



Whangarei Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Incorporated

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Dear fellow Old Boy,

If you were like me with your time at school, you were probably happy to move onto the real world of paying taxes and working for a living. But in complete contrast to that, since Headmaster Al Kirk asked me to get involved with the association I have thoroughly enjoyed my time, not just in catching up with old school classmates but even more so seeing the enjoyment of gentlemen that left school 50, 60, 70 years ago and the absolute pleasure they get from getting together regularly and their satisfaction of being able to help young men move into adulthood.

And that is what the WBHS Old Boys' Association is all about – bringing Old Boys back to the School either physically or through communication, getting Old Boys together on social occasions, helping out the School where we can. At the moment we feel we are achieving this. If I look back over the past years, the Association has become more and more active each year, and in most cases we would not have achieved these things without the involvement of Old Boys. We have:

- Helped students attend world sailing championships, singing competitions, athletics meetings, golf tournaments, attend Shakespeare Company festivals and also to visit New Caledonia
- Bought a new piano for the School; bought new presses for the Art Dept; ukuleles for the music dept; engine hoist, milling machine and compressors for the Technology Dept; new equipment for the PE Dept; new lights and stereo for the Drama Dept; new shelves for the Library; books for the Classics Dept
- Helped Carruth House re-roof the dorms, refurbish the kitchen, convert to gas heating and to complete stage 1 of the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge initiative
- Donated a set of aerial photographs to the School
- Held 3 annual dinners that have attracted a different crowd each time; held a past v present sports day and an Old Boys golf day each year
- Published two books – 'Fideliter Shaping Us' and 'The Thirtyniners' – and produced 6 previous newsletters
- Introduced the Fideliter Fellowship, our version of a hall of fame, into the School

And the most important thing we have done is to reinstitute ourselves as an entity in our own right within the School.

I believe that the majority of you enjoy the contact that you receive from us, whether it be through the newsletters or emails, particularly when it concerns special results the School has achieved. The bad news though is that we cannot continue to do this without your involvement.

While we are grateful to the Lion Foundation and Pub Charity for their assistance with producing this newsletter, sadly this may be the last printed newsletter we can provide for you, due to the cost of posting out 6,500 newsletters. Basically it has become too much for us to handle. And we are also grateful to other Old Boys who have helped us out in the past. Obviously the way forward is electronic but until such time as we get a larger number of your email addresses recorded on the database (we currently have about 20% only) then we must rely on 'snail mail' to achieve the biggest coverage.



For now, the time has come for us to all make a small commitment to the future of something that, I believe, we have all grown to take for granted over the past few years but, by the same token, something that we all do enjoy. And that is the WBHS Old Boys' Association. Whangarei Boys' High School is a great school. It has a long and distinguished history that will only be enhanced and embellished for the future through an active Old Boys' Association.

So how can you help?

For those of you who are not already Life Members, we are asking each and every one of you to commit to the Association through a membership subscription. You will notice we have put in an invoice for a membership application with this newsletter, with annual subs set at only \$30 and life subs set at \$250.00. These subs are

very comparable to other Old Boy Associations in New Zealand, in fact better than most.

Through your commitment and support we will be able to continue as we have been – provide newsletters, subsidise functions, support the School, provide email updates, keep you informed of what's been happening at your old school, and, most importantly of all, continue to employ Greg as without him we would be lost. Greg continues to work tirelessly for the Association and we are eternally grateful to have him working for us.

So please make a commitment to the Association, and encourage your mates to do so. While there was a larger emphasis on fundraising in the early days, that is certainly not the case today. However, we will always try and raise money to help the School wherever we can but our emphasis at the moment is strictly a self-preservation one. I hope all Old Boys will rise to the occasion.

Before I close I must also say a huge thanks to all those Old Boys who have continued to support the Association and the School through donations and assistance. These have been given at different levels depending on people's circumstances so I wouldn't like to single anybody out as there have been a number of you who have helped out at various stages for different projects. Rest assured though I know that members of the School affected are most appreciative of the support they have received from Old Boys, whatever the level of contribution.

There are a few Old Boys making a regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly contribution, either through bank account or from salary, and that is the way forward as I know that if we all 'do a little' then we can achieve the bigger picture. The immediate approach though has to be to increase financial membership but we are forever grateful for your continued support and I hope it will carry on into the future.

I know that many of the following articles will appeal to you and give you a reminder of your time at School. As always feedback is important, so if you have a comment to make or suggestions for improvement then please get in touch through any of the addresses at the head of this page. We always welcome your contact.

All the very best to you all and I hope that our paths will cross at some stage over the next year.

Kevin Salmon
President

Email. kevin.salmon@xtra.co.nz

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HEADMASTER'S REPORT 2009



Headmaster Al Kirk competing in the school Senior Cross-country

Welcome to 2010 – it is hard to believe that I have completed 10 years as Headmaster of this wonderful school, and I marvel at the speed at which the years have passed by. Much has happened in the 10 years and it does well, at times to sit back and reflect upon the achievements of the School in that time. The roll this year is just below a 1000 – similar to last year, with Carruth House at a slightly lower level than normal (65) due, in the main, to the financial repercussions of the recession. With the quality service that we provide our boys, we are more than hopeful that we will be back to full capacity later this year or certainly in 2011. The Hostel has a new Director, Nic Horsley (Art teacher). Nic has been in the Hostel as an Assistant Housemaster since 2004 and is very experienced. Last year saw the retirement of Co-Director Hans Brits who moves back into the School as full time Mathematics teacher (and Property Manager) and his Co-Director (Trish Holloway) has retained her association with the Hostel as Hostel Day Manager.

The changes that have occurred over the last 10 years have involved the tightening up of the school uniform (something that is always a focus for quality schools); the introduction of a three tier colours awards system for the acknowledgement of commitment and participation, excellence, and national representation; the increase in the school facilities with the addition of a new Art Block, a new Social Sciences Block, a Wharehui for the teaching of Te Reo, Te Awatea (Health Centre), the formation of four dedicated Computer Rooms, the refurbishment and upgrade of the Library, the upgrade of the Hostel (including a new gas boiler, a total re-roofing, the refurbishment and upgrade of the ablution block, totally upgraded kitchen, upgrade and refurbishment of the Director's House and Master quarters as well as Stage One of the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge. As well as the property, the uniform, and the colours we have also focussed on improving the academic results of the boys and each year - once boys are dismissed for the senior exams, the staff devote a week of solid

tutorials of those boys in Years 11, 12 and 13 with external examinations. We have Specials examinations for boys in Year 13 who are at risk of not achieving to their potential; we have now introduced Cambridge Examinations for English, Mathematics and Science in Years 11 and 12 as well as Economics in Year 13 (other subjects e.g. History, Latin are also looking at introducing this in the future). We have our top Year 10 class undertaking NCEA Level 1 History and we continue to bat above our weight in terms of our academic success in all areas. The student leadership structure in the School is now recognised nationally, and internationally as being one of the most innovative in the country – where all boys have the opportunity in Year 12 (Form 6)) to put their hand up to become a Prefect. In days past, only the very best behaved of boys (or super stars on the sports field) were able to become Prefects and I personally believe this is totally unfair – for boys mature slower and make more mistakes in their formative years and as a result often punished at the time. It is important that boys have the opportunity to know that they can learn from the mistakes they make and have the opportunity to vie for the leadership positions in the school – so, all boys in Year 12 can become Prefects and if the truth be known, some of the best Prefects we have ever had, are those who had 'colourful' careers in their junior school years. We are very proud of our leadership programme and I have been given the honour of speaking at national and international conferences promoting it. We take considerable heart with our sporting results and once again your school is well represented nationally – at the Gillette Cup Cricket finals for example just recently held (in December) in Palmerston North. We came 6th out of a total of 200 schools that originally entered. We are the National champions in the GET2GO Challenge (an Outdoor Pursuits challenge) held on Great Barrier Island – a mixed team of Year 10 boys and girls (from WGHS). We also continue to have the best shooters in the country and it is great to have them acknowledged on a regular basis nationally over the past 5 years.

This year the School is in great heart, the haka has been incorporated into the inter-whanau competition, the inter-whanau singing competition will take place on the last day of term and the talent quest will take place in term 3 – the same term as the bench press competition. The Prefects that we have this year have many new and interesting innovative ideas to keep boys occupied and we look forward to the year level indoor soccer competition that will be taking place during the winter in wet weather - midway through the year. This all leads to an absolute highlight at year's end – the Dads'n'lads Kart Rally starting in the quad, going down the under pass, round Anchor corner, and down the drive ending on the sports field. The inaugural Dads'n'lads Kart race was held last year and we look forward to this continuing this year, supporting the Dads'n'lads Fishing Weekend with Bill Hohepa and other great events involving fathers and sons.

Thank you again for supporting your old School – it is a great school and I look forward, very much, to meeting up with you at the various Old Boys' functions during the year.

A F Kirk
HEADMASTER

TRIVIAL PURSUIT

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is planning to hold a trivial pursuit evening on Friday May 7th in the Assembly Hall at Whangarei Boys' High School. The event is a teams event for teams of up to 6 members at a cost of \$15 per person, which includes a light supper. A cash bar will be available. There will be a myriad of prizes on offer and your quizmaster will be Association President Kevin Salmon. While the night is dedicated in part to the memory of Old Boy and long serving teacher Roger Meyer who passed away last year, it is also an opportunity to raise some funds to help swell the coffers of the Association. So we hope you will come along and support his night. Maybe this is a chance to get some Aucklanders, or even some Waikato-ians, involved to see which is the best region (see note on Page 7). For further details please contact Greg Weaver or Kevin Salmon (email kevin.salmon@xtra.co.nz)

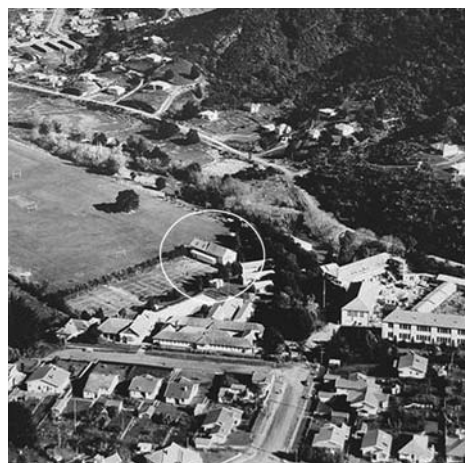
Oh Faithful Old Servant by Don Gwilliam



Photo courtesy of Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries, No. 35-R1901

elements of wood and metalwork, or girls into cooking and sewing knowledge, yet the old policy served us well, helped clothe us through a depression, feed us through the war rationing and never saw a leaky building till skill training became a dirty word. The Whangarei Manual Training School originated well before two dedicated buildings were eventually constructed during 1905, not where you might have expected, but at the Bank St. Primary School site (see picture above).

Just how those buildings were set out is today unclear. However, there is an indication that in its next life from 1933 when the structures shifted to the Whangarei High School site at Lupton Ave the pair of buildings were merged into one containing three rooms. Aerial



1956 - Photo courtesy of Geosmart

photographs show the blocks set in a tee layout with two distinct ridge heights as in the 1946 aerial photo. The pictures also disclose the basic architectural conventions of standard New Zealand school buildings of the times with the Manual Block echoing the style of the adjacent High School, parts of which dated from 1894 and mostly 1906. Pictures taken in the 1930s showing wood and metalwork and typing and cooking lessons document the building providing for practical tuition. Come 1946 the High School separated into dedicated Boys' and Girls' schools. Until 1952 the manual classes continued in the old building when in a tangled move the Boys' classes shifted into what was meant to be an assembly hall on the School Lane site.

The old Manual Training Block was then, in 1953, transported to the Boys' High School grounds, positioned at the bottom of The Memorial Drive, a fixture there for over half its lifetime. A change of use followed. Two of them in fact. 1953 to 1982 saw the building become the gymnasium after which, following a major internal revision, a music suite filled the old

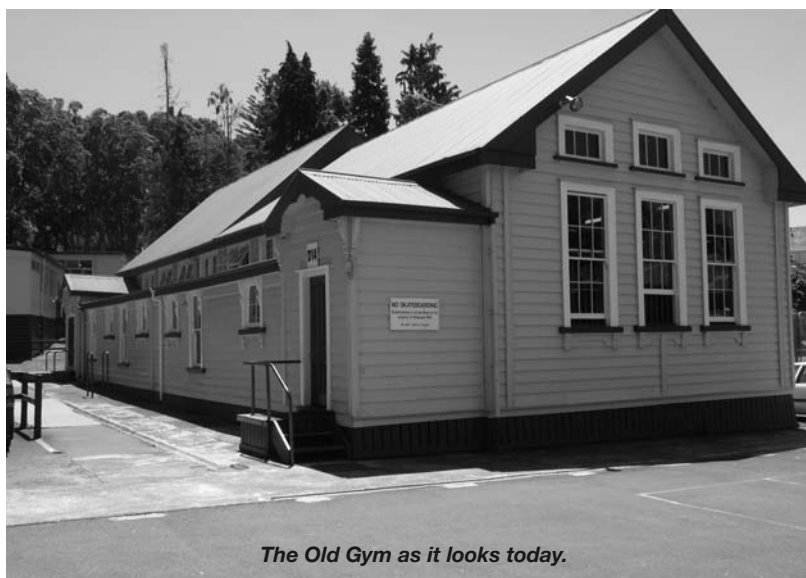
shell. That role continues to see the stout hearted centenarian labouring on, still pursuing the occupation that has been its life. The essentials of 1900s constructional detail is still there for all to see as are the two ridge heights clearly unchanged from when the steep gables were first set out.

Of no particular architectural merit the Manual Block is valuable as a rare survivor of a style long gone from this district as well as most of the rest of the country. Here now it's companions, the more elegant Primary School main block and the less unified, piecemeal built, original High School are only photographs or memories. The city needs to recognise and retain the only still serving relic of past school buildings in this part of the North or even further afield. That's something for a city with few notable buildings to ponder. After all we have lost the balconied James Temperance Hotel, the colonnaded Bank of New Zealand, the brick Catholic Church and there are suggestions that St Andrews, that most traditional looking of our wooden churches, might be chopped around.

When your school proclaims as its motto the one simple and concise word, *Fideliter*, it sets an ideal that is a demand for honest action in all things and to be faithful to a task set and accepted. High flying stuff indeed. If our human slip-ups let some of us treat Fidelity with a bit of a light touch, there is one part of the very fabric of the school which has met its obligation, serving with unswerving loyalty for a hundred years plus. The said upright citizen is Whangarei's now sole surviving representative of an early 20th century educational building, one which is still daily fulfilling its intended duty. Most readers, depending on their experience of the place, will know it as the Boys' High gymnasium or the music department. Those with longer memories will recall the building as the Manual Training Block and that's the name the writer thinks most appropriate. New Zealand educationalists were early in their promotion of training youngsters in practical manual and domestic skills. Some trendy modernists may decry leading boys into the



1946 - Photo courtesy of Geosmart



The Old Gym as it looks today.

ANNUAL DINNER 2009



The WBHS Old Boys' Association was very pleased to welcome over 120 guests to their annual dinner that was held on Saturday 20th June at A'Fare Conference Lounge in Whangarei. Old Boys came from as far afield as Brazil and Indonesia to be at the dinner which this year paid tribute to another of Whangarei Boys' High School long serving teachers, Mr Mike Gifford. Mike himself had travelled from Oamaru to be at the dinner.

The dinner was also an opportunity to have a reunion of the 1979 India Shield winning 1st XI hockey team of Whangarei Boys' High School, a team of which Mike Gifford was the coach. A very noteworthy point in the dinner came when Old Boy Graham Child (WBHS 1977-81) was able to present the India Shield to Mike Gifford once again after 30 years. Graham had borrowed the shield from current holders Hamilton Boys' High for the occasion. Attendees at the dinner enjoyed a lovely meal and speeches from a number of Old Boys and former teachers including former Deputy Principal Eric Parr, Old Boys Tim Armstrong (WBHS 1960-65), Nick Rowe (WBHS 1971-75) and Steve Gillingham (WBHS 1976-79). Reg Mullins (WBHS 1938-41) also gave an address on behalf of the members of the 1941 hockey team.

Mike Gifford responded with some of his memories of his time at Whangarei Boys' High School, albeit in a little pain as he had fallen down some steps two days prior to the dinner and cracked some ribs.

The dinner again proved to be an opportunity for many to touch base with former classmates they had not seen for many years and relive times gone by. And for all intents and purposes it was a resounding success. The formula for these dinners is simple as it gets together people who all have one thing in common, Whangarei Boys' High School and it does not matter what year an Old Boy may have attended, all can relate to the stories that are told.

The next day, the 1979 hockey team had organised a game of hockey which was followed by breakfast at the School's boarding hostel Carruth House and then a tour of the School buildings and grounds.



*Captions are from top Left, going Clockwise;
Ted Edwards, Nick Rowe, Frank Bull.
Kevin and Margaret Salmon, Murray Webb,
Craig Wedge.
Diana and Kevin Brown with Eric Parr.
Tim Armstrong.
Rosalie and Mike Gifford.*



*1979 Hockey Team.
Bill Brown, Graham Child, Steve Gillingham,
Craig Bell, Grant McCullough.
John Kimber, Martin Kimber, Barry Cooper.
Doug and Jean Goodison.
Cliff Bruncker and Dave Scratton.*



ANNUAL DINNER 2010

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is pleased to announce that the guests of honour at this years dinner on July 3rd will be former long-time teachers Mrs Eilean Rawson and Mrs Pat Sheild.

Eilean taught at the School for 37 years and Pat for 19. During their time at Whangarei Boys' High School both were hugely involved in raising the profile of music and drama at the School in the late 70s and early 80s, and beyond. A major drama presentation, often in conjunction with the Girls' School, was an institution up until about 1970 when it seemed to take a hiatus for the next decade, only to be revived in 1979 and has been a regular feature of the School calendar ever since.

Eilean and Pat were largely responsible for this rejuvenation which is attested by the fact that during the 80s and early 90 they were either Director or Musical Director in no less than a dozen productions.

The Association hopes that many of you will take the opportunity to come and join us in paying tribute to these great ladies. If you think you might be, please register your interest with Greg Weaver.



This is a photo taken of Eilean and Pat at last Year's dinner.

THE FIDELITER FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday 16th June the WBHS Old Boys' Association and Whangarei Boys' High School celebrated the 2nd Induction of Old Boys into the Fideliter Fellowship with a special assembly at the School. The Fideliter Fellowship is the school's version of a hall of fame. The Fellowship has two purposes - firstly to recognise and acknowledge the contribution specific Old Boys have made to New Zealand and to the World, and secondly to provide inspiration to the current student body of what can be achieved from an education at Whangarei Boys' High School. Please note nominations for 2010 close on May 31st.

Inductees for 2009 were:



PROFESSOR LEO VINING

Attended WBHS 1937-1942. Deputy Prefect 1942, Dux of the School 1942. World renowned researcher in fields of microbiology and biochemistry. Leo Vining has made internationally acclaimed contributions to science and medicine through his research on the discovery and use of antibiotics. His achievements were the result of hard work and an enthusiasm for problem solving. Working for the

National Research Council of Canada he held positions at the Prairie Regional Laboratory (1955-1962) and the Atlantic Regional Laboratory (1962-1971). In 1971, he joined Dalhousie University as a Professor of Biology until he officially retired in 1991. His decades of research revealed much about antibiotic production by streptomycetes. Equally as significant, he was an excellent teacher and a mentor to his many graduate students, who admired his hard work and abilities, as well as his modesty, gentleness and interest in them.



SIR JOHN MARSHALL

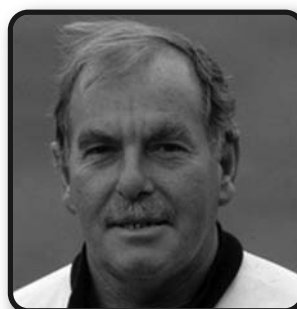
Attended WBHS 1926 to 1928. 1st XI Cricket 1927, 1928. 1st XV Rugby 1928. NZ Politician for over 20 years, being Deputy Prime Minister for 12 of those and Prime Minister for 1. Passed away in 1988. Affectionately known as 'Gentleman Jack' Marshall he played a major role in New Zealand politics in the 1950s and 60s, culminating in becoming Prime Minister in 1972. He was knighted in

1974 and retired from Parliament in 1975. In retirement Marshall became a consultant partner at the law firm of Buddle, Anderson, Kent, and a visiting fellow in public policy at Victoria University of Wellington. He also joined the boards of several companies, plus he became patron, president or trustee of over 60 cultural, community or charitable organisations, many of them Christian.



WILLIAM TAITOKO AKA BILLY T JAMES

Attended WBHS 1962 to 1965. Once recognised as New Zealand's greatest ever entertainer being made Entertainer of the Year in 1981 and Entertainer of the Decade in 1985. Sadly passed away in 1991. Billy T James is without doubt New Zealand's greatest comedian. He is uniquely New Zealand and his fame and importance to our society has lasted well after his death.



ROBERT CUNIS

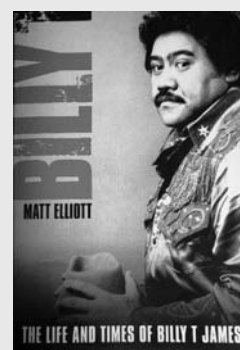
Attended WBHS 1954 to 1957. 1st XI Cricket 1955, 1956, 1957. 1st XV Rugby 1957. Deputy Prefect 1957. Colours Cricket ('56 & '57) Rugby ('57). NZ Representative Cricketer, Coach. First WBHS Old Boy to become a NZ Cricketer. Distinguished career for NZ (and in first class cricket). Selected for 'Rest of World' team which toured Australia in 1971-72. Later coached NZ. He took 51 test wickets, 551 1st

class wickets and scored over 2,000 1st class runs including 2 centuries. Also a useful rugby player.

BILLY T: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF BILLY T - BY MATT ELLIOT

18 years after his untimely death, a biography of Billy T. James has been released. *Billy T: The Life and Times of Billy T. James* covers Billy's early life, including his time at WBHS, his rise from a shy musician and Maori showband member to his time as New Zealand's favourite funnyman and becoming this country's 14th heart-transplant recipient. The author, Matt Elliott, is the son of WBHS Old Boy Norman Elliott (1952-54) and research assistance was given to the project by Greg Weaver. The book - described by North and South magazine as 'the year's best biography' - is available in bookstores and at The Warehouse.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association has a copy which we are willing to lend out on the promise of immediate return after completion. Please get in touch with Greg Weaver.



THE CLASS OF 39

The WBHS Old Boys' Association was very pleased to be able to host a gathering of Old Boys at Carruth House on October 17th. These were a special band of men who were celebrating 70 years since they attended Whangarei Boys' High School.

This group has come to be affectionately known as the Class of 39. In all there were 14 of this group in attendance on October 17th, most with their wives, some of who no doubt were students of the Whangarei Girls' High School back in the late 1930s and early 1940s. The purpose of the gathering was two-fold: to firstly get back together again with comrades of a bygone era and secondly to launch 'their' book, 'The Thirty-niners'.

These men had been meeting on a fairly regular basis since their first reunion in 1989. That year they celebrated 50 years since the majority of them had left Whangarei Boys' High School and was attended by 24 members of the group. Since then they have met in 1999, when 29 Old Boys and their partners attended, and then again at the Whangarei RSA in April 2004 when 19 Old Boys and their partners gathered.

So it was that the WBHS Old Boys' Association was thrilled to be able to get some of these men back together again after another 5 years and to also celebrate the launch of their book. A lunch was held at the dining room of the School's hostel Carruth House and the Association was pleased to be able to present Life Member and Venerable Life Member badges to the Old Boys in attendance. After this the official launch of the book took place and the first copy was presented to Thelma Hegley, the widow of the late Peter Hegley to whom the book is dedicated. It is recognised that without Peter as the driving force this group may never have gotten together at all.

After receiving copies of the book, the men disbanded and once outside they noticed Lou Holloway, husband of Carruth Director Trish Holloway, cleaning his Harley Davidson. At that moment Jean Goodison, wife of well known former WBHS



OBA President Kevin Salmon presents the first copy of 'The Thirty-niners' to Thelma Hegley.



The Class of 39 at lunch. Headmaster Al Kirk can be seen on the right of the top table.

teacher Doug Goodison and a former teacher herself, happened to comment 'I have always wanted to ride on the back of a Harley'. Overhearing this, Lou gave her the opportunity.

The speed with which Jean then divested herself of her handbag to her husband and leapt board the bike belied her 80-odd years. Even more startling was the look on Doug's face as he saw his wife careen up the road on the back of the machine, holding onto Lou for all she was worth. Doug was most concerned about where his dinner may be coming from that night. However there were no dramas and Jean was safely returned to the arms of her waiting husband.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is very proud and pleased indeed to be associated with this group of men and they hope that they are able to once again celebrate their contribution to both Whangarei Boys' High School, and also the WBHS Old Boys' Association, in 5 years time.



Frank and Zeta Seccombe talking with George Wilson



Jean Goodison on back of Harley, with Lou Holloway



Noel Griffen, Lionel Ormandy, Thelma Hegley, Frank Seccombe (obscured), Zeta Seccombe, Gloria Ormandy, Doug Goodison, Lou Holloway (on bike), Jean Goodison, George Wilson

BOOK REVIEW

The book entitled *The Thirty-niners* originated from a comment by former WBHS Board of Trustee member Sue Glen some 7 years ago who suggested that these gentlemen might like to pen their memories of School back in the 1930s and also their experiences during the war. These would be collated and turned into a book. Unfortunately, while 33 of these Old Boys did provide some sort of contribution for the book, the manuscript could not be progressed due to a lack of funding. So after a lot of work in editing and typing by former WGHS Deputy Principal Noni Johnson, the project had to be shelved until suitable finance could be raised to publish the book.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is very pleased that they have been able to finally get this book printed and while no funding was received to help with the publication, it is hoped that sales of the book will cover that cost.

The following review, abridged, was written by Don Gwilliam, long time teacher at WBHS (1973-2002), and although now retired, he takes an interest in the School through his volunteer work with the School Archives.

Back in the days when boys were men, a group of high school classmates were completing their time as secondary students and facing either chosen careers or whatever 'life' had lined up. As it was, 'life' had more lined up than expected and a sense of duty and national pride saw most of the Whangarei High School senior boys of 1939 enlisting to serve their country during World War II. Just how a number of the survivors of that corps later became known as *The Thirty-niners* is explained in their book. What is more important is that *The Thirty-niners* is a vital contribution to our knowledge and understanding of our town and its people, attitudes of the times and a steadfast acceptance of challenges, the like of which today we would shrink from tackling.

Mostly beginning at their high school experiences, the writers have a surprisingly close recollection of their teachers and school, and classroom events, required reading for any latter day pupil who thinks he is hard done by. Frequently underlying is an admiration and respect for the man at the blackboard or coaching the team. Sometimes comes an admission that punishment, and the threat of more, could improve results;

IN MEMORIAM

It was with deep regret that the WBHS Old Boys' Association was informed of the passing of Brigadier RM (Bob) Gurr OBE. on January 27th. Bob Gurr (WBHS 1933-39) was a member of the Class of 39 and we were fortunate that he had contributed a number of his poems for publication in the book. Our condolences go out to Bob's widow Barbara and her family.

INTER-CENTRE CHALLENGES

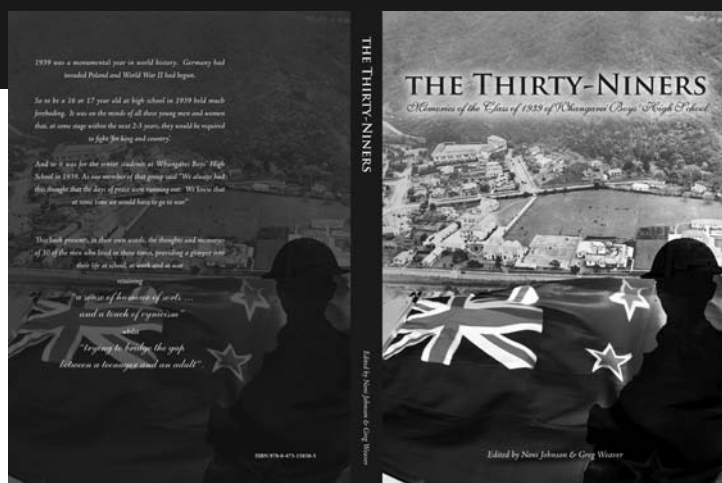
We tried at the start of this year to get a Whangarei Old Boys v Auckland Old Boys competition going but it fell through, not due to a lack of interest mind you as the idea did generate immense interest. But it was just getting the nuts and bolts tightened which proved too bigger a hurdle for that time of year.

The proposal was that we got together teams of equal size and participate in a number of sporting events on a Saturday afternoon to eventually end up crowning one or other of the locations as the WBHS Old Boys' Association Champion City. Now we are not talking strenuous type events but games like indoor bowls, darts, pool, snooker, perhaps table tennis and maybe golf. We could even encompass 'sports' like chess if it fitted in okay. The main idea would be that most if not all the sports could be played at one venue. Your Committee initially thought that the obvious one to get us going was Whangarei v Auckland but there is no reason it could not be other centres or areas providing there was someone to coordinate it from each centre. While we were not able to get this off the ground early in the year there is no reason it cannot be planned for later in the year. If we end up having something just in Whangarei it would be a pity as there are many concentrations of Old Boys throughout the country - Auckland, Waikato, BOP, Wellington, Christchurch, Taranaki are the ones that come to mind immediately.

So please if you think this could be something for your area let Greg Weaver know and we can start getting something organised.

An old Carruth Master remembers:

'I can't remember the first boy I caned – probably in Carruth as boys were 'sent round' in their dozens after prep each night – for talking in prep, or later for talking after lights out or something equally heinous. But I do remember a foolish occasion when a boy challenged me to give 'one for one'. I would give him one stroke of the cane, in front of the class, and he would then reciprocate. The problem was I thought it was a joke, and gave him a light tap on the behind, but Eric Kircher decided it was time for a display of his strength – and so, wow!! He landed a beauty on me which I had to accept in the 'spirit' of the contest. But never again!'



which once achieved did influence a future life. Generally not much is recorded about everyday classroom life of the times and *The Thirty-niners* goes some way into it.

Obviously war experiences make up a large part of *The Thirty-niners*, being one of the common threads binding the group together. The men served in all theatres, now and again together, and the stories are absorbing accounts which give one a fresh respect for some of our older citizens, for many of the names are familiar to us as contributors to our city or district. With the publishing of some of their active service lives, we gain a new found appreciation for them. When today any terrifying or horrifying occurrence brings forth a host of counselors, *The Thirty-niners* serves to remind us just how resilient most people had to be, seventy or so years ago, in coping with tragedies which would destroy us now. In fact not only those extreme things, as ordinary daily routine held difficulties enough to have many in our present world seeking therapy.

This book presents, in their own words, the thoughts and memories of 30 of the men who lived in those times, providing a glimpse into their life at school, at work and at war. They lived through events and times which provided much to colour their reminiscences and learned an acceptance of situations that may be considered intolerable now. Their policy of looking forward rather than back is a lesson readers will find time after time.

Anybody interested in purchasing a copy of the book at the cost of \$30 plus p&p should contact Greg Weaver in the first instance.

MINI REUNIONS

1963-67

A group from the 'bad' A form classes of 1963-1967 got together in September to have a surprise birthday for one of their number. This was a class that included the likes of 'hoddy boddy', now more respectfully referred to as Pete Hodgson MP, amongst a raft of other criminals. While they remembered with kindness staff members such as Pin Head, Sticky, Conch, and Harnett, who unfortunately have all passed away, they were able to contact and invite 'Spade', more commonly known as George Gardiner, who was only too pleased to attend.

The gathering was a huge success although they were unable to make contact with some overseas members in time for the event. So plans are now afoot to have another gathering in 2010. Already they have had positive responses from former colleagues from around NZ, a couple from the UK, a couple from OZ and a couple from the US. And even a commitment from a member of parliament.

Here's looking ahead to what will be a memorable weekend. This is a photo taken at the gathering in September 2009.



From left to right; Paul Maynard, Physics teacher extraordinaire George Gardiner, Stuart Boyes, Cathy Fuller (from equivalent class at WGHS), Phillip Freeman, Richard Gyde, John Bould, Larry Clark, Pam Oliver (from equivalent class at WGHS), Squatting Russell Topliss

1968 Carruth

After meeting in a farm machinery shop for the first time in about 20 years Barry Foote and Athol Cartwright, two old Carruthians, decided it was about time to have a reunion of all those boys that started at Carruth in 1968, yes 40 years ago. It only took about nine months to settle on a date, Athol's house as the venue, and then a whole lot of research and tracking started, which turned out to be a bit of a challenge as 1968 was one of, if not the largest intake that Carruth ever had - some 54 boys.

Eventually about 25 turned up, or made apologies, for a great night and everyone really enjoyed catching up with people that they had lived with, in some cases for five years, but hadn't seen them for 40! We even invited some of the Lupton girls to really make it like then except we didn't need to sneak around the hedges to talk to them. It was also interesting to observe how quickly that old Carruth camaraderie returned and that everyone on reflection appreciated the opportunities and life understandings that their time at Carruth had given them.

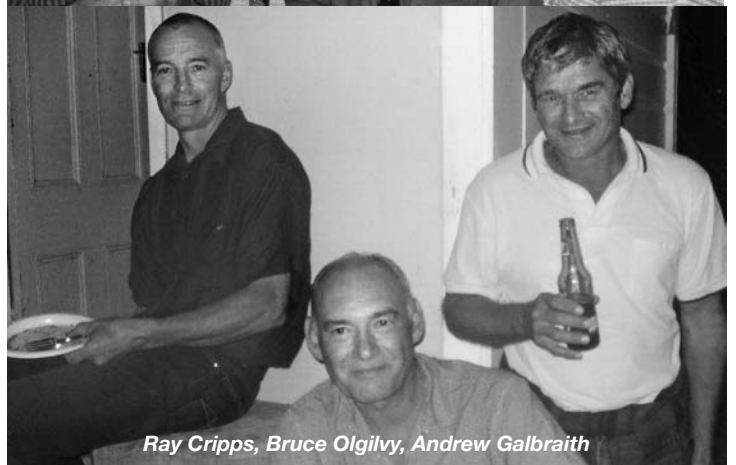
Class of 99

On December 19th about 20 former students from 7th Form class of 1999 gathered at Whangarei Boys' High School for a tour of the School. For many this was the first time that they had set foot on the grounds since they had left it 10 years previous. The get-together was organised by Trent Morgan to celebrate a decade since these guys had left the School. Some travelled from overseas to be there but the majority were from within New Zealand. The weekend was an informal occasion that included a meeting at the School and a tour of the grounds, ending with an impromptu game of cricket on the lower grounds. That evening the 'young' Old Boys gathered at the Jovial Judge for further imbibing and reminiscences. They were joined there by more of the class who could not make it to the School earlier in the day.

The day was considered a great success and the guys enjoyed reconnecting with the School and old mates. It was also very noticeable that the stories told by these Old Boys were basically the same as those that are told by Old Boys from other generations, it is just that the names are changed. Perhaps these Old Boys will meet again in another 10 years to re-live times gone by.



Derek Powell, Wayne Lambeth & Alan Russek



Ray Cripps, Bruce Olgilvy, Andrew Galbraith



Class of 59

The Class of '59 held its 50th reunion on Anzac weekend, 2009. Of the original class of 16, one is deceased, one lives in Denmark (but sent an email that was read at the dinner) and one was not available because of business commitments. All remaining 13, plus wives/partners, attended the weekend event.

Saturday morning, being Anzac Day, was left free to attend various memorial services. In the afternoon we travelled to Marsden Point

to see the property development and oil refinery exhibition. The reunion dinner was held at The Settlers Motor Inn. Guest speaker was Doug Goodison who taught our class for a number of years. His speech was ably assisted by his wife, Jean, who also taught some of us. Cliff and Colleen Brunker were special guests. Martin Perkinson produced class photos from Form 1 (1953) to Form 6A (1959) and asked the spouses/partners to identify their respective husband/partner. Some had not changed a bit, but in one case a wife just could not recognise her husband at all! (Just shows you how much some of us have changed.)

Sunday was an extended brunch at Dave Palmer and Robyn Hamilton Palmer's beautiful home at Whangaumu Bay. On Monday we had morning tea with the staff and then visited a few classes in action.

The general theme of the weekend seemed to be "the older we get, the better we were" and plans are already under way for the 55th reunion to be held on the Gold Coast, Australia in 2014.



PAST V PRESENT



Kevin presents a copy of *The Thirty-Niners* to Gaurav Correa

For the first time in living memory the annual past v present sports day was held on a Saturday, October 17th to be precise. This was an attempt to accommodate the desires of many as having this day on the traditional Wednesday was starting to prove untenable for a number of Old Boys, and also in the hope that we could start to resurrect the

day as an important fixture on the School calendar.

Being the first time it was held on a Saturday we expected some teething problems and were not disappointed. These will be taken on board for next year. The major one has to be getting the right day that does not conflict with other sports or events and also trying to get as many as possible back for the after-match function where Old Boys can mingle with the current students. After all that is what the day is all about. Planning will start earlier in the year and will include a cross-section of all those involved. Another change that was introduced was a small charge for drinks at the after-match function. Usually the sports days are subsidised fully by the Association and as this was proving to be difficult due to economic climes we did not think \$2 for a beer was excessive. The PTA also got involved and ran a sausage sizzle to raise a small amount of money for their cause.

In the meantime, our thanks to Mike Lee, Mark Wilson, Craig Williams, Chris & Annette Erceg, and Steve Gillingham for arranging for the various teams for Old Boys. And also to Colin Kenwright for getting a basketball team together.

On the day quite a resounding victory for the Old Boys who took out all four games that were played on the day. Unfortunately there was no basketball as the School could not field (or court) a team to play on the Saturday which was a bit of a shame but here's hoping it can be rectified next year.

For the record the results of the games were:

Rugby	Old Boys 29	School 22
Soccer	Old Boys 3	School 2
Hockey	Old Boys 7	School 4
Shooting	Old Boys won by 'a couple of points'	

So overall an excellent result for the Old Boys, and it was with pleasure that Kevin Salmon, WBHS Old Boys' Association President, accepted the Matt Gunson Memorial Trophy from Matt's father Craig.

Kevin then presented each of the School Players of the Day with a copy of the Class of 39 book, 'The Thirty-Niners'.

Let us hope we can look ahead to a bigger and better event this year.



OLD BOYS' RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

You may recall that in a previous newsletter we had an article about the Old Boys Rugby Club and the association that it had with Whangarei Boys' High School and the WBHS Old Boys' Association, an association that dates back some 80 years. There is hope that this relationship may become an even closer one in the not too distant future.

Many of you in Whangarei would have read or heard about the sale of the land on which the OBRFC is currently located and the need that they now have to relocate their clubrooms. What many of you will not know though is that there is a proposal on the table at the moment for the OBRFC to relocate itself to the vacant land at Rugby Park. The photos below should give you an indication of the area referred to. Basically where the old grandstand was is where the new clubrooms may be built.



Rugby Park as it was in 1959. The suggestion is that this is a 1959 game between Old Boys and Mid-Western but perhaps not.



Rugby Park as it exists today.

Some may say that this move is extremely radical and to suggest building clubrooms on ground currently owned by the Ministry of Education is something that simply will not happen. However the idea has been greeted in a most positive fashion by both the School and the Board of Trustees, and also the Whangarei City Council. Not to mention of course the WBHS Old Boys' Association as we see this as one of the most beneficial improvements that could be made to club rugby in Whangarei and also to the School itself.

We just hope that with a little more positioning and bargaining all interested parties can be satisfied and building can commence in time for the 2011 Rugby World Cup as this venue would then provide a central location for teams to train under floodlights. The benefits to the School are immense and just having a facility where the boys from the School can be directly exposed to senior rugby players is a huge incentive for the School to develop its current rugby pathway further.

OPC HILLARY CHALLENGE

If there is one team that is putting the name of Whangarei High School up in lights it is that of the Adventure Racing team. Yes it is WHS as the team is a combined team of WBHS and WGHS. There are two teams who compete in two events.

The combined Whangarei Boys' High School/Girls' High School GET2GO team placed first in the regional event in Northland and then went on to win the New Zealand title. Congratulations to Captain Ryan Toki, Shaun Brown, Cam Ewen, Phil Kim and Dayne Williamson combined with Lucy Shand-Pia, Grace Miller and Alice Riddell from Whangarei Girls' High School.

The OPC Hillary Challenge team competed in this event for the 2nd time last year and finished 4th after finishing 9th in 2008. Big things are expected in 2010. Over the past two years the WBHS Old Boys' Association, through gifts from a couple of Old Boys, has been proud to sponsor this team. The Hillary Challenge is an outdoor pursuits competitive event sponsored by the Outdoor Pursuits Centre at the base of Mt Ruapehu near Turangi. It is a National Final competition among the 11 best school teams from across NZ and an invited school from Singapore. Every team of 8 students includes a split of 4 boys and 4 girls. The event is held over 5 intense action-packed days involving kayaking, mountain biking, climbing, abseiling, rope skills, problem solving and general knowledge. The feature event is a 2 day rogaine,

during which the teams carry equipment and food for an overnight race at high altitude, during which they attain points by getting to various check points using map and compass.

The thing that impressed the WBHS Old Boys' Association Committee and so prompted a request to Old Boys was that these students are self motivated and disciplined. They train hard over many months, and have in fact been training since November last year, and are some of the most dedicated students you will meet. If any group displays the true meaning of the phrase 'good boys high stuff' it is this group of young men and women.

So it is without reservation that the WBHS Old Boys' Association is again asking if there are any Old Boys who might like to help this group in their quest to get to the 2010 event on May 17th-21st. Mixed up in all the training are fund-raising drives and tasks so they are all doing their bit to raise the necessary funds. Any help we might give would be most appreciated.

If you would like to do something to help these students achieve their goal please get in touch with Greg Weaver.



SWIMMING SPORTS

The major results from the swimming championships of 2009 and 2010 are as follows:

2009

The sports were held on 18th February and again produced some great performances from the students to the degree that no fewer than 7 records were broken. Senior champion Dylan French set 3 new marks and Junior champ Kadince Christensen also set 3.

House Competition

1st Carruth	2nd Grey	3rd Marsden
4th Bledisloe	5th Hobson	

2010

The sports were held on 17th February and only produced one new record, that to Kadince Christensen in the Junior 66⅔ Freestyle. The PE Dept are expecting big things from Kadince as he improves every time he swims so perhaps we can look ahead to some new records in the years to come.

House Competition

1st Carruth	2nd Marsden	3rd Bledisloe
4th Grey	5th Hobson	

Always the highlight of the sports is the Teachers v Pupils v Old Boys relay. The last two years has seen the Old Boys team being pipped at the post by the students Year 13 team.

In 2009 the 'old' Old Boys team led for 7 legs of the relay but the 8th swimmer for the students proved too much for our guy and he was run down in the last 5 metres. The 'young' Old Boys did not perform so well but they at least beat home the teachers' team led by Headmaster and Association Patron Al Kirk. Mr Kirk was claiming 3rd place but that proved difficult as his team had only swum 6 of the 8 legs required.



2009: left to right: Derek Brunker, Mike Darrow, Dene Begbie, Neville Brunker, Jay Hardy (in front), Darin Robinson, Cliff Brunker, Sam Johnson

And in 2010, the Old Boys team was chasing the Year 13 guys throughout and a fantastic last leg by Jay Hardy almost saw the 'old fellas' home, although Cliff Brunker is adamant the result was the other way. The 'young' Old Boys team was stacked with 3 or 4 real performers from last year in the pool but, while they led out early, unfortunately were not able to pull off a stunning victory having to settle for third behind School and the 'old' Old Boys.



2010: From bottom left going clockwise: Doug Kelly, Bryce Lambert, Derek Brunker, Mike Darrow, Simon Wilkinson. Darin Robinson, Jay Hardy, Neville Brunker

ATHLETIC SPORTS

The 2009 annual sports were held on March 3rd and already this year they were held on March 2nd. Not the lavish affair that many of you would remember that took place over two days and finished with the traditional march past of the Houses. However the day still brings out the best in student pride and competitiveness and this is easy to see on the faces of all those who compete. All in all it is still one of the most memorable days on the school calendar.

For the record the House results were as follows:

2009	1st Grey	2nd Bledisloe	3rd Carruth
	4th Marsden	5th Hobson	

2010	1st Bledisloe	2nd Grey	3rd Carruth
	4th Marsden	5th Hobson	

There were no new records set in 2009, although Jeremy Mitchell got very close to the Senior Long Jump record set by Colin Cunningham (WBHS 1951-55) in 1955.

However, 2010 saw the lowering of one of the longer standing records, that of Phil Martin in the Junior 100 metres. It is also worthwhile noting that Phil did not actually compete in the 100 metres but in the 100 yards. The School converted to metric distances in 1971 and it is only assumed that some 'bright spark' then converted the imperial times to the metric equivalent. So while Phil ran 11.7secs for the 100 yards, his recorded time in the record books is shown as 12 secs flat for 100 metres. For all intents and purposes it is probably not correct to have done this and that 'new' standards should have had to be set from 1971 onwards. As such, as far as Whangarei Boys' High School records are concerned, Phil Martin should still hold the record for the Junior 100 yards, as do all the individuals who held imperial records for distance races as at the end of 1970. For the record Cameron Shelley ran the junior 100m in 11.53secs this year to break Phil's record.

As an aside, Colin Cunningham's record isn't the only one that has stood for many years and below is a list of those that were set over 25 years ago and still stand today.

5000m Open	Simon Eggleton - 1983
3000m Junior	Grant Tyson - 1983
Senior Javelin	Robert Baston - 1968
1500m Junior	Paul Herbert - 1976
1500m Intermediate	Duncan Leigh - 1977
1500m Senior	Dave Young - 1972
200m Senior	Sam Peterson - 1972
Shotput Senior	Roger Main - 1966
Triple Jump Intermediate	Bryan Sinclair - 1948
	Paul Whatmough 1988
Triple Jump Senior	Richard Kivell - 1963
400m Junior	Kevin Burdett - 1976
400m Senior	Barry Weir - 1971
Discus Senior	Derek Carver - 1961
100m Senior	Sam Peterson - 1972
	Rob Fitzpatrick - 1989
Long Jump Senior	Colin Cunningham - 1955
High Jump Senior	Kris de Jong - 1982
800m Junior	Paul Herbert - 1976
800m Intermediate	Duncan Leigh - 1977
800m Senior	Victor Gamperle - 1977

SCHOOL NEWS

There were some absolutely fantastic results coming out of Whangarei Boys' High School in 2009, and not all these were on the sports field as we sometimes dedicate so much time to. Highlights included:

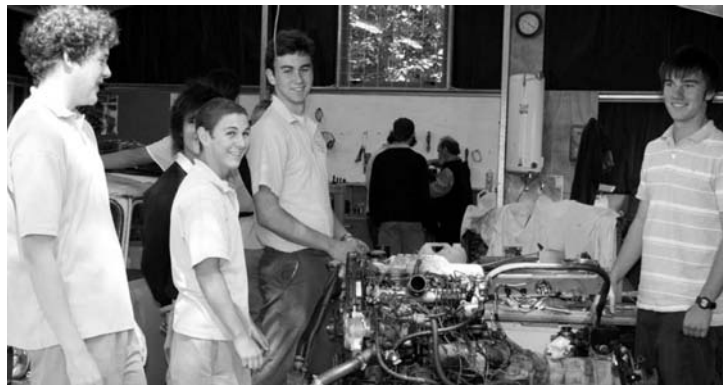
- The Art Department was very pleased to record its very first 'Excellence' in Level 3 NCEA
- WBHS boys did wonderfully in the 2009 University of Auckland Economics Competition. In the First Division (Year 12s) we achieved 2 Distinctions (top 20%) and 5 Credits (top 45%). In the Second Division (Year 13s) there were 2 High Distinctions (Top 5%), 5 Distinctions and 8 Credit Awards.
- WBHS was represented by 32 Year 9 and 10 boys at the annual Mathex Competition held at Bream Bay College. In the Year 9 competition WBHS teams finished 1st, 6th, 7th, 10th and 19th out of 33 teams with the winners being awarded the Year 9 Champions Cup and a graphics calculator each. However, on the night they had little need for calculators, as they answered all 20 questions correctly with time to spare, and so scored the maximum 100 points, to finish well clear of the field. The winning team comprised Matthew Brown, Phillip Kim, John McGregor and Daniel Robertson.
- Dux of the School was Hugh McKenzie. He intends studying Health Sciences at Otago University, with a view to a career in Medicine.
- The band Mr. Amazing & the Oil Boys won the People's Choice Award at the regional Rock Quest final. They are: Kurt Verkuylen (vocals) Joshua Wilkinson (keyboard) Manaakitia Puriri-Pivac (drums) Jamie Lockyer (guitar).
- Jonathon Croucher (Year 10) was selected as a member of the cello section, for the second year, of the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra while Sam Wellington (Year 13) was selected to play clarinet in the Concert Band.
- We entered three choirs in the Big Sing this year, approximately 140 boys participating in this choral event. The Carruth Choir performed courageously, The Black Jackets performed with sufficient flair to be awarded a Merit Award and the Testostertones were awarded the Harmony Chorus Award for Stagecraft.



- As we have come to expect, the Drama Dept again produced a high quality stage performance, in fact two: A Man Called Murray, which featured mainly Year 11 boys, and Lost In New Zealand made up of Year 12 students.



- In science, students scored above National average at level 2&3 of NCEA in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and no less than Seven Scholarships were gained. And the iGCSE Cambridge Co-ordinated Science (double award) results have been excellent with Matthew Pearce and Zac Buchanan scoring 92% and both being awarded A*A*.
- The Technology Department has seen the development of their Apprenticeships Work Programme taken to the next level. This is a programme that we can urge Old Boys to support as it is an innovative scheme that will give WBHS a point of difference over other schools while also equipping our students with all the tools of the trade to progress into the workforce.



On the sports front WBHS continues to be the dominant school in Northland Secondary School Sports. We can't mention it all here but:

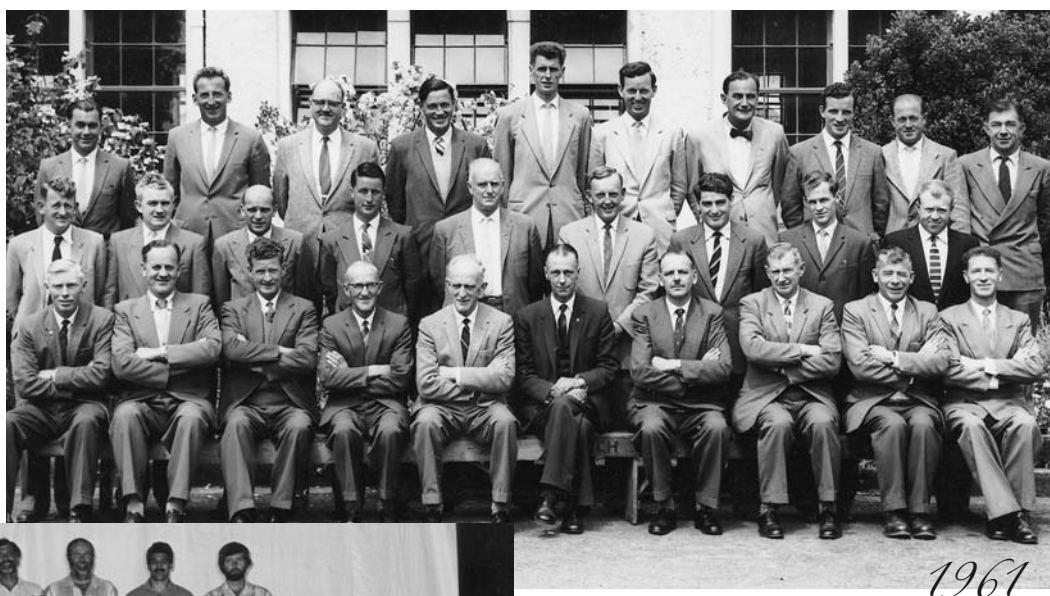
- WBHS won 13 of the 19 categories in the annual ASB Northland Sports Awards, with special mention of the Shooting Team (Team of the Year), Dylan French (All Rounder of the Year) and Marcus Hansen, the supreme award, Sportsman of the Year.
- The Cricket 1st XI won through to the Gillette Cup finals but did not play to their normal high standard. Perhaps a bit of stage fright. This year they have already beaten St Pauls Collegiate of Hamilton to move to the next stage of that trophy again and also won 3 of the 4 titles on offer in the Whangarei men's competition.



- The School soccer, or is it football, 1st XI is now unbeaten in 48 games over the last 5 years in the Northland Secondary School's competition. An astounding achievement.
- WBHS is looking this year to advance the formation of a Golfing Academy at the School, which is being coordinated through the Northland Golf Club. Watch this space. Maybe we will turn up the next Danny Lee.
- The Hockey 1st XI got to the final of the India Shield competition and 2nd in the Men's Reserve Grade in the Whangarei comp.
- The Rugby 1st XV managed to make it to the semi-finals of their comp while the JB9 team easily won their competition and the JB8s finished 2nd in theirs. The JB7 team had one of those 'team building' seasons and displayed true sportsmanship and determination all year which eventually gave them some great results towards the end.
- WBHS shooting remains on top of not just Northland Secondary Schools but also New Zealand. These boys always display an aptitude that the School, and Old Boys, can be very proud of.

STAFF THROUGH THE AGES

Over the years Whangarei Boys' High School has seen a large number of staff pass through the gates of the School, starting back in 1881 with one or two staff members, including a Head-master, to the current staff of 100 that includes some 20 support and administration staff, but doesn't include a number of teacher aides and relief teachers who can be seen around the School from time to time. The first School roll was less than 20 and today there are over 1000. And what about longest serving teachers? Well that list is headed by the inimitable H E G Smith who served



1961



the School for 41 years, closely followed by Jack Glanville with 39 years. Other teachers over the years who reached the 30 year mark were Bill Given, Jim Shaw, Eric Blow, Dave Lawson, Cliff Brunker, George Rattray, Don Gwilliam, Mel Hepple, Kevin Brown, Eilean Rawson (longest serving female teacher) and finally Rod Watson, who in fact is still at the School.

Last but certainly not least are the support staff and the longest serving of these was Joy Crawford who filled the role of Librarian for almost 22 years, closely followed by Phi Wilson who undertook a number of roles in her 21 years at the School.

1984

LONG SERVING HEADMASTERS

Al mentioned above that he has just celebrated 10 years as Headmaster of the School. That now places him 5th on the list of longest serving Headmasters. That list is of course headed by Roger Lupton who was Headmaster for 30 years. Then comes Harry Clarke 22 years, Pop Ryder 16 years, Maurie Dean 13 years, Al Kirk 10, A B Charters 7, Sandy Whitehead and Murray Lints 6 each, Hugh Henderson and R D Duxfield 4 each, W H O Smeaton 3 and finally the Rev J Hawkes 2.

VENERABLE OLD BOYS

During 2009 we were pleased to confirm the following Old Boys had been added to the growing number of Venerable Old Boys. If you think there is an Old Boy worthy of recognition as a Venerable Old Boy please complete a nomination form from the website, or just contact Greg Weaver and he will arrange everything.

The late Peter Hegley (WBHS 1935-40). Peter was the instigator for the restoration of the photos that now exist in the assembly hall and was a tireless worker in the updating of the School Archives until his death in 2005.

John Williamson (WBHS 1961-65). John played a significant role in the re-establishment of the Association, and continues to be involved in its activities, and also the Jubilee Fundraising Campaign the School embarked on some years ago.

David Templeton (WBHS 1971-73) Dave always tackles any Association activity with energy and it is for this unboundless energy in helping the Association with its activities and taking an

unselfish interest in all its operations and functions that he has been recognised as a Venerable Old Boy.

John McComb (WBHS 1960-61) John always shows a willingness to help out wherever he can with any of the Associations activities and functions. Often John is looked upon as the conscience of the Association as he has ensured that in the past we have not cut any corners when deliberating at Committee level.

Murray Holdaway (WBHS 1970-74) Murray played a huge role in the institution of both the Association and the Jubilee Campaign when it started in 2003 and was certainly prominent in Association activities during those early years. The Association is pleased to be able to recognise his contribution to the Association's activities with the status of Venerable Old Boy.



Congratulations to Old Boy David Hislop (WBHS 1969-73) who became the first Northlander ever to be made a Queen's Counsel in London

OVERSEAS OLD BOYS'

We often hear of what is happening to various Old Boys in New Zealand. So in this newsletter we are pleased that some of our 'overseas' Old Boys have taken the time to put pen to paper (well finger to keyboard) and tell us what they are up to. It would be great to hear from more, just drop us line by email.

Aaron Udall (WBHS 1982-85)



The 46m yacht Captained by Aaron Udall

I am the Captain of a 46m private yacht which is owned by a Russian family and is based in Italy. I have been working with this family for 3 years now.

I started in private yachting in 1994. I was introduced to it in Cyprus after getting to know some crew who worked on a 40m yacht based there. I arrived in Cyprus, after sailing from Australia, through the Solomon Islands, PNG, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Maldives, Red Sea, Israel and finally Cyprus and Turkey, on various small (10m to 15m) sailing boats. I hitchhiked my way to the Mediterranean on these boats by

trading my sailing skills and youth for food and help with watch keeping and maintenance.

And now, 15 years later, I can look back and see that the yachting industry has taken me around the world. I have worked on yachts based in the Bahamas, Florida, Italy, France and Spain and I have visited many more countries for which I will be forever grateful.

I now live in France and have a 4 hour commute to work in Italy! So I only do it once a week. I met my wife of 13 years in Malta and have two amazing girls who are torn between supporting the All Blacks (peer pressure at home) and the French (peer pressure at school).

I do have a regret – not paying attention to my French teacher, Mr Webster, at WBHS. I think I had 4 years of compulsory classes and I took it upon myself to disrupt the class at every opportunity. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to be living over here!



Aaron Udall

Geoff Butturini (WBHS 1968-71)

I left WBHS in 1970 and joined RNZN. I worked as radio operator on shore stations and ships and was on HMNZS Canterbury when it went to Mururoa Atoll as part of NZ Governments protest of French testing. Also served on Fishery Patrol Vessels.

In 1977 I resigned from RNZN and worked temporarily until I left for UK in 1978. From 1978 to 1979 I was working on oil rigs in the North Sea. I was based on a platform called the Borgland Dolphin which was attached to the Ninian South Platform. I was a radio operator and worked there until operation ceased in 1979, after which I returned to NZ.

From 1980 to 1987 I worked for the Government Communications Security Bureau and was posted to Melbourne for four of those years. While in Melbourne I met my wife Lynanne and we were married in 1983.

I returned to Australia in 1988 where I worked for the ANZ Bank in their communications dept before leaving in 1991 to take up a career in the Leisure Industry.

Am currently employed by the City of Greater Geelong as a swim teacher, swim coach and life guard.

I am also a shift supervisor (we are multi skilled). From Nov to Mar I manage an outdoor pool (Lara Swimming Pool) for the summer season and April to October is spent coaching and teaching at an indoor venue (Waterworld).

I am still married to Lynanne and we have three children who have finally left home - Shannon 24, Jenna 22, Sara 21.



Geoff Butturini

Richard Alabaster (WBHS 1974-78)

After finishing 7th form at WBHS, I did a Chemical Engineering degree at Auckland University. After graduating, I worked for a year as a scientist at the DSIR in Wellington before joining Schlumberger, a major service provider to oil fields. Worked as a field engineer for 3 years in Indonesia and 6 months in Australia, before returning to Auckland to join a small start-up making industrial gas generating equipment. Was thrust into management with this company, so after 3 years, decided to put that and the French I learned at WBHS to good use by going to France to do an MBA at the INSEAD business school.

After graduating, I was hired by the French subsidiary of the American multinational FMC Technologies, which is a supplier of equipment to the oil & gas industry with annual turnover of around US\$4.5 billion. Have held various positions with FMC over the past 18 years, including being in charge of operations in Germany, Norway, Dubai and Texas. Have mostly been based in France, but spent 2 years living in Hamburg, Germany. Am currently President of FMC's French subsidiary, with 400 employees and doing about US\$300 million in annual turnover.

Am based in a small town (a little smaller than Whangarei) in the Burgundy countryside about an hour and a half southeast of Paris (life's tough, but someone has to do it!). Am married to Elisa, an American I met in France. We have one daughter, Francesca, who is just turning 11, who manages, with equanimity, to be proud of all 3 of her nationalities, and who loves visiting NZ, especially the beaches around Whangarei, even though we only manage to get back to visit family and friends about once every 3 years. Do a lot of sailing, still play soccer occasionally and avidly follow rugby, which is also a passion in France. Nothing doing on cricket, though – it's beyond their comprehension ...



Richard Alabaster

Congratulations to Old Boy Adam Blair (WBHS 2000-02) who was named as the NZ Rugby League International Player of the Year for 2009.

Mike Dawn (WBHS 1942-44)

Born in Wellington NZ on the 16th February 1928 and moved to Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands in 1940, educated at Kerikeri Primary School and Whangarei Boys High School. On leaving school worked for the NZ State Forest Service at Waipoua before coming to Australia in 1947 and working in various jobs including driving Australia's first road trains owned by Kurt Johannsen in the NT, between Alice Springs and Darwin. Arrived in WA in 1949 and had various jobs before going into a small auto repair business in Manjimup in 1953

The business grew to become a major engineering and hardware supplier to the districts agricultural, horticultural, saw milling and domestic markets.

In 1953 Mike was inducted into the Rotary Club of Manjimup and was their youngest member and is now their oldest, his work recognised in 2002 with the presentation of a Community Service Award and Paul Harris Fellowship Sapphire. In 1956 married Elizabeth, a registered nurse from Goulburn NSW and they have two daughters & four grandchildren living in Perth.

In 1976 achieved a Private Pilot licence and his company purchased two aircraft that were hired to CALM (Conservation & Land Management Dept of WA) for fire surveillance during the summer months, until such time as CALM purchased their own aircraft.

In 1996 Mike retired and sold the company to his employees, which still prospers.

Spent 27 years as a member and Chairman of the Manjimup Hospital Board of Management.

For the past 30 years has been involved in the development of Manjimup Airport to provide a twenty four hour, all weather facility, in particular to allow the Royal Flying Doctor Service to carry out medical evacuations and patient transfers to Perth when necessary. He chaired the Shire of Manjimup Airport Management Committee and was Honorary Reporting Officer responsible for the facility.

The Dawn's property in Manjimup consisted of 10 acres on the edge of town where they had 200 grape vines and experimented in wine making as a hobby.

The Dawns now live in the Perth suburb of Wembley.

Mike recently visited the School which he says was the first time he had set foot in the grounds since about 1947. As one could imagine there had been many changes and, apart from Carruth which hadn't changed much at all, there were no buildings remaining from his time at Whangarei Boys' High School. Great to see you Mike. GW



Gary Beath (WBHS 1971-75)

I am currently the Principal of a British Columbia Offshore High School in Nanjing, China where I have been for the past four years. The school has 400 Chinese students completing their last three years of secondary schooling and expecting to get the "Dogwood" completion diploma so they can go onto Tertiary institutions mostly in Canada or the USA. Presently we haven't had any leave for the verdant shores of NZ! Our campus is inside the campus of Nanjing Foreign Language School which has over 3000 students and is considered one of the top schools in Jiangsu Province which has 76 million people. All our staff are BC certified teachers from Canada, USA, UK and NZ.

After completing 5 years at WBHS I attended the University of Auckland from 1976 to 1981 completing an MSc (1st class Hons) and then attended Auckland Teachers College for a year. My first position was at Tongariro High School in Turangi followed by two years in Rarotonga, Cook Islands at Tereora College and then back to Tongariro High School as HOD Science for another three years before heading over to The International School of Lae, Papua New Guinea as HOD Science and Dean of Senior students. My family spent 7 years in Papua New Guinea before returning to NZ and doing some relieving work in Whangarei High Schools, including WBHS where I was surprised to still see some teachers from my days as a student there (notably Mr Watson and Ms Rawson). I went onto Kaikohe Christian School as a DP and Head of Secondary where I spent 7 years before heading for China and my present job as Principal. Many people find it surprising that a New Zealander is a Principal of a Canadian High School but the reality is that New Zealanders can be found all over the world being successful in a range of different fields and many of us will eventually return to NZ to share our experiences and expertise that we have developed in offshore environments.

I have many happy and some not so happy memories of my time at WBHS in the early 70's but must acknowledge that I received an excellent education from the school.

By the time you read this article, Gary will more than likely be back in New Zealand as his time in China has come to an end. We look forward to him paying us a visit at the School.



ENDOWMENT FUND

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is pleased to announce the creation of its own Endowment Fund, although the mechanics are still being ironed out and as soon as they have been they will be made available on the website.

As the name suggests it is to be a vehicle whereby the Association and its members can create a legacy for the future of both the Association and also the School and we do hope that Old Boys will join in helping this fund to grow. If you require any information about the fund in the meantime please contact Greg Weaver in the first instance.

TRADEME

Many of you may recall the brief message sent out a couple of months back about the establishment of a Trademe account on behalf of the Association. The idea was that if Old Boys had any items that they wished to be rid of then perhaps they could be offered for sale through this account and the proceeds of the sale would go towards the Associations fundraising targets.

So please remember us when you decide to have a cleanout. And I mean just about anything. Tools, antiques, cds, dvds, books, clothes, shoes, cars, houses etc etc. If you think you may have something give Greg a call. The sale will be no cost to you.

ANZAC SERVICE 2010

The School's Anzac Service was held on Tuesday 28 April and was, once again an outstanding event and was well supported by about 30 Old Boys and partners. The Ode was read by former teacher and Old Boy (WBHS 1931-34) Mr Ted Edwards and the keynote address given by Old Boy (WBHS 1996-2000) Lieutenant Craig Thorne. Last Post and Reveille was played by Year 13 student Rangimakehu Hall, with another Year 13 student David Budge piping Amazing Grace and, as the wreaths were laid, Old Boy (WBHS 1997-2000) Ben Donnelly once again played "The Lament". We were also honoured by the Mayor Mr Stan Semenoff laying a wreath during the ceremony.

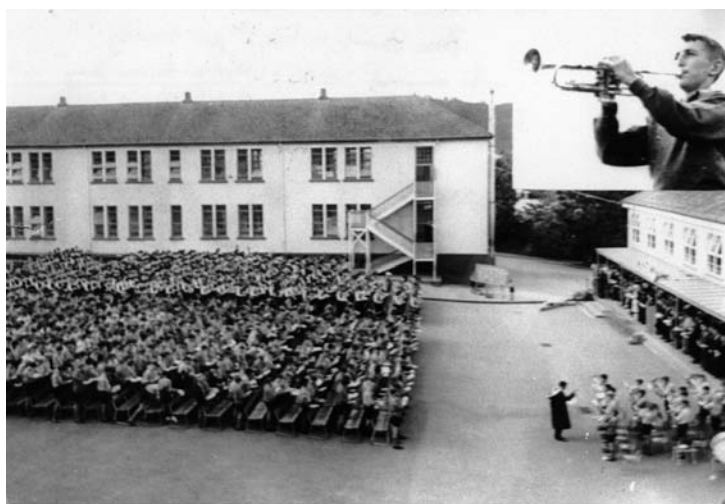
It is great to have both current boys and also Old Boys involved in this very special service. The high regard that current boys show for this service was no better evidenced than through the avid audience that Ted Edwards had at the afternoon tea where he had five of the senior students totally engrossed as he no doubt re-lived some of his memories from School and the war. This was further evidenced when a large contingent of Prefects marched at the Dawn Parade on the 25 April along with the Headmaster and the Board Chairman. As is the normal practice the Head Boy Callum Harris laid the wreath at the Civic Ceremony in memory of the Old Boys and Staff who lost their lives in the war. A new initiative this year was the reading of names of fallen citizens from the Whangarei District in the wars and the honour of reading the first 30 names went to Whangarei Boys' High School. Head Boy Callum Harris and Deputy Head Boy Manaakitia Puriri-Pivac read 15 names each and this process will be followed in the years to come with other schools taking up this very important role. It will take 14 years before all the names are read.



WBHS OBA Veterans at the ANZAC service



Mayor Stan Semenoff lays a wreath



ANZAC SERVICE 1965

The ANZAC Service has been an institution at the School for a number of years, although how long it has been going is not known. However one thing is certain, it was definitely on the calendar back in 1965 when this photo was taken by the Northern Advocate. Of note is that the service was attended by students of both the Girls' and Boys' Schools. In the bottom right of the photo we can see the School brass band being conducted by Mike Gifford and the inset is of 3rd form student Arthur Parkin who played the Last Post and Reveille. As an aside, you may recall that Arthur went on to represent New Zealand at the 1976 Olympics winning a gold medal in the hockey.



Head Boy Callum Harris, on the right, and Deputy Head Boy Manaakitia Puriri-Pivac at the Dawn Parade.



GOLF DAY

The 2009 Old Boys Golf Day was held on Friday 4th December at the Whangarei Golf Club's Mt Denby course in Tikipunga. The day dawned fine for the 63 golfers who fronted up, looking ahead to an enjoyable day of golf and merriment as is the norm for any Old Boys golf day. But what a day it turned out to be.

The threat of rain forecast by the Met service was not a consideration as players teed off in glorious sunshine. But two hours later the heavens opened and players were caught in a deluge of rain that Whangarei has not seen since. Players took shelter where they could and even umbrellas were somewhat ineffective in the downpour that occurred.

As fate would have it players were just about to call it quits for the day when the sky cleared and it seemed that the worst was over, so play continued. And all was good for another hour or so when the clouds darkened again another deluge followed, this time worse than the first one. Players, spectators, helpers – nobody escaped getting wet. And this time play was called off, but only a few heard the hooter. So once again when the skies cleared, play continued, a testament to the hardiness of Whangarei Boys' High School students.

At least this time the rain stayed away, as it has for four months now, and players enjoyed the rest of the afternoon. For the record, golf was the winner. Prizes were shared around as many players as possible and we are very thankful to the Whangarei businesses who sponsored a hole in the tournament. They were Erc Angelo of Mallett Angelo & Quinn, Firewatch, Gunson McLean, Harrison & King, Harrison Carpets, House of Travel, Northland Club, Northland Hearing Clinica and Peter Edlington Panelbeaters

Many thanks also to the students from the OPC Hillary Challenge team who came along to help out.

Finally a huge thanks to the Whangarei Golf Club and also Association President Kevin Salmon and Committee Member Mike Lee for their energies in getting the event organised.

Please diary Friday December 3rd for the 2010 event. It is one day not to be missed and already the places are getting reserved such is the attraction that this day holds.

FOUR GENERATIONS



When a school has been around as long as Whangarei Boys' High School has there are bound to be many instances of multiple generations of one family attending it. One such instance came to light at the athletics day in 2009 when the photo below was taken. It is a photo of Darin Robinson (WBHS 1978-81) on the right, sitting with his father Brent Robinson (WBHS 1956-59) and mother Melva. They were there to watch Darin's son Brad compete in the Junior 200m. The fourth generation members referred to were actually Melva's father, John Ferguson (WBHS 1936-38), and Brent's father John William Henry Robinson (WBHS 1925-26). Running is obviously in the genes in this family as John was the Intermediate Cross-country Champion, Brent competed in the 100/200 championship races in his day, and Darin was the Senior Athletics Champion in 1981 plus he was also part of the relay team that ran to Wellington as part of the centennial celebrations in 1981. Brad came 2nd in his 200m race in 2009.

So congratulations to the Robinson family and thank you for sharing your story with us all.

And if there is anybody else out there who can stake claim to four generations of WBHS Old Boys please get in touch.

Subscriptions to the WBHS Old Boys' Association for the year 2010/2011 are now due.

The Executive Committee enjoys being able to provide you with a wide variety of information related to the School and the Association's activities, plus also to support the School where we can. But to continue to do this, plus provide you with the high level of support and service that we have for the past 4 years we need a higher financial membership.

Please complete the membership form enclosed with this newsletter, indicating which type of membership you wish to subscribe to and also how you would like to pay this, and return it to us. Once payment has been received, a membership card will be sent to you, and, if you select a Life Membership, you will also receive a lapel badge.

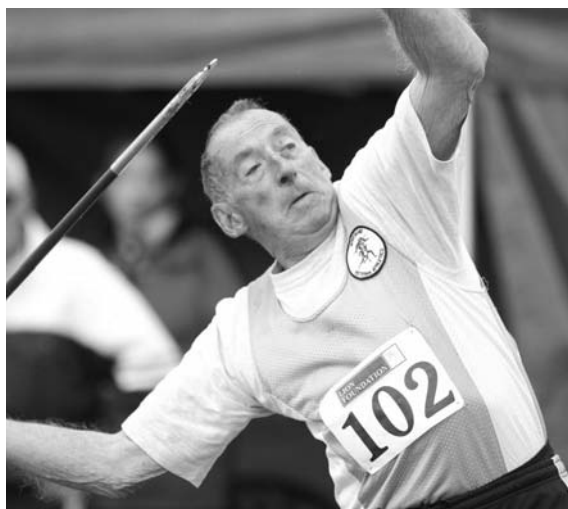
MAURICE KENNETT

Another visitor to the School during the year was Maurice 'Muzz' Kennett (WBHS 1972-74). Muzz was in Whangarei as captain of the HMNZS Kahu, which had taken time out from patrolling Northland's east coast to berth at Whangarei. He had come to the School at the invitation of the Year 13 Dean to address the senior school and give them an insight into what it means to join the New Zealand Navy. As he said, "It's a good chance to give the kids something to think about and look at what they want to do with their lives".

Maurice joined the navy in 1975 after leaving school and slowly climbed the ranks as an electrical and radio mechanic both on land and at sea. He found himself commander of the Kahu after some years in the Navy until later in 2009 when the Kahu was retired from active service. Maurice is now situated at the Devonport Naval Base.



DAVE SCRATTON



Just a quick word on evergreen former PE teacher and WBHS Old Boys' Association Life Member Dave Scrutton, who has distinguished himself yet again on the athletics field. Some may look forward to their 90th birthday with the thought of celebrating such a milestone. He was looking forward to his 90th birthday in anticipation of participating in the Northland Master Athletics Weight Pentathlon Championships so that he could break some New Zealand records for 90 year olds that had stood for some time. So in the space of 3 hours Dave set new records in the hammer, shot, discus and javelin, as well as setting New Zealand standards in the weight throw and in the overall weight pentathlon score. Good on you Dave. We are sure that you would still put many of your former students to shame in distances thrown. Dave was always a man of few words. So what did he say when he had achieved his goal, "Done it".

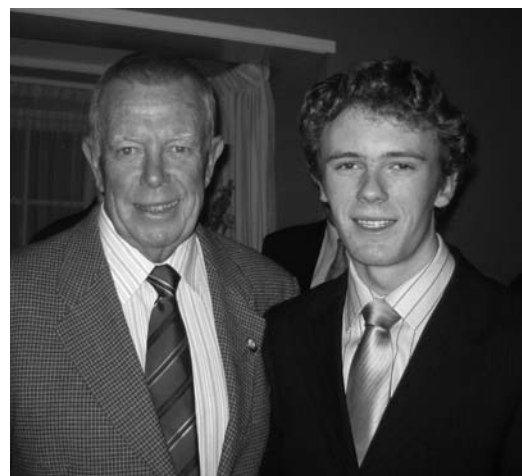
Also competing at the same meeting was Colleen Bruncker, wife of the other long-time PE teacher, Cliff Bruncker. Colleen also broke two New Zealand records in the women 75-80 age group, one in the hammer throw and the other for overall total points. And she doesn't look a day over 50. Congratulations to both Dave and Colleen.

THE HUTLEY PRIZE

Last year 2009 saw the first presentation of the Hutley Prize for Outstanding Achievement, an award set up by Old Boy David Hutley (WBHS 1955-59) and his family to recognise the outstanding achievement(s) of a student outside the usual curriculum guidelines. While this award does not necessarily fit into the scope of the School's normal criteria, Headmaster Al Kirk still acknowledged that it was a very appropriate award for today's young men as they are encouraged to get involved in a wider range of activities and thanked David for his generosity and tenacity in getting the award established. Similarly the WBHS Old Boys' Association is also very grateful to David for giving something back to his old School and was pleased to present him with his Venerable Life Member badge that he had been nominated for some months ago.

The presentation was also attended by the Deputy Mayor Kahu Sutherland and CEO of the Northland Chamber of Commerce Jeff Smith. There were four applications for the inaugural award and last night it was won by Year 13 student David Budge. David is off to study medicine at Otago University in 2010 and we wish him well.

Nominations or enquiries for this year's award can be directed to David Hutley at email address david@hutley.net



40 HOUR FAMINE

Whangarei Boys' High School supports this cause each year through the involvement of students (121 took part in the weekend famine) and each year the students try and come up with innovative ways of raising money. 2009 was no different. The boys engaged themselves in a busy week with a number of fund-raising initiatives including a car wash, a staff morning tea and a sausage sizzle in the Cameron St Mall. The highlights though would have to be seeing a couple of members of the senior staff, including the Headmaster, getting their legs waxed in the Assembly Hall. Unfortunately we don't have any photos of this but we have some of the other highlight where students paid to have their turn at smashing a car with a sledge hammer. It will be interesting to see what the boys come up with this year.



ROGER MEYER (1955-2009)

It was with deep sadness that the School farewelled long time Head of Department Languages and a teacher at the School for over 15 years, Roger Meyer, who passed away suddenly in October 2009. Many of you would know that Roger had a bypass operation a couple of years back and had been watching his health very carefully since. However the trauma on his heart caused by a fall he had while away on holiday may have proved to be the catalyst for a major heart attack on Friday 9th and he passed away Saturday afternoon.

Roger started at Whangarei Boys' High School as a student in 1968 and left at the end of 1972, his 7th form year. He was a Prefect, a staunch member of Carruth House and while at the School affectionately earned the nickname 'Gomer' which had something to do with the hairstyle and glasses of the time. He was also a member of the Cricket 1st XI in 1972.

He returned to the School in 1993 after a teaching stint at Kaitia College, MA and Dip Tchg under his belt, and had been a key member of the staff ever since. Not only will he be missed by staff and students for his teaching and wide knowledge of all things, but also for his involvement in extra-curricular activities (eg social, golf) of which he was a key organiser. One thing that Roger always maintained was a keen interest in the wellbeing and history of the School and he was often a port of call when information was needed about the School's past. He always seemed to know the 'right approach' and this had been to the fore in his role as 'the school whip' and also as master of ceremonies for various functions. The WBHS Old Boys' Association was very fortunate to have Roger as the MC at the last dinner when we paid tribute to Mike Gifford.

Roger's funeral was held in the Assembly Hall at the School on Wednesday 14th October followed by a final tour of the School through throngs of students who formed guards of honour and performed a haka as a sign of respect for one of the most respected and loved teachers at WBHS.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association would like to thank all Old Boys and former teachers who attended Roger's funeral and also for all the words of sympathy and support to Roger's wife Dianne, son Tony and daughter Brenda. He will be sorely missed at Whangarei Boys' High School. RIP Roger.



NOTICES

New Caledonia Trip

Last year a few Old Boys very generously sponsored some boys for the joint WGHS/WBHS one week trip to New Caledonia. This trip is happening again this year in September. It is open to senior students of French and involves a homestay and school visit, along with a few days in a hotel, visiting places of interest and an overall immersion in French language and culture. We know that many of you would have taken the same trip when you were at the School. The teacher-in-charge of French, Siobhan McSweeney has approached us again this year to ask if there might be any Old Boys who again might like to sponsor a student (\$200) for the trip this year. Any donations would be most gratefully received and we know from last year that the boys who benefit are very much appreciative of any help they get in raising the money to travel. If you might like to sponsor a student please get in touch with Greg Weaver in the first instance.

Help for the Science Department

Most of you when taking science at Whangarei Boys' High School will probably remember the regimental way in which equipment was always stored after class to ensure that it was always available for the next class. Maybe not as clinical as the photo here from 1920 might suggest but certainly a lot of care was taken to ensure any equipment was well looked after.

The WBHS Old Boys' Association has become aware of a serious short-fall in the resources available to the Science Department. They have informed us of the urgent need for replacement materials in all aspects of their teaching and quite frankly it is amazing how they manage to operate. Granted this is more of a problem for the Ministry of Education, and you can rest assured that we will certainly be asking the question, but we are hopeful that there may be one or two Old Boys who might be in a position to help out in some way. If you would like to find out more please get in touch with Greg Weaver. He has a detailed list of the supplies that the department is in need of.

In the meantime perhaps those of you who might have equipment in their possession from years ago, as one Old Boy confessed recently having a pipette from 50 years ago, if you returned them maybe we could boost the stocks in the Science Department.



Rural Delivery

If you have a rural delivery address can you please ensure you advise Greg of your correct address. We understand that it is now a requirement that each home must have a street number on their address (eg McBeth Road is now 1765 McBeth Road) even though it is still a RD address. We need to record these on our database as it helps us to obtain the best possible postage rate from NZ Post when doing bulk mail-outs. Greg can be contacted through the addresses at the head of this newsletter.

OLD BOY REUNIONS

It is very pleasing to see the groups of Old Boys getting together for whatever reason and the WBHS Old Boys' Association is also pleased to offer assistance where they can to help with these functions.

So being a 'zero' year, 2010 seems an optimum time to have reunions of classes, teams or groups from days gone by. If you would like to get something organised for any particular group please get in touch with Greg Weaver at the School and he will give you whatever assistance he can.

For example, what about reunions of classes from 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. Or reunions of 1st teams, or any team for that matter, from those years. Perhaps it might be an idea to get together those who started at, or left, WBHS in those years.

Whatever it may be, if you have a thought about some sort of reunion then Greg is only too pleased to help out with contacting Old Boys, School tours etc etc. Give him a call.

BOOKS

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is pleased to present here some of the books that we are either aware of as they have been written by Old Boys, or because we have copies of the book in the Old Boys room at the School. It is our intention to slowly build up this library so that one day, when we are able to perhaps occupy our own premises, we will have a display for visitors to delve through. In the meantime if you are interested in any of these books please get in touch with Greg Weaver and he will either put you in touch with the author or make enquiries on your behalf.

From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas: shoestring shipping in the South Pacific - By Don Silk (WBHS 1942-45)

From Kauri Trees to Sunlit Seas recounts Don's adventures in the Pacific over nearly four decades. During this time, vessels were bought and sold, rebuilt and wrecked; cargoes of coconuts and corned beef, pineapples and pearl shells were transported, along with crazy English beachcombers and Mormon missionaries complete with bicycles.

A born storyteller, Don Silk has written a rip-roaring yarn, awash with thrilling adventures and mishaps. It is the story of an exceptional way of life, now all but gone forever.

Mainly Rural Years – by Jim Rotherham (WBHS 1955-59)

This book is a varied and humorous collection of short stories, memoirs and essays centred around country folk who Jim Rotherham knew. As Jim says:

'Somebody once asked why I milked cows in the dark. I replied that I was sick of the sight of them. Actually it wasn't true. I loved farming and the country life but had a bad tendency to be late. So my late entry into writing should not surprise those who know me well. In the year 2000, my son visited Gallipoli and requested information about my father who had fought there. The result was that I wrote 'Hori Kaiporka, the life and stories of George Richard Rotherham'. That led me to join the Rotorua Writers Group.

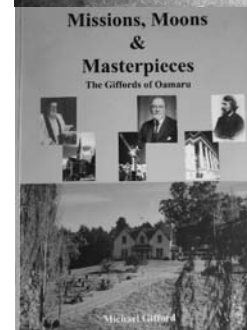
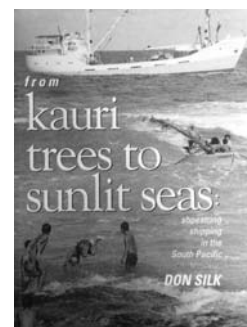
Mainly Rural Yarns is a collection that has accumulated during my involvement with that very progressive group'.

Missions, Moons & Masterpieces – The Giffords of Oamaru

This book is the culmination 3 years spent by Mike Gifford and his wife Rosalie researching in England and Italy as well as New Zealand.

During that time they delved into the lives and careers of three men who contributed greatly to the social, educational, cultural, geographical and scientific life of pioneering and early 20th century New Zealand. These men were the Rev Algernon Gifford who arrived in New Zealand in 1862, artist Edward Augustus Gifford who arrived in 1877 and Algernon Charles Gifford, eldest son of Algernon, who was a teacher in Wellington for 33 years.

This is their story, taken from countless letters, newspapers and family documents.



JOE MORGAN MEMORIAL BOARDERS' LOUNGE

The first stage of the development at Carruth House that has been named the Joe Morgan Memorial Boarders' Lounge has been completed. This involved closing off the door at the end of dorm 1 and putting in new access around the corner, the introduction of a dedicated sick bay area and also adjustments to the office area. The shifting of the door was needed to make room for where the new lounge is designed to go and also necessitated some changes inside the dorm.

Already these changes make the place look smarter and we now look ahead to raising the necessary funds to get Stage 2 completed.



New Carruth office



New Carruth sickbay



New door on dorm 1



New dorm layout

The WBHS Old Boys' Association is pleased to be able to present a unique polo shirt for purchase by Old Boys. The shirt is black with a gold strip down each side, has the Fideliter logo in gold on black and underneath this is written W.B.H.S Old Boys. It comes in sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL and retails for \$35.00 plus p&p. If you would like to purchase a shirt or shorts please complete the form enclosed and send back to Greg, or just contact Greg direct. We also have a limited supply of lapel badges for sale. The badge, pictured, has the Fideliter logo with WBHS Old Boys' Association across the top and the word Fideliter underneath. These retail for \$10 each. Again please get in touch with Greg or complete and send back the enclosed form.



WBHS OBA hereby acknowledge the very generous donation made by Pub Charity and The Lion Foundation to cover the cost of publishing this newsletter.

