

WBHS OBA Newsletter March 2019

Dear Fellow Old Boy,

As a proud group of old boys, the executive committee of the WBHS OBA want to reach out to you to provide an update on how we intend to enhance the association and build upon the previous foundations.

We are committed to focusing on the following short term goals:

- Reducing costs by relying on volunteers and on digital distribution channels,
- Focusing on events that all Old Boys can participate in, and
- Raising funds that will benefit the school and the network of Old Boys.

To achieve the above goals we are reaching out for help with the following:

- Please provide an email address so that we can reduce the cost of postage and printing,
- Increasing the proportion of your contributions that are available for the benefit of the Old Boys' fellowship and the School, and
- Please forward this letter on to any Old Boy that you think would be interested in these newsletters.

We are also very interested in your feedback. The OBA is for your benefit so please feel free to send any suggestions or comments to wbhsoba@gmail.com.

Presidents Message

Since our last update the OBA executive committee has been focused on the development of the database. We are very fortunate to have Old Boy and Endowment Trustee, Murray Holdaway, who has gifted both funds and expertise to develop and modernise the platform. The aim is to provide a platform that has greater capabilities so to help the OBA and school build a more complete Old Boy database than we currently have. More on this soon ...

My highlight as President so far has been to attend the Carruth House formal dinner. The young men were very impressive and Ian Rowe and his staff are obviously providing an environment which is creating lifetime bonds of friendship. The nights highlight for me was the haka for the Year 13 boys who were leaving the school.

On the 16th November the OBA ran its annual golf tournament. The event was very successful, largely thanks to the generous support from the naming sponsor, Yovich & Co Wealth Management and the many hours given by our organisers; Kevin Salmon, Al Kirk and team. This year's event will be bigger and better and I can already confirm a team prize of a flight around the Bay of Islands and the Hole in the Rock.

My thanks to the new communications team. Due to their efforts there will be regular newsletters once more.

Garry Whimp
WBHS OBA President

Introducing the Executive

Garry Whimp – WBHS OBA President (WBHS 1976 - 1979)

Murray Batger – WBHS OBA Vice President (WBHS 1977 - 1980)

Kevin Salmon – Secretary (WBHS 1975- 1977)

Bill Mallett – Treasurer (WBHS BOT 1996 - 2000)

Hans Britts - Staff Representative (WBHS Teacher 2004 - Current)

Murray Inder (WBHS 1959 - 1962)

John Barber (WBHS 1960 - 1964)

David Templeton (WBHS 1971 - 1973)

Jarrold Goodall (WBHS 1995 - 1999)

Josh Clark (WBHS 2001 - 2002) (WBHS Teacher 2013 - Current)

Al Kirk (WBHS Headmaster 2000 – 2015)

News From The School

Dear Members of the OBA, thank you for the opportunity to write a short update on progress at WBHS. As many of you will be aware the rebuild of the school is still very much a work in progress. We have spent time master planning and working with Ministry of Education in planning for the best outcome possible. We are at present preparing the tender documents for the design team with whom we will work for the next 12 months on a detailed design plan. Initially we all thought \$50 million would enable us to build our dream school but as we have gone through the process the realisation that \$50 million doesn't quite go far enough has hit. That being said, we see this as a once in a lifetime opportunity to build a school and facilities that will be enduring. During the year we will be consulting with our school community and look forward to being able to share our plans for your feedback. Of critical importance is maintaining the historical and traditional taonga whilst creating modern spaces that reflect the way we want to teach. One of our major challenges is the exclusion of Carruth from the building project. We are continuing to try to find alternative sources of income to begin the much needed rebuild of Carruth alongside the school development.

Our school roll has grown this year and we start the year with over 1,200 students, alongside this, our 2018 NCEA results were by far the best we have ever had at levels 1 and 2 (year 11 and 12). Last year saw the introduction of our Engineering Academy and this proved to be hugely successful. We are grateful for the support from Culham Engineering and the ongoing input we have received and apprenticeships offered. In sports and the arts the successes are too varied and widespread to mention although a recent highlight at the school athletics sports was Nik Kini who smashed the senior shot-put record which stood since 1966 and was held by NZ commonwealth games representative Roger Main. The old record was 13.00 mts, new record 14.58 mts. Nik is definitely a talent to keep an eye on in the athletics arena. We would love to get in touch with Roger so please let me know if anyone has his contact details. If you are a social media user you can keep up with all the results and events via our WBHS Facebook page.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the support from the Old Boys' Association and the Endowment Trust. I place huge value on the connections I have made with the men who continue to support the school in a variety of different ways. I look forward to strengthening these relationships over the coming years. I also pay tribute to David Silich. David was a generous benefactor of the school and the students continue to benefit from his generosity. His legacy will be enduring.

Ngā mihi nui
Karen Gilbert-Smith - Principal



Kia ora

My name is Harrison Higgins and I hold the role of Head Boy at Whangarei Boys' High School. I am extremely grateful to have acquired this title as it allows me the opportunity to give back to the school and to inspire and motivate the other boys to strive to reach their goals.

I am passionate about rowing and cross fit, as well as drama. I hope to attend Otago University to study Biomedical Science. I look forward to this year and all that comes with it.

Harrison Higgins
Head Boy 2019



Bula Vinaka

My name is Kalline Masitabua. I am honoured to have this great opportunity of being one of the Deputy Head Boys at Whangarei Boys' High School and I intend to use this role to the benefit of our school community. Whangarei Boys' High School, and the opportunities it presents, has allowed me to grow into a mature, independent young man. I am privileged to be a part of this school.

A school living up to its expectations - "turning boys, into fine young men".

Kalline Masitabua
Deputy Head Boy



Hello

My name is Jacob Kennedy I am greatly honoured and proud to say I am one of the Deputy Head Boys at Whangarei Boys' High School for 2019. I am proud of the school and its heritage. In the position I have, I hope to leave the school better than I found it and help to turn my fellow students, my brothers, to the men I can see them become. My personal goals for this year are to pass with a great mark, get accepted into university for engineering and get scholarships for University. I am confident I can achieve these things at this school.

A bit about myself, I am 6'5" tall, I live in the Carruth boarding hostel, but my home is in Pukenui, where I grew up spending every moment I could in the outdoors carrying out my favourite hobbies like fishing, diving, and hunting.

Jacob Kennedy
Deputy Head Boy



Being a student at Whangarei Boys' High School has been a challenging opportunity and which has opened so many doors. One of those was Deputy Head Boy for 2019. My name is Nathaniel Singleton and to put it straight out there I have a genetic condition called Diastrophic Dysplasia. Also, I was temporarily paralyzed due to this condition affecting my growth centre, however I have not let this dictate my life. I try to participate in everything available, from arts to academics and I even do pistol shooting as a sport. I cannot wait to get out there for my last year of school and to work to the best of my abilities both inside the school environment and out.

What is important to me is whanau, friends and enjoying each day, as you'll never truly know what tomorrow will bring. So why not seize the day in front of you. I am grateful for the position of Deputy Head Boy and I will try to exceed what is required whilst being in the moment. Bring on 2019!

Nathaniel Singleton
Deputy Head Boy



Kia Ora

My name is Ben West and I am one of the four Deputy Head Boys at Whangarei Boys' High School for 2019.

I have a keen interest in rugby, squash and generally all sports. This year at school I'm taking History, Calculus, Physical Education, Physics, Chemistry and wish to study engineering in the future.

I am very much looking forward to the big year ahead with the challenges and rewards it will encompass.

Ben West
Deputy Head Boy



WBHS Values

WBHS has a set of core values that we all try to live by. These were created by the students, the parents, and the staff of our community. They are:

- Whakawhanaungatanga & manaakitanga
- respectful relationships
- Tika & pono - honesty & integrity
- Maia & aroha - courage & compassion
- Mahi tahi - work hard together



Hi

I'm Nathan Calver and I'm delighted to have been selected as Whangarei Boys' High Schools Bledisloe Whanau Captain for 2019.

I am heavily involved with the arts at Boys' High and I intend to get more pupils involved with it throughout the school year.

Nathan Calver
Bledisloe Whanau Captain



Kia Ora

My name is Caleb Smith, and I am privileged to be Carruth Whanau Captain at Whangarei Boys' High School, for 2019. As Whanau Captain, my goal is to ultimately lead my team to successfully achieving first place in the inter-whanau points competition. However, alongside this I will focus on participation throughout the entire whanau.

My personal goal for this year is to achieve NCEA Level Three with overall Merit, Endorsement or higher. Throughout the year ahead, I will seek to achieve a scholarship in Agricultural Science. When I'm not carrying out my duties as Whanau Captain, you can find me playing hockey, wake-boarding, swimming and enjoying spending time with my family and friends. My chosen career path at present is to own and/or manage multiple farms around New Zealand. So keep an eye out for the Captain of the Whanau that won for 2019.

Caleb Smith
Carruth Whanau Captain



Kia Ora

My name is Mason Kennedy and I have had the honour of being appointed as Grey Whanau Captain for Whangarei Boys' High School in 2019. This means that it is my role to ensure that the boys within my Whanau feel at home in our school. I also coordinate inter whanau competitions and activities. My goal for this year is to achieve another win for my whanau in 2019.

Mason Kennedy
Grey Whanau Captain



Hi

My name is Luke Trigg and I am the Hobson Whanau Captain at Whangarei Boys' High School in 2019.

I have a passion for all sport, but I especially enjoy rugby, hockey and cricket.

In my year 13 studies I am taking Business Studies, History, Statistics, English, Biology and I hope to go away to university next year and potentially study law. Hobson haven't had the greatest start to the inter-whanau competition this year, but I'm confident the boys will bounce back in the upcoming events and put the green machine back on top.

Luke Trigg
Hobson Whanau Captain



Kia Ora

My name is Lochiel Espiner, Marsden Whanau Captain at Whangarei Boys' High School for 2019.

Sports play a huge part in my life, the main ones being rugby, surfing and adventure racing.

This year I'm studying Physical Education, Calculus, Business Study, Biology and Physics.

I'm looking forward to what this year holds and the opportunities that will arise from this role.

Lochiel Espiner
Marsden Whanau Captain



Kia Ora

My name is Jay-Z Robinson and I am the Carruth Hostel Head Boarder at Whangarei Boys' High School for 2019. I have lived at Carruth Hostel for all the 4 years I have attended high school. I hope to leave an impact on Carruth hostel and continue the strong brotherhood we have had for many years. Carruth to me has a special place within the school having strength in numbers and always being enthusiastic in school activities.

My goals for this year are to pass and give everything a go, with this being my last year, so I'm wanting to make the most of it before having to grow up and move into the real world. When I'm not at living at school I live in Opononi and enjoy rugby union and league, which takes up most of my time outside of school.

Jay-Z Robinson-Christie
Head Boarder, Carruth Hostel



Kia Ora

My name is Flynn Symonds and I'm a Prefect at Whangarei Boys' High School. At WBHS I hold the role of Student Representative on the Board of Trustees. Elected back in September I cherish the role of student rep on the board as it gives me the perfect opportunity to stand up for the boys around me and have our voice heard where it matters most.

Being a Prefect is a great way for me to give back to the school that helped develop me over the last four years and to also help further develop the fine young men coming through the school in the coming year.

I look forward to participating in as many events and projects this year as possible both in and out of school and getting involved with my community as much as possible.

Flynn Symonds
BoT Student Rep

Projects & Fundraising

WW1 Soldier Memorial

A website to honour the WW1 soldiers from Whangarei School has been created by a student, Zac Miller-Waugh and Josh Clark (WBHS 2001 – 2002), the Computer Science teacher at the school. In addition to the website, it is intended that a plaque would also be set next to each tree down the drive. These trees were originally planted to honour the soldiers and each of the plaques will include a QR (Quick Response) code which will link to the soldiers' information on the website.

The website records details such as; name, photo, ID, DOB, service ID, place of birth, date of death, occupation, place of death, cause of death, biography, medals received, scanned records, any other relevant information we have about them.

A lot of time has been invested in creating the website and research in the initial information. There is still more work to be done to research and enter data on each soldier. If you have spare time and an interest in documenting this important part of the school's history, please contact Josh on the following email address: j.clark@wbhs.school.nz

There is also a cost to get the plaques made and set at the base of the trees so sponsorship would also be welcome (advertising on the base of the plaque stand could be considered).

The honoured soldiers are as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| F.C. Baker | F.L. Beasley | R.P. Bedlington | B.B. Bindon |
| A.N. Brown | H.J. Cameron | T. Cameron | R. Carter |
| C.O.A. Cowan | W.L. Clapson | B.C. Drake | J.C. Galbraith |
| C.H. Goodson | C.E. Gribble | H.F. Griffin | C.H. Hill |
| A.D. Jack | D.L. Jack | O.P. Johnston | M.A. McDonald |
| F.J. McKenzie | R.W. McKenzie | A. McLeod | J.D. McLeod |
| C.J. Marshall | C.M. Nightingale | A.H. Pearce | G. Potter |
| H.L. Rouse | N. Steadman | T.H. Storey | A.M. White |
| H.A. Wilkinson | F.R. Wooster | | |

Old Boy News

OBA Annual Golf Day

Read up on the rundown from the golf day on the OBA Website:

<https://wbhsoba.co.nz/golf-day-2018/>

Adam Blair – Returns Home with the Warriors

On 2 March 2019, the Warriors NRL team and Old Boy, Adam Blair (WBHS 2000 – 2002) played a warm up game against the West Tigers at Toll Stadium in Whangarei. Adam Blair is the captain of the Warriors and the national team and has been a stalwart of New Zealand Rugby League since his NRL debut in 2006. The Warriors won the game 26 to 16 in front of a solid crowd. The team also visited Whangarei Boys' High in the lead up to the game and the team posted the following video:

<https://www.facebook.com/vodafonewarriors/videos/2155479614532278/>

Upcoming Events

ANZAC Day Commemorations - Thursday, 25 April 2019

The Old Boy's Association will be laying a wreath along with the High School in the Dawn Parade this year. Any Old Boy that would like to march as part of the Association and the school can assemble in front of the RSA on Rust Avenue at 5.30am, with the Parade falling in at 5.40am. Keep an eye out for David Templeton as he will be representing the Old Boys.

Last Word

That is all for the March Quarter Newsletter. It would be incredibly helpful if you could please provide any suggestions, forward this newsletter to your mates and like our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/WBHSOBA/>

If you aren't already signed up to receive these newsletters as soon as they are published, you can sign up on the OBA Website:

<https://wbhsoba.co.nz/news-and-events/newsletter-signup/>

Until next quarter, keep up with achieving "Good Boys' High Stuff!"

Kind regards from the Communications Sub Committee of the WBHS OBA.