hostel had been by way of a coal fired boiler. Most Carruthians will remember with angst the task of having to shovel the coal each day. So it was with pleasure that Old Boys and former Carruthians Rob Dickie and Richard Papworth took part in the ribbon cutting ceremony with Richard helping a couple of current Carruthians shovel the last of the coal.



*Richard Papworth shovels the last of the coal*



*Rob Dickie cuts the ribbon to open the new heating system*

## THE JOE MORGAN MEMORIAL BOARDERS' LOUNGE

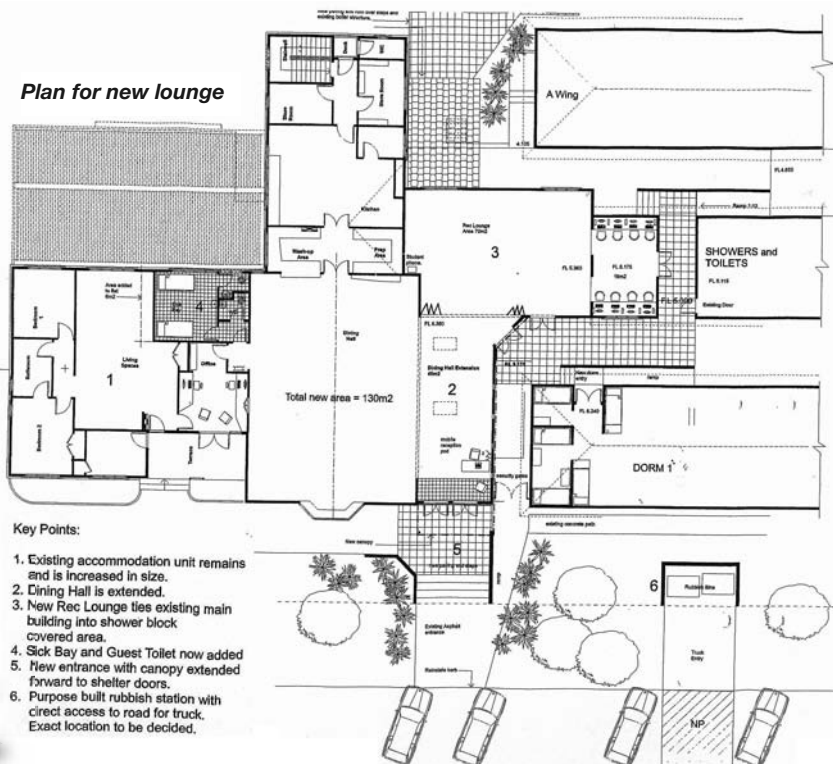
The Association is currently focussed on raising close to \$400,000 for the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge, the new recreation lounge to be developed at Carruth House. At the present time there is still a further \$230,000 to raise thanks in no small way to a grant of \$50,000 received from the Oxford Trust here in Whangarei. It is pertinent to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the Oxford Trust and thank them, not just for the amount but also because they could see that this project has merit for the community.

And a huge thank you to all Old Boys who have thus far made a donation towards this project. Carruthians have been bombarded with literature over the past 6 months and many have responded positively. The Association will continue to follow up with other Carruthians over time.

Something that is being incorporated into the new lounge is a Commemoration Wall. This will be made up of bricks on which we will record all names of those who have made a donation towards the project. The bricks will be in four colours with a dollar range for each colour as follows – bronze \$100-\$499, silver \$500-\$999, gold \$1000-\$4999 and platinum for all donations or pledges of \$5000 or over. So if you would like your name to be recorded for prosperity it is simply case of completing a pledge form, designating the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge and sending in the form with your payment if making an immediate gift.

Below is a copy of the plan for the new lounge just so all Old Boys can see where it fits into the current layout of Carruth House. (Mind you it is layout that has existed for many years now)

*Plan for new lounge*



**Key Points:**

1. Existing accommodation unit remains and is increased in size.
2. Dining Hall is extended.
3. New Rec Lounge ties existing main building into shower block covered area.
4. Sick Bay and Guest Toilet now added
5. New entrance with canopy extended forward to shelter doors.
6. Purpose built rubbish station with direct access to road for truck. Exact location to be decided.

### CABARET

*Some thought is being given to holding a cabaret next year to help raise some funds towards the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge. Keep an eye out for more details earlier next year.*

# SCHOOL PRANKS

A couple of weeks back at the School the customary end of year pranks started to get in full swing when a bunch of young ladies from the Girls' School streaked in their underwear through the Quad at lunchtime causing some thing of a furore amongst the testosterone laden young men who were there at the time. This streak was in response to the 'full monty' streak a couple of eager lads performed across the field at the Girls' School the previous day. (The identification parade for the boys must have been an interesting spectacle)

Anyway it came to mind of putting together a dossier on some of the pranks that Old Boys have been involved in or witnessed at the School and we hope that you might put pen to paper (or finger to keyboard) and drop a line into Greg Weaver of the details of the prank and the punishment that followed. Greg's contact details are on the front of this newsletter. He will then put them together and enter them onto the Old Boys website so they can be enjoyed by all.

Just to whet your appetite here is a snippet from the Centennial book about 'The Exploding Loo' from Jim Goodison, a student at the School 1933-36.

Everyone who was at Whangarei Boys' High School during the era of the late Mr W A (Bill) Given has memories of that awesome yet lovable figure. In 1936 'Old Bill' had some sodium that had become dangerous and he had to dispose of it. Selecting a 'reliable' boy from the 6th, one Gordon Leigh, he instructed him to proceed down to the Waiarohia Stream and toss it in. Young Leigh was a keen science student but perhaps not so keen on walking any distance so he decided on a short-cut by flushing it down one of the toilets in the Quad. Remembering the experiment to produce hydrogen gas by dropping sodium in water, he placed a small piece in the pan and added a touch of toilet paper which, causing friction, ignited the gas producing the typical blue flame. Grasping the nettle, as it were, he then emptied the whole bottle into the toilet, pulled the chain and ran. The resultant explosion rocked the whole school.

Masters, Scholars and the Caretaker, Milotn West, hurriedly rushed to the scene. In typical accents 'Old Bill' was heard to say "Ah! Sewer gas – methane". The pan was blown to small pieces and parts of it were embedded in the wooden surfaces of the door and the ceiling. And there the matter lay until an hour later when Gordon reappeared and owned up. It was generally agreed that 'Old Bill' was more annoyed at diagnosing sewer gas than Gordon blowing up the loo.

And one from Bert Boswell

Do you remember the famous Sports Day when, in the excitement, almost the whole of the two Schools surged onto the sports track? Next day the Boys' School was paraded on the bottom field and all those who transgressed were asked to step forward. Adopting the old adage that there's safety in numbers, everyone stepped forward. Undaunted, Humphrey Dyer, who had not long returned from the war where he had been Commander of the Maori Battalion, rolled up his sleeves. He formed a queue which stretched from the totara tree almost to the stone wall. It was a case of two each on the backside and the last in the queue assured us that Humphrey's swing was, if anything, improving with each shot. He was a tough, fit soldier but he did confess long after that the last twenty or so were tough going.

So please we would love to hear about your stories. Get them into Greg as soon as you can.

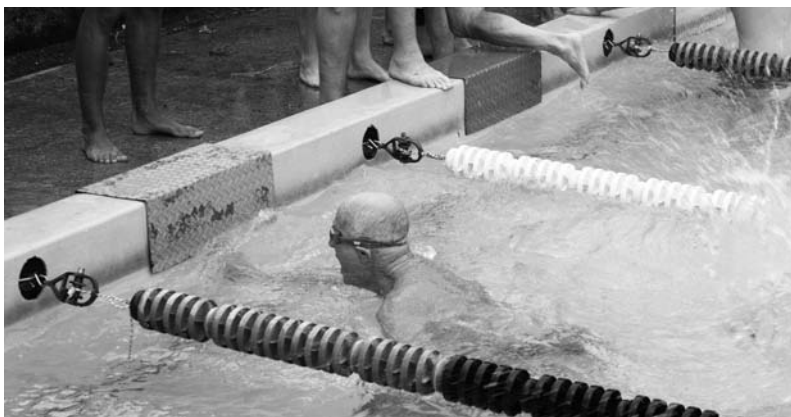
## SWIMMING SPORTS

Once again the Old Boys, courtesy of Boys' High Stalwart and Old Boy Cliff Brunker, entered a team in the School/teachers/Old Boys relay traditionally held at the end of the swimming sports day. This year though held special significance as it was Cliff's swansong. As a final salute to a pool that he has been associated with for over 50 years Cliff this year swam a leg in the relay. Around him he had gathered some of the best swimmers the School had produced albeit some years ago. They were Mike Darrow, Neville Brunker, Craig Waalkens, Darin Robinson, Sam Johnson and Gareth Saunders. Cliff's son Derek was to swim also but unfortunately arrived late. However he had the appropriate note from mum.

It was great that these guys were able to give up their time to come along to help Cliff celebrate. As for the result. The relay was won by School with the Old Boys team finishing fourth and at least beating home the teacher's team led by Headmaster and WBHS Old Boys' Association Patron Al Kirk. It might be time for Old Boys to win this relay so come on you past champions let's get ourselves sorted for next year.



Swimming Team Cliff, Mike, Craig, Neville, Darin, Sam, Gareth



End of an era

# OLD BOYS' SPORTS DAY

The annual Old Boys' Sports Day was held on October 15th with the Old Boys once again retaining the Matthew Gunson Memorial Trophy, albeit after a solid showing put up by the School teams. While Old Boys won both the rugby and the basketball it was only due to experience in the end that allowed Old Boys to get up for the win in both matches. The soccer also was not really decided until late in the 2nd half when Old Boys scored a couple of easy goals to inflate the score.

The same could not be said though in the hockey where School showed a clean pair of heels to an under-strength Old Boys team and ran out easy winners 7-4. The Old Boys just did not have the numbers to allow them to rotate as much as they would have liked so some aging legs could not sustain the pressure of School.

And the National title-holding School shooting team carried that form into the match against Old Boys and achieved a rare victory over their older counterparts.

However as mentioned this was not enough to stop Old Boys running out the victors by 3-2.



*Old Boys' and School Shooting Teams*



*Old Boys' Rugby team*



*Old Boys' Basketball Team*



*Old Boys' Soccer Team*



Next year the sports day will be held on a Saturday. There is often comment made that many Old Boys cannot get away due to work commitments or even cannot attend the after-match function because they have to get back to work. We hope that by moving it to a Saturday we will alleviate all those concerns and can expect a bumper turnout of players and supporters alike on the day and that more Old Boys will be able to remain after the games for some refreshments. It is hoped that we can run this in conjunction with the School PTA and make it a day to remember.

A wonderful chance to showcase the School to the general public and to make the past v present day one of the most significant on the School calendar. We trust that Old Boys will get out and support this occasion next year.

## AERIAL PHOTO

One of the wonderful photos that is held in the Archives is an aerial photo of Whangarei taken in 1956. It measures 1300mmx800mm and is an original 'hand-coloured' copy from the days when aerial shots were all black and white and were coloured by a painter. There are at least two others in Whangarei, both a little larger and in better condition, and they hang in the foyer at the WDC offices in Rust Ave and one also in the Public Library. However the one held by the School was unique in that it had the School in foreground and looked out over Whangarei from the north-west. Unfortunately the photo had fallen into disrepair and was in need of restoration. Enquiries through the Northland Museum indicate that to restore this photo to its former glory would not be possible and they suggested that the best thing to do would be re-take the photo and have it digitally restored.



As it turned out Old Boy Neal 'Rubber' Martin (WBHS 1980-84) was able to help out with the skills to do the job and he is currently in the throes of restoring the photo. At the Old Boys' Sports Day this year a number of Old Boys saw the original photo and when it was indicated that Neal was going to restore it, several suggested they would like a copy of the restored version. So we thought that before we finalise everything we might offer other Old Boys the opportunity to purchase a copy of the photo. An impression of the photo is on this page but being in black and white probably does not do the photo justice. In any event if they so wish Old Boys can purchase either an A1 or A2 sized copy for \$70 and \$40 respectively plus postage and packaging. While this is not a fundraising promotion, Neal has said that he will donate 20% of any purchases to the Association.

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity please get in touch with Greg Weaver.

## FUNDRAISING

This year has seen a change in the way fundraising for major projects is administered at the School. In the past this has been through the School managing the donations made by Old Boys but this year has seen a shift with the WBHS Old Boys' Association taking over this role. As such any donations made by Old Boys are administered through the Association's bank account.

Any donations for this project can be directed to Greg Weaver at the School.

Why might you want to make a donation? Of course the major reason we would hope is that you would like to do your part to help out your old school, albeit through the Association. Or you would just like to recognise in some small way the start that your school gave to you in your early years. And if that memory happens to not feature too fondly for you, perhaps your donation will help to ensure that the boys of today will enjoy their time at the School.

Or maybe it is so that you can take advantage of the relaxed tax rules that apply from 2008 where the limitations that existed for rebates have been lifted. Where previously there was a ceiling on the amount that could attract a rebate, this ceiling no longer exists and the total amount of your donation, up to your total annual net income, is eligible for a rebate. So that is another factor that you can take into consideration when thinking about making a donation.

In any event please be assured that any donation is most graciously accepted and will be allocated as per your instructions.

And if you are not in a position to make a donation at this time but may be able to in the future, if you indicate your intention to do so through a pledge we can follow up with you at a later date.

The big thing to remember is that the WBHS Old Boys' Association is an Incorporated Society with 7,000 validated members. Which means if we all pitch in with a little we will go a long way towards reaching our targets.

For example start a regular automatic payment each week, fortnight or month as one Old Boy has just done recently for \$10 a week for the next three years. Now this may not sound a lot by some people's standards but imagine if 1,000 Old Boys donated \$10 a week for 3 years. Then we are talking significant figures.

Whangarei Boys' High School has a long tradition of producing fine young men and the WBHS Old Boys' Association wants to help keep that tradition alive. With the help of you, our Old Boys, we can.

## ***If you have ever thought about giving a gift towards the fundraising campaign***

### ***you can do so either :***

By a one-off payment in cash, by cheque or credit card.

Or by a pledged payment to be made at a later date or to be spread over a period of time (sort of a buy now pay later plan). This means that you do not have to have the funds now but can budget it for a time when you might have. It is still important though that we are told of your intention to do so as these are funds that can be worked into any project budget.

There are also other options available that we are happy to discuss with you. Or you may have your own ideas on how we build our fundraising funds.

If you would like a pledge form or would just like to discuss some ideas please contact Greg Weaver.



***If you are unable to make a direct donation, there are still other ways that you can help the cause.***

There is an initiative that is being introduced at Carruth House. It is called 'The Carruth Experience'. Basically it is an invitation to Old Boys to come and enjoy dinner at Carruth. If any one so chooses they can also stay the night in a dorm to fully experience the old days in Carruth and enjoy breakfast the next morning. Either way this is an opportunity to relive past memories or maybe rid yourself of some past demons. The dates chosen for this in 2009 are March 14th and August 22nd. If you might be interested in coming along for either of these dates please get in touch with Greg Weaver



Purchase a Snowballing Fuel Card. Basically when you purchase petrol through a Caltex outlet you pay for the gas with the card. Once a month you will receive a statement with your fuel costs for that month. The beauty of it is that the card allows for rebates at the pump of 1.5 cents per litre. This rebate is calculated monthly based on your usage and can be donated towards our fundraising, or you may choose to keep it yourself, or you may choose to split it between the two. Either way petrol is something that the majority of us use and, apart from the fee for the card, there are no other costs, just your normal fuel consumption. A great way to control your fuel costs as you will see how much you are using each month while also supporting the Association's fundraising. If you would like to know more please get in touch with Greg Weaver.



Old Boy Ian McDonald (1963-66) and his wife operate a charity jewellery franchise in the USA. He has offered to make a special lapel pin for Old Boys with an added twist – half the cost of the pin will go towards the Association's fundraising. To give you a brief description of the pin it is made from .925 grade sterling silver and will measure about 20mm by 17mm, so it is good quality product. A photo of the pin is at left here (Front & Back). The cost would be \$70, although I am sure we could negotiate that with fundraising taking a lesser cut. However we cannot commit to producing these until we get an indication from Old Boys as to whether they might like to purchase one of these. So all you need to do if you might like to purchase one is to get in touch with Greg Weaver. Once we have received all feedback we can decide on whether an order can be placed.



Join BuzzthePeople. BuzzThePeople is an online research panel of New Zealanders who pay charities when people complete surveys. If you have already signed up thank you very much. If you have not yet signed up please do so. Buzz will donate a minimum of \$1 to Whangarei Boys' High School for every research survey you do. And these are on average two a month. So again the more people we have registered the more money is raised.

## SPONSORSHIPS

This year has been a stellar year for the Association on this front and it is only due to the generosity of the School's Old Boys that we were able to make a difference to some of the projects being undertaken by students. In no particular order they included:

- Helping 4 boys go to New Caledonia
- A donation towards the Dads n Lads fishing weekend
- Financial assistance to help 4 boys attend the Mercury Bay Big Sing
- Donations towards three of the School's yachtsmen who were representing New Zealand at various regattas during the year
- Prizes for the inaugural film making competition
- Financial assistance towards the School's representatives at the OPC Hillary Challenge competition
- A gift to help 2 boys attend a SADD conference in Wellington.

And finally the Association was very pleased to be in a position to purchase a much needed new baby grand piano for the School's Music Department. This is our way of recognising the talent that the School is producing and trust this piece of equipment will help to foster that talent in the years ahead.

As I mentioned above, we would not have been able to help with any of these projects if it were not for the generosity of our Old Boys. For the support that they have unequivocally given to their ol' School please accept the thanks of a very grateful Association and also Whangarei Boys' High School. Please be assured that you have a made a difference.



***Music teacher Virginia Hill at the new piano***

We have talked a lot in the past about fundraising and donations and are ever grateful for the gifts we have received from a number of Old Boys, friends of the School and former teachers. These donations have been made for a specific project or are given as a general gift to be utilised as best seen fit by the Committee. Specific purposes to date include:

***Carruth House, most notably the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge***

***Sports Pavilion***

***School Library***

***Endowment Fund***

***Advertising School events***

***WBHS Old Boys' Association***

***Gifts for general purposes***

***Sponsorship of Student Projects***

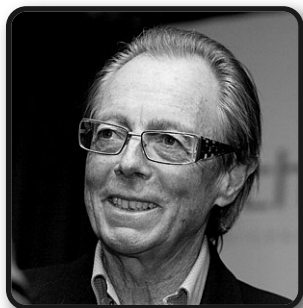
***Performing Arts Centre***

Without identifying amounts or the projects supported, the WBHS Old Boys' Association would like to publicly acknowledge all those who have made a gift in some form or other for the various projects.

Adam Cutforth	Adrian Simcock	Al Kirk	Alan Broughton (dec'd)
Alec Hutchinson	Alex McLean (dec'd)	Alistair Cumming	Allan Bell
Allan Pollock	Allen Simons	Andrew Hood	Arthur Fairley
Barry Keay	Barry Keene	Bernard Baxter	Bert Rowsell
Bill Carter	Bill Crowley	Bill Mallett	Bill Rennie
Bill Roberts	Bob Herman	Brendon Jull	Brent Alsop
Brian Donnelly (dec'd)	Brian Foster	Brian Jaques	Brian Morgan
Brian Morris	Brooke Broughton	Bruce Killen	Bruce Walters
Bryon Knight	Buster Wilson	Cecil Goodson	Charles Stevens
Christopher Dunn	Colin Adams	Cyril Wright (dec'd)	Dale Dickie
Dale Robson	Dave Bower	Dave Culham	Dave Scrattton
David Bratty	David Dent	David Galbraith	David Hall
David Hutley	David Jose	David Miller	David Price
David Reyburn	David Silich	David Templeton	Denis West-Hill
Dennis Baker	Dennis Johns	Dennis O'Meara	Derek McDonnell
Desmond Bourke	Dick Brockliss	Donald Clotworthy	Donald Francis
Donald McKenzie	Doug Goodison	Doug Lane	Eddie Aickin
Edward Marr	Eric Parr	Errol Wilkinson	Euan Carr
Evan Bourke	Fiona Baird	Frank Buckley	Frank Bull Frank Seccombe Frank
Walker	Frank Wilson	Fred Philpott (dec'd)	Frederick Pevats
Geoffrey Ferner (dec'd)	George Knightly	George Morris	Godfrey Badham (dec'd)
Gordon Marsh	Gordon Matthews	Graeme Broughton	Graeme Denton
Graeme Edgeley	Graeme Hawkes	Graeme Kirkness	Graham Byles
Grant Crowley	Greg Weaver	Hamish Campbell	Hanley Hutchinson
Harman Smith (dec'd)	Harold Clotworthy	Hayward Berridge (dec'd)	Herbert Farrell
Herbert Jenkins	Howard Cox	Hugh Hughes	Hugh Stevens
Ian Babe	Ian Bennett	Ian Browning	Ian Cameron
Ian Holdaway	Ian Morris	Ian Webb	Jack Maxwell
Jack Wilkinson	James Brocas	James Klein	James Knightly
Jarrard Ahlers	Jenny Butcher	Jim Collier	Jim Leslie
Jim Mortimer	Joe Ross	John Barber	John Bray
John Hall	John Nickless	John Northmore	John Pringle
John Williamson	John Wrightson	K B Gordon	Kathleen Lawson
Keith Strong	Kelvin Pannett	Ken McLelland (dec'd)	Ken Rogers (dec'd)
Kenneth Nordstrand	Kenneth Wright (dec'd)	Kevin Packard	Kevin Presland
Kevin Salmon	Laurence McBeath	Laurence McBeath	Lawrence Wordsworth
Lenard Johnson	Leo Menefy	Les Bradley	Lionel Ormandy
Lloyd McDell	Lloyd Morris	Mark Croucher	Mathew Singleton
Matt Conmee	Maurice Bindon	Maurice Clarke	Maxwell Tebbutt
Mervyn Going (dec'd)	Mervyn Jull	Michael Baker	Michael Carroll
Michael Flynn	Miles Bundle	Murray Airey	Murray Hall
Murray Inder	Murray Jagger	Murray Palmer	Murray Thompson
Neil MacKay	Neil Shepherd	Noel Herman	Norm Williamson
Norman Main	Owen Mitchell	Pat Sheild	Pat Skelley
Paul Ahlers	Paul Foster	Peter Allsopp	Peter Dallas
Peter Grenfell	Peter Jones	Peter Mahood (dec'd)	Peter Mason
Peter Robinson	Peter Salmon	Peter Thorne	Peter Vucich
Peter West-Hill	Peter Younger	Philip Alexander-Crawford	Philip Sheild
Piers Ewen	Ray Hargreaves	Raymond Storey	Rex Barnaby
Rex Faithfull	Rex Ries (dec'd)	Richard Ahlers	Richard Booth
Richard Nickless	Richard Papworth	Rob Dickie	Robert Fyfe
Robert Herman	Rod & Laurel Watson	Rod Hall	Roger Bell
Roger Goodison	Ron Nisbet	Ronald Ferguson (dec'd)	Rosemary Ledingham
Ross Dudley	Ross Lamb	Ross Pollock	Ross Windust
Royce Kokich	Russell McIlroy	Sam Carter	Sandy Imrie
Selwyn Stringer	Sid Ware	Stephen Johnston	Stuart McGregor
Ted Blair	Ted Edwards	Terence Berridge	Terence Edwards
Terry Dallas	Terry Hickey	Terry Robinson	The Papworth Brothers
Thomas Miller	Timothy Hoyle	Tom Armstrong	Tony Hall
Tony Lane	Tony Ross	Warren Bell	Warren Blundell
Wayne Ward	Willem Rotgans	William Croucher	William Dent
William Johnstone	William Langstone	William Orr	William Price

# SUCCESSFUL OLD BOYS

It is always a pleasurable part of any newsletter to acknowledge the exploits of some of our Old Boys nationally and internationally. It seems that more and more these days we are able to comment to our partners 'he's an Old Boy of Whangarei Boys' High School' such is the calibre of people the School has produced over the years. No doubt many have slipped under the radar in previous years but let us hope that this does not occur into the future and that not only do we pay suitable homage to the deeds of our Old Boys as they happen but we also retrospectively acknowledge past performers as they come to light. If you are aware of any Whangarei Boys' High School Old Boys who have distinguished themselves please let us know and we can follow through in future publications. For this newsletter though we would like to make special mention of a few Old Boys who have done their old School proud with their achievements this year.



**Michael Hill  
(WBHS 1952-55)**

The life and times of Michael Hill have been fairly well documented over the past few years especially with his promotion of the New Zealand Golf Open at his Hills Course in recent times. But the Association would like to pass on our most sincere congratulations to Michael for this year being named the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and to wish him well for Monte Carlo next year when the World Entrepreneur will be named. There are some heady times ahead for Michael as he plans the establishment of the Michael Hill Jeweller range in America and wish him well with these endeavours.



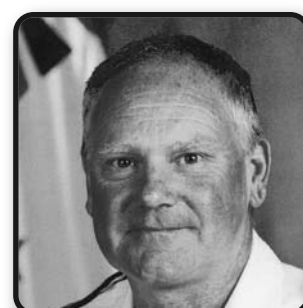
**John Moody  
(WBHS 1996-99)**

Many of you would have noted the selection of Old Boy John Moody in the NZ Olympics team for Badminton. Unfortunately John did not fare so well at the Olympics coming up against one of the top seeds in the first round but he acquitted himself well. The Association would like to congratulate him on his selection and wish him well in the world of professional badminton. The School was fortunate that John was able to give some tuition to some of the students when he visited the School during the year, as can be seen by the photo of him and Headmaster Al Kirk.



**Lindsay Hill  
(WBHS 1992-96)**

In June of this year Lindsay arrived back in Whangarei after living abroad for some time. Nothing amazing in that you might say but it was his mode of transport to get back to New Zealand that is astounding. Lindsay's trip home lasted 16 months, during which he visited 25 countries and travelled almost 30,000kms, and all on a bike (pedal not motor). An amazing achievement and certainly worthy of the title of Whangarei Boys' High School Achiever.



**Maurice Kennett  
(WBHS 1972-74)**

The Association would like to congratulate Maurice 'Muzz' Kennett on his recent appointment as Commanding Officer of HMNZS Kahu. Muzz left Whangarei Boys' High School at the end of 1974 and joined the Navy in 1975. He started out as a Junior Weapon Electrical Mechanic and currently holds the rank of Lieutenant. Good to know the country is in safe hands.



**Adam Blair  
(WBHS 2000-02)**

No doubt there were many Old Boys who recognised Kiwi Adam Blair as an Old Boy of Whangarei Boys' High School and a member of the School 1st XV in 2002. It is with pride that the Association would like to pass on their congratulations for a wonderful performance in the recent World Cup. To score that match winning try was even more special. Good Boys' High Stuff.



**Tim Southee  
(WBHS 2002-03)**

We have mentioned Tim in despatches before but the Association would like to take the chance to acknowledge and congratulate him for his performances for the Black Caps in recent times. What a thrill it must have been to knock the top off the Ozzie batting order in the first test recently. Once again Good Boys' High Stuff. Hopefully we can look forward to more stirring performances in the years ahead.



**Casey Henwood  
(WBHS 1994-98)**

The Association would also like to congratulate for his selection in the Black Sticks Hockey team for the Olympics. Casey was in fact first selected for the Black Sticks back in 2003 but fell out of favour for a short time. Great to see him back in Black and the Association would like to acknowledge his performances and congratulate him on his selection at the highest level.



And what WBHS Old Boys' Association newsletter would be complete without acknowledging Old Boy Winston Peters (WBHS 1960) and the work he has done for the country over the past 20 or so years. New Zealand Politics will probably be a little boring without him so hurry back Winston.

## MINI REUNION

*As a total aside from the formal dinner, or part of it if that appeals, the Association would like to get smaller year groups together for mini reunions. If your first year at Whangarei Boys' High School was either 1984 (25 year reunion) or 1959 (50 year reunion) and you would like to be part of a planned reunion of those years please register your interest with Greg Weaver. The Association would be only too happy to help get these going.*

# OLD BOYS' ANNUAL GOLF DAY

It started out with torrential rain so it was amazing that all but 5 entrants turned up for the Annual Golf Day held on 5th December at the Whangarei Golf Club Course at Mt Denby. And from all reports they were then treated to one of the best days we have had on the calendar. So good in fact that people who could not be there, whether they be Old Boys or not, are already saying 'make sure you let me know next year when it is on'.

Ostensibly this day is one for a little fundraising by the Association, so without the players we had along, sixty-four in total, and the support of the sponsors who helped out with prizes and refreshments we would not have been able to achieve anything. As it is we were able to raise close to \$2500 towards future School activities so a huge thank you goes out to everyone who was there on the day. In particular our thanks go out to:

- Teachers Sherry Hargreaves and Liane Cook who drove one of the refreshment carts
- Old Boy Dave Templeton for his enthusiasm on the other cart, together with Grant Shaw and Grant Gilbert of the ASB Bank
- Headmaster Al Kirk for his work on the bbq (although he was late getting there)
- Sonny Wairau from Regent Training Centre. Sonny is not an Old Boy but he gave up what was a free day for him to come along and help out. Our sincere thanks Sonny for this.
- The Whangarei Golf Club, for not only allowing us the use of their course but also for ensuring that this year the course was kept clear for our tournament. It was obvious that this had a huge impact on the success of the day.
- Old Boys Kevin Salmon and Mike Lee for their organisation of the tournament and Greg Weaver for his coordination around the bbq area and the photos.

Finally we would be nowhere with this tournament if it were not for the sponsors this year, especially our major sponsor ASB Bank. To Grant Shaw and his team at ASB Whangarei and also Grant Gilbert of ASB, our sincere thanks for helping to make this a day to remember.

Also we would like to extend a huge thank you to Michael Hill for the wonderful gesture of a men's watch from Michael Hill Jewellers as a prize. This was such an exceptional item that it was used as a prize for a raffle (which was won by Dave Ashby). Many thanks Michael for the wonderful gesture. Maybe next year we can move the tournament to the Hills Course in Arrowtown.



*Top: Grant Gilbert, Dave Templeton, Grant Shaw on drinks cart*

*Bottom: Gathering after a hard days golf*



*Winning Team Alan Lints, Grant Shaw, Angus Lindsay, Murray Lints*



*Teachers Ivan Howett, Rod Watson, Keith Ross (ret)*

And to our other sponsors the Organising Committee would like to pass their sincere thanks to:

**Coalminers Daughter Bar & Grill**

**The Burgundy Rose Motel**

**Harrisons Carpet One Ltd**

**Kamo Super Liquor**

**Wilkinsons Sports**

**The Northland Club**

**Kamo Hotel**

**Pak N Save**

**Rebel Sport**

**Barrells 100% Your Electric Store**

**Kensington Tavern**

**Kensington Pharmacy**

So who won? It might be fair to say that golf was the winner but let us not detract from the team known as 'St Nil' that was made up of former Headmaster Murray Lints, Alan Lints and Angus Lindsay who had a nett 49 and won from Fuzzy Duck – Patrick White, Gareth Saunders, Carl Russell – on a countback. In third place was The Rastas – Joe Harris, Jahkobi Harris, Han Kim.

Let us hope we can look forward to another fantastic day next year.

## HOUSE COMPETITION

*Another wonderful year in the inter-house competition at the School – wonderful that is if you were once a Bledisloe member as they have followed their marvellous victory last year with another win.*

*Second was Grey followed by Marsden then Carruth (4th – maybe some of the old spirit is missing from the House) and finally Hobson bringing up the rear although only by 1 point.*

*Well done Bledisloe. The first time in its short history that Bledisloe has gone back to back and only the 4th time in 40 years the House has been champion.*



# VENERABLE OLD BOYS



**Murray Inder**



**Don Gwilliam**

**Kevin Salmon  
Hanley Hutchinson  
Richard Papworth  
Don Gwilliam  
David Hutley  
Doug Morrison**

You may have noticed already that this newsletter has a lot devoted to acknowledging the our Old Boys and it is fair to say that the Association this year has made huge strides in improving the way we do acknowledge the achievements of Whangarei Boys' High School Old Boys. Firstly there is the establishment of the Fideliter Fellowship which is basically a hall of fame to recognise those who have made significant contributions in their chosen fields and who may act as an inspiration for current and future generations of Whangarei Boys' High School students.

Secondly, we also believe that there are a number of people who deserve the acknowledgement and respect of the WBHS Old Boys' Association for the support they have provided to the School and the Association over the years. Sort of a 2nd tier hall of fame but more personal and more unique. By that it is meant that Venerable Old Boys may very well also end up as a member of the Fideliter Fellowship but the converse may not be true (ie just because an Old Boy is considered noteworthy enough to be a Fellow of the Fideliter Fellowship his actions may not have had any direct impact on the School or the Association and so cannot be included as a Venerable Old Boy)

The Association has developed some criteria for inclusion as a Venerable Old Boy which is printed below. Of course we welcome nominations for inclusion on this list and certainly names will be added over time. While we have not imposed any restriction on the number that can be added each year, as we have with the Fideliter Fellowship, there is still of course a process to go through, primarily just to make sure that the person being nominated satisfies the criteria.

To get the ball rolling as it were, the Executive Committee has approved the first intake of Venerable Old Boys and their names are listed below.

**Erc Angelo  
Grant Crowley  
Frank Bull  
Ross Dudley  
Lionel Ormandy  
Rob Dickie**

**Paul Ahlers  
Les Bradley  
Len Johnson  
Murray Inder  
Doug Goodison  
Bill Mallett**

**Lloyd Morris  
Dave Culham  
Neil MacKay  
David Dent  
David Silich**



**Neil MacKay**



**Erc Angelo**

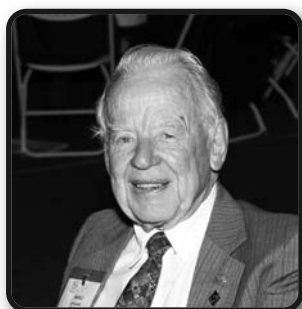
## CRITERIA

To be considered to be accepted by the Whangarei Boys' High Schools Old Boys' Association as a Venerable Old Boy, the Old Boy will have satisfied two or more of the following criteria:

1. Has made a substantial commitment of time and effort to the School and Association.
2. Has made a substantial financial commitment to the School through donations via the Association.
3. Has enhanced, promoted and been involved with the current and previous Association.
4. Has actively promoted the School during his normal activities or through a special action that has been nationally or internationally recognised.
5. Provided inspiration and opportunities to current students
6. Has a continuing and ongoing interest in the well being of the Association.



**Grant Crowley**



**Lionel Ormandy**

*Any Old Boy can be nominated as a Venerable Old Boy, although it must be by another Old Boy. Nominations can be made by simply addressing a letter to the Committee or by completing the form that can be downloaded from the website. However, the induction will only occur after being approved by a majority vote at a meeting of the WBHS Old Boys' Association Committee. Unlike the Fideliter Fellowship there will be no limit on the number of Venerable Old Boys.*

*Venerable Old Boys will each have their name recorded on the Old Boys website with suitable notation of the reason for their inclusion on the list. It is hoped also that Venerable Old Boy status will be recognised with a pin or badge at some stage.*

## NORTHLAND V AUCKLAND

*It has been suggested that we may be able to get a rivalry going between Old Boys in Auckland and Whangarei through a day of competition (eg pool, snooker, golf etc) followed by a dinner. If you would be keen to be involved in this please get in touch with Greg Weaver or Aucklanders may like to contact Craig Wedge by email at [craig.wedge@mondotravel.co.nz](mailto:craig.wedge@mondotravel.co.nz) to register their interest.*

## THE HORSE PADDOCK

*And for those of you may recall the horse paddock for what it was (i.e. where the School's horse, Blossom, was kept or even horses ridden to school by students) you can see from the photo that it has now ceased to exist as a paddock in its own right. An extensive land reclamation program is in full swing, the purpose of which is to eventually create an upper level playing field and the banks where the pine trees used to sit will make a great amphitheatre.*



# WBHS OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

The dinner this year was again held at the Whangarei Golf Club at Mt Denby and was attended by 110 Old Boys and friends. This year's guest of honour was Old Boy and former teacher Doug Goodison. We also included a small reunion of the 1953 Moascar Cup winning 1st XV plus also inducted a further three Old Boys into the Fideliter Fellowship. A big night and it must be said that things did not exactly go according to plan and we have taken some important lessons from this year's dinner to incorporate into future functions. However even taking all that into consideration it was gratifying to receive the feedback and thanks from Old Boys and other attendees.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association Committee would like to thank all the speakers for their contribution to the evening. It is hard to select highlights but the visit made by the late Harry Clarke and also Sam Hunt (both in the guise of John Bould) certainly raised a few chuckles. However no matter how good any of the Old Boy speakers were, they were all upstaged by an 87 year old in the form of Henry Douglas Goodison. His speech brought the house down. Thank you Doug and Jean.

We would also like to thank Fideliter Fellowship inductees Dave Sirl and the families of Joe Morgan and Peter Sloane for their attendance and of course Morris Cutforth for keeping the night ticking over. He did a great job. Our thanks also go to John McComb for the use of his sound system; to the Auckland Blues rugby franchise for the gear to auction; to Inprint Graphics for their assistance with producing all written material; to the Whangarei Golf Club for again letting us use their facilities for no charge.



Presentation to Dave & Linda Sirl



Kevin presents Doug with his memento



Presentation to Pam Head & Craig Sloane



Jean & Doug Goodison



Presentation to Sharon & Trent Morgan



Doug Goodison

MC Morris Cutforth

And a big thank you to the people who won the four auctions that were carried out on the night. Your input and generosity is most appreciated.

Finally a huge thank you to David Silich and also David Dent for their financial assistance with this year's event and we sincerely hope you are able to join us at a function in the future. And also to Bill Rennie who donated 5 nights accommodation at his luxurious Rarotonga Resort, Royale Takitimu, to be auctioned on the night towards the fundraising.

If you were unable to attend the dinner but would like to experience the occasion from the comfort of your couch, or maybe you just want something to keep for prosperity, we have the dinner dvd available for purchase at a cost of \$25 which includes postage. Please get in touch with Greg Weaver if you would like a copy.

The Association believes we can look ahead to next years event with renewed enthusiasm after the lessons learnt from this year couple with success factors from 2007 so please keep the first Saturday in July free. It should be an occasion not to be missed.

**We understand that Bill Rennie has again offered to donate a further 5 nights accommodation at Royale Takitimu to be auctioned at next years dinner. We have it on good authority that the winner of this years auction, Trish Holloway director of Carruth House thoroughly enjoyed her week in Rarotonga. To put it into words she said the resort is out of this world and she hopes she might win the auction again next year. Watch this space**

# ANZAC Day Service

Another great day was held at the School on April 18th and there was good turnout of Old Boys and former staff members. We were also pleased to welcome the Deputy Mayor Kahu Sutherland and relatives of the two inductees into the Fideliter Fellowship. Old Boy and former teacher Ted Edwards delivered this year's keynote address and he spoke about the contribution made by teachers to the war effort.

We were honoured again to have Old Boy Doug Morrison to read the ode. Unfortunately this was to be Doug's final act at a School ANZAC Service as he sadly passed away in October this year. His presence at the Service will be greatly missed.

The Service as usual culminated with the laying of a wreath at the Memorial Anchor with the Lament played by the lone piper in the background. It is a very touching and solemn occasion and if you have not yet been at the School to experience it we suggest you try and get along next year.

All visitors are then treated to afternoon tea in the School staff room.



**Lloyd Trigg's cousin and Old Boy Lawrence McBeath with Lloyd's sister Olwyn Reynolds**



**Wreath laying ceremony**



**Nieces and nephews of Derek Ward**

Francis Charles Baker attended Whangarei Boys' High School, or Whangarei High School as it was in those days, for one year in 1911 before he took up a position with the Post Office in 1912. So why would we mention him in a WBHS Old Boys' Association newsletter?

Each year at the ANZAC Service Prefects read out the School's Roll of Honour. The first name read out is F C Baker. He was killed in France during WWI. He was 21 years old.

One of the School's long serving teachers, Alan McGunnigle, who retired last year, took a trip with his wife to explore Europe and on the way visited many of the battle sites and cemeteries in Belgium and France. At one particular cemetery at Polygon Wood Alan came across the headstone belonging to Rifleman F C Baker and immediately recognised the name.

As Alan's wife Beryl said in a recent article in the Advocate, 'His name is read out in Whangarei every year and there he lay in that peaceful little piece of farmland. He really had no connection with us and yet he did'. This must have been one of the most solemn moments Alan had experienced while also being able to celebrate the life of one of Whangarei Boys' High School's own buried so far away in a foreign land. It makes the Roll of Honour at the School even more special and we trust that all Old Boys visiting the School do take time to have a look at the Roll either in the main foyer or by the Memorial Anchor.



**F C Baker**



**Grave stone of F C Baker, centre**

## BRONZE MEDALLION

*A few months back Archives was pleased to receive a bronze medallion from a chap by the name of Eric Beddows. Eric used to live next door to Jack Glanville's house in Manse Street and was on hand when the house was being cleaned out after Jack had passed away. He noticed this medallion and picked it up and held onto it all these years. What was interesting about this medallion is that it was awarded to Donald Scott for winning the Junior Athletics Championship in 1944 but Donald never received it as he left the School before prize-giving. Obviously Jack Glanville tucked it away for safe-keeping and there it remained.*

*After a few phone calls it was discovered that Donald had passed away in the 1980s, after a career in optometry, and it was only through the endeavours of a couple of people in Hikurangi that we were able to make contact with Donald's nephew who collected the medallion on behalf of the family.*

## Performing Arts

The School continues to excel in this area and each year produces some awesome talent. It is such a shame that they have to do it in the sub-standard premises that vaguely resemble a music room but again this just shows how resilient Boys' High students are. It is hoped that when the time comes the WBHS Old Boys' Association will be able to assist with fundraising towards a new Performing Arts Centre. If the School can nurture talent such as they have to date then just imagine what could be achieved with better facilities. Much of the credit for this must go to the HoD Music, Virginia Hill and also Paul Mathieson who's energy and commitment inspires the boys to 'give it a go'.

A couple of the major achievements this year included:

**Mercury Bay Big Sing:** Four students travelled to Whitianga to participate in the Mercury Bay Big Sing. This was a four day event, comprising 8 hours of rehearsals each day culminating in an evening concert on Saturday. It was a fabulous experience and the students gained many skills which they are continuing to develop. The WBHS boys were admired not only for their singing but also for the way they conducted themselves while at the seminar so were a credit to the School and to the Association. The final concert featured a solo by WBHS student Rangi Hall with the others being an integral part of the chorus.



**Jonathon Croucher**, a Year 9 student, was selected to be a member of the New Zealand Secondary School Symphony Orchestra. Jonathon was one of eight cellists to be selected from secondary school students throughout New Zealand from Invercargill to Whangarei. Students attended a five day course in Christchurch which culminated in a public performance on Saturday 26th April. It is quite an achievement to be chosen for this orchestra as a Year 9 student.

## Sports

There have been a lot of great performances by our sports teams and individuals this year but there is one achievement that over-shadows all the rest.

It has all been said before but now we can really shout from the rooftops – Whangarei Boys' High School has the best secondary school clay target shooting team in the country. There may not be room in this newsletter to mention all their exploits but we shall give it a go.

- At the Hamilton Boys' High School Shoot in July there were 250 shooters competing from all over the North Island. In the team event WBHS No. 2 team finished 1st with the No. 1 team finishing 2nd, albeit after a shoot off with Hamilton Boys' High School.

In the North Island Championships that followed the next day the WBHS No.1 team reversed the previous days result by finishing 1st and in the process shooting 297/300 which equalled the National School Record of only 3 points dropped. The No. 2 team finished 2nd after a shoot off with Waiuku College.

- At the National Championships the Whangarei Boys' High School Shooting Team proved that they are the NUMBER ONE Secondary School team in the country by defending the SPL/Winchester Inter-schools Challenge Trophy they won for the first time last year and were also crowned the New Zealand Secondary

School's Clay Target Points Score Teams Event Champions for the 2nd year running. Making this result even more incredible was that the WBHS Number 2 team came third. To defend the trophy they won last year is no mean feat.

- To cap it all off the team won the Team of the Year at the ASB Secondary Sports awards, an honour that some say they should have also won last year. And one of the members of the team, Ethan Erceg, was named the overall Northland Sportsman of the Year. The same categories were also won at the School's annual prize-giving.

These boys continue to do the School proud week after week and they are virtually unbeatable in Northland Secondary School competitions and are taking that form into national competitions. The number One team consisted of: Logan Rankin, Tim Mannion, Ethan Erceg, Brent Martin and Nick Gavin (as per the picture)

The number two team consisted of: Ian King, Hugh McKenzie, Hayden Coote, Rhys Were and Josh Wilson.

And let us not forget the team of supporters and management behind the teams, without whom their success would not have occurred. Specifically coaches Chris Erceg and Mike Newson and Manager Annette Erceg but also all parents of the boys involved. They must be thanked for the many hours they put in in training, transporting, fund raising and the like. Such a wonderful team effort.



## Sports Awards

The Shooting Team wasn't the only success the School had at the ASB Sports Awards this year and it is pleasing to be able to report that we also had Players of the Year in the following codes:

**Ryan Smith** – Athletics and Cross Country

**Tom Keogh** – Joint holder Hockey

**Ethan Erceg** – Shooting

**Tate Matson** – Squash

**Aaron Millar** – Swimming

**Lochlan Kitchen** – Tennis.

Students honoured with awards does not finish there with Dylan French winning the Northern Region Under 16 Sportsman of the Year last month in Auckland at the surf lifesaving awards dinner. This is a major feat considering the Northern Region takes in the whole of Auckland to the top of the north island. Dylan competes in the Iron Man competition which consists of the surf ski, knee board and swimming disciplines. He was unbeaten in the Northern region and 3rd in New Zealand. His recognition was well deserved after winning 6 medals earlier this year at the New Zealand Nationals. Dylan's achievements were recognised further at the Northland Sports awards where he was named as the champion in the surf lifesaving category. Excellent achievement.

Similarly Tate Matson has also received further accolades on top of his ASB win. He was selected for the New Zealand 2008 representative team and eventually was rated the No1 ranked Under 17 player in New Zealand. Consequently he was named the Northland Sportsman of the Year in the Squash category.