



*As the year comes to a close, we
want to take a moment to wish each
and every one of our valued Old
Boys a Merry Christmas!*

*May this festive season bring joy,
warmth, and precious moments with
your loved ones.*



WBHS OBA

WHANGĀREI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Presidents Report

Jarrod Goodall

2023 was a breakthrough year for the Association. It marked a significant milestone - the first time we've achieved being debt-free and finding ourselves in a net asset position since my involvement, spanning over five years.

I want to express my gratitude to Murray Holdaway and David Dent for their ongoing generosity. Their unwavering support has been instrumental in our success. Additionally, I extend my appreciation to Mark Wilson and Bill Mallett for their wise financial guidance.

Our endeavours to foster a strong sense of community have yielded positive outcomes. We successfully organized four formal networking events and had the pleasure of hosting two informal Friday catch-ups with our esteemed Old Boys. These gatherings have received great support, serving as fantastic opportunities to reconnect with old friends and forge new relationships.

I must commend the vision of Josh Clarke and the research skills of Wendy Skinner and Suellen Roy. Together, they have brought the WWI site to life, providing a remarkable tribute to the brave men who fought valiantly for our freedom from tyranny.

While we made modest contributions to the school this year, I am hopeful that our newfound financial freedom will allow us to make more significant and meaningful contributions to support students in the future.

I am pleased to share that our membership numbers continue to grow. We now have over 100 annual subscription members and 150 lifetime members. However, we are still short of our target of 300 annual subscribers.

It's time for us to reevaluate our strategy and find innovative ways to achieve this goal within the next 12 months.

Furthermore, the launch of our corporate sponsorship program has started, with three companies already on board. My sincere appreciation goes to Continuum Engineering, Yovich & Co Wealth Management, and Enviropro for their generous support. Let's aim to increase this number to 10 to 20 corporate sponsors this year, strengthening our relationship with the companies that share our vision.

I would like to take a moment to express my appreciation to the retiring executive members. David Templeton, you have been a cornerstone of the OBA for as long as I can remember, always offering encouragement when it was most needed. Thank you.

Mark Wilson, your wealth of knowledge and historical insights about the OBA, the school, and Whangārei are truly invaluable. Although your roles on the executive team may change, I know I can count on you for a friendly coffee and a good conversation.

Lastly, I want to extend my sincere thanks to Treena, whose passion for our cause keeps the wheels turning smoothly. Your dedication is truly commendable.

To all the executive members, the Endowment Trust Trustees, and our dedicated members, I extend my appreciation. Together, we are poised for another successful year ahead.

Carpe Diem
Jarrod Goodall
WBHS OBA President

Principals Report

Karen Gilbert-Smith

Principal's Report 2023

Kia ora koutou, I start by acknowledging the desperate sadness we have experienced at the loss of Karnin Petera of Year 11 earlier this year.

I ngaro te taonga, a Karnin, i tēnei tau.

We lost a treasure, Karnin, this year.

Ahakoā i ngaro ia, ka ngau tōnū te mamae, i a rā, i a rā

Although he is gone, the pain still bites each and every day.

Taumaha rawa atu te pōuri, te mamae, a, ka heke tōnū ngā roimata.

The sadness and the pain are heavy - and tears still fall.

Ahakoā ka ngaro ia, ka kā tōnū te mura o tōnā arohā, tōnā kanoāhi menemene.

Although he is gone, the flame of his love and his smiling face still burns brightly.

E tama, a Karnin, moe mai rā, moe mai rā, moe mai rā.

Karnin, rest in peace.

In the depth of tragedy we can often see the best and worst in people and I was humbled by the manner in which our boys and many members of our community rallied around one another and continued to strive to be the best they could be in the face of adversity. Once again those efforts have led to some amazing achievements which have made all of us extremely proud.

Importantly, some of those achievements are in the academic realm. Student academic achievement has continued to go from strength to strength. Our NCEA results have improved year on year despite the challenges of the last three years and in the Sports and Arts arena, we have had an outstanding year.

I am particularly proud of the senior Drama students who competed at the Sheilah Winn National Shakespeare finals again this year. Having won the most awards ever, we were all hopeful that both M'Lago Morris and Jackson Terry would be selected to travel to the Globe in London to perform and they have not disappointed. What a fantastic outcome for both students who have shown incredible commitment to drama.

Our music department has also had a wonderful year with bands "Ready Set" and "Blind Eyes" wowing crowds at school events as well as regional events. Connor Franklin won the position of principal cornet of the National Secondary School Brass Band, a wonderful acknowledgement of his skill and commitment and a richly deserved accolade.

In sports our Squash team of Freddie Jameson, Zac Laing, Flynn Venmore, Luca Smith, Tane Trail and Josh Laing won the Secondary Schools Team Squash Nationals for the second year in a row. It's a wonderful achievement to win this once but twice is phenomenal! I am also delighted that our 1st XI Hockey team won the Olympic Stick tournament this year gaining promotion to the Rankin Cup for 2024.

Some individuals I would like to recognise are:

Flynn Venmore - Selected in the NZ Senior Secondary School Squash team which toured Australia.

Jackson West - Selected in the New Zealand Senior Māori football team which toured Australia.

Luca Smith - Selected in the New Zealand Royal Youth Sailing team which competed in an international regatta in New Caledonia.

Liam Brown - Selected in the New Zealand Junior Roller Derby team which competed in the Junior World Championships in France.

Other achievements outside national representation:

Nathaniel Aoina - 2nd in the over 17 New Zealand Secondary School Tumbling Competition.

Cooper Ashill - 4th in the New Zealand Secondary School Surfing Competition.

Fergus Manson - Selection in the Blues Rugby Under 18 squad.

I would like to acknowledge that none of the successes would happen without the support of the many wonderful volunteers that support our students: coaches, managers, drivers, photographers, teachers in charge and of course committed parents. Our supporters army has been well kitted out in school supporters gear which has added a real sense of community to all that we do. Thank you to all of you who have supported students in any way to follow their cultural, sports and academic dreams.

Our students have been ably led by a wonderful group of student leaders. Kyle Hanlon, Nathaniel Aoina and Mason Gray have been the left and right hands of our Head Boy, Flynn Venmore. What a year Flynn has had with his personal successes in squash and leading new initiatives in the school. "Anchor Week" will certainly endure. It has been a pleasure to see the Head Students find their feet and lead with confidence.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of the Board of Trustees. We are incredibly fortunate to have such committed and capable trustees who have both long and new associations with the school. I also acknowledge and thank the Senior Leadership Team of Keir Morrison, Jt Thomas, Warren Litchfield and Rachel Thornton. This has been a very difficult year for all of us and I am grateful for the support of Mike Elliot who returned to help when Matt Lawson left mid year. I am fortunate to have such wonderful colleagues and capable leaders in the team leading the school.

Finally I wish to acknowledge two staff members who have made a significant contribution to the school but who are moving on at the end of this year. Bernie Taffs has been involved in education in Te Tai Tokerau since 1979 as a teacher at Whangārei Girls' High School. He became Assistant Principal

from 1997-2001 then moved to take up his first Principalship at Tikipunga High School then in 2006 he moved to Kamo High School as Principal. Following that he took up senior and lead advisor roles at the Ministry of Education then finally he became a contracts manager at the Ministry of Social Development before joining us at WBHS to follow his passion for the thing he really loved which was teaching History. Our boys have been incredibly fortunate to have someone with his knowledge, experience and passion to inspire their love of history. After 46 years of incredible commitment to the students of Te Tai Tokerau Bernie is embarking on the next phase of life and retiring from the profession. I have heard some of the boys from his class describe him as the G.O.A.T (greatest of all time!). He leaves with our grateful thanks for all that he has done for the kura.

I am also sad to lose from the school my friend and colleague Keir Morrison. Keir has been a Senior Leader in the school for the last 11 years so has seen through more than two cohorts of students and an immense amount of change. Keir loves teaching and our students have been the beneficiaries of his passion for being a lifelong learner. He has taken on many and varied leadership roles in the school and led initiatives that have always had improved student outcomes at the front and centre. Keir cares deeply for our boys and has been an incredible role model despite his avid support of Liverpool Football Club! I do hope that after a break from teaching that Keir re-engages with education as I firmly believe he has all the attributes of a wonderful school leader and future Principal.

Āpiti hono tātai hono, rātou te hunga mate ki a
rātou Tātou te hunga ora ki a tātou

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa
Ngā mihi nui



Karen Gilbert-Smith
PRINCIPAL

The Executive Committee

President	Jarrold Goodall
Vice-President	Gaurav Correa
Treasurer	Gaurav Correa
Secretary	Treena Shrimpton
Exec Committee	Al Kirk
Exec Committee	John Barber
Exec Committee	Garry Whimp
Exec Committee	Murray Batger
Teacher Representative	Helen Peters
Honorary member	Kayden Fowler
Honorary member	Case Worsfold
Patron	Karen Gilbert-Smith

WBHS OBA Mission Statement

To provide opportunities for Old Boys' to meet and use their best endeavours, combined skills and life experiences for the benefit of Whangārei Boys' High School students.

The primary objectives of the Association are to:

- ❖ Promote good fellowship amongst Old Boys of the School and foster and preserve their remembrance of fellow Old Boys and the School and their interest in and active support of the school.
- ❖ Establish and foster a relationship between the Old Boys and the school by promoting the interests of the school in any way whatsoever but in particular by offering scholarships and prizes for proficiency in schoolwork, cultural pursuits or sport, and by the direct financial support of pupils attending the School and by other means that may be decided upon at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association.

Social Media Links



Twitter: @WBHSOBA



Instagram: wbhsoba



Facebook: @WBHSOBA



LinkedIn: wbhsoba

In Memorium



Clifton BRUNKER

Obituary

BRUNKER, Clifton Danaher. 20/9/1928 - 13/11/2023 95 years

Cliff passed away peacefully in Whangarei Base Hospital on Monday. Loving husband of the late Colleen. Loved Father of Phillipa and Derek. Father-in-law of Jo and the late Michael. Beloved Poppa of James, Jenna, Shelby, Emily and Max. Great Poppa of Michael, Marley, Elke and Bonnie.

Mr Cliff Brunker

Old Boy - 1940 – 45 PE Staff - 1955 – 81 HoD PE - 1981 – 90

Cliff started at WBHS in 1955 and was Head of PE from 1981 to 1990 at which time he retired. When he retired from the School, Headmaster Maurie Dean said about Cliff, "He is a fine role model for the young men of the School, in courtesy, reliability, dedication and particularly physical fitness."

One of Cliff's major achievements and his greatest legacy to the School was his involvement in the 1981 Relay Run to Wellington to mark the School's centennial. The relay run was inspired by the journey taken by the School's forebears some 100 years prior and the run was fundamental in raising money to allow a new gymnasium to be built in 1982. For that alone Cliff will always have a special place in the history of Whangarei Boys' High School.

On November 1st, 2007 one of the school's gymnasiums was officially renamed the Brunker gym so his name would be remembered through time.

Stories were also told of Cliff not just running in the School's cross-country event each year but actually running in all three races – Junior, Intermediate and Senior.

Many people in Whangarei and Northland owe their swimming ability to his enthusiasm and expertise in and around the swimming pool, particularly the one at Whangarei Primary School.

In Memorium



Kiri HAURAKI

Obituary

HAURAKI, Kiri Ellen. E te mareikura e Kiri, ko koe tēnā kua whiti atu ki tua o te ārai, ki ngā ringa o Ihu Karaiti. Kiri passed away peacefully in her sleep, surrounded by her husband, kids and whānau. Much loved wife of Bas. Beloved mother of Nathan, Deana, Chase and Terina and loving oma of moko Kaharau. Kiri enjoyed life to the fullest and valued people and God above all.

Kiri Hauraki

Carruth Matron - 2013 - 2023

Kiri was a beautiful woman, inside and out. She was matron/mother to many boys during her time at Carruth Hostel. Here are some snippets from a couple of boys and our past Director of boarding for the Fideliter magazines.

Carruth owes a special thank you to our very own Angel, our Matron, Mrs Kiri Hauraki. Ever since my very first day here, weekday mornings always start with your voice. Along with this, you are busy all day with basically being the mum to the 60-odd boys here at Carruth - **Leon Harris - Carruth Head Boarder 2017**

Carruth Matron, Mrs Kiri Hauraki continues to do an excellent job and always has the boys' best interests at heart. Her dedication is unquestioned and is hugely appreciated. She is called Miss Kiri to us all - **Mr Ian Rowe - Director of Boarding 2018**

Where would we be without our wonderful Matron, Miss Kiri? All the boys love her and she keeps them on their toes. All the visits to the doctors, dentist or physio appointments take time and she has learned all the tricks of getting in early before it's busy - **Mr Ian Rowe - Director of Boarding 2019**

Our lovely matron, Ms Kiri Hauraki has worked tirelessly this year, juggling her studying for university with her day job here at Carruth and the normal duties that follow any other parent, as she is a mother - **Levi Popata - Carruth Head Boarder 2020**

WBHS OBA - How we've helped with your help

**Thank you very much to the Endowment Trust
for the two new gazebos**



The Colour badges for high achievers



**WBHS OBA Fine Young Man
Award 2023 - \$1,000**



Congratulations Mason Gray

**Through Te Awatea Wellness Centre, we provided extra physical
and mental health care to boys who needed it. In addition, we
provided lunch to boys without food.**



Our "Fine Young Man" award recipient for 2023
\$1,000.00

Congratulations Mason Gray



Mason is off to Otago University in 2024

One of the fantastic things the Old Boys' Association do for the school is to present a student with the "Fine Young Man" Scholarship.

The criteria for this initiative is that it will be awarded to a Year 13 student who has contributed to the wider life of the school, setting an excellent example through regular attendance, punctuality and commitment to all school activities.

The recipient should display good all-round relationships. The award is nominated by the boys' peers and decided by the staff.

Long Service Awards

At the Junior Prizegiving on Wednesday 13th December 23 teachers and support staff received a gift from the OBA to celebrate their long service at WBHS.

Of the 23 Staff:

8 x have been here 10 Years,
2 x have been here 15 Years,
12 x have been here 20 Years,

and 1 x Staff member is celebrating 35 Years at WBHS!!!



35 Years Long Service Neil Smith

The Gifts were presented by
Old Boy David Templeton and Principal Karen Gilbert-Smith

20 Years Long Service



Mike
Elliot



Jt
Thomas



Lee
Jones



Liane
Cook



Vanessa
Luders



Ivan
Howett



Claire
Flemming



Deb
Williamson

15 Years Long Service



Tiritaa
Te Whata

Absent - 15 Years
Jacqui Grierson



10 years Long Service



Linda Bourke
Heerikhuisen



Dulcie
Thompson



Fiona
Churcher



Michelle
Smith



Mike
Curran



Raewyn
Cannons

Absent - 10 Years - David Moore and Mark Oldridge

True Tales Book

(Tall Tales from WBHS)

Update on the Book

We are on track to publish the book early in 2024! Final proof readings are currently being completed.

We will let you know as soon as it becomes available.

FINANCIAL SUBSCRIBERS TO DATE



We have **130** subscribers now! This is fantastic and we are getting closer to our goal of 300 subscribed members!

We are open to ideas on how we can attract our members to become subscribed members. If you have a fantastic idea please email Treena at:

communications@wbhsoba.co.nz

Subject line - Subscribers

You can become a subscribed member now!!
Just click on one of the options below.
This will take you to our secure Stripe payment link!





Each year the Old Boys' Association awards our Year 13 leavers with a gift as recognition of completing their full 5 years at secondary school. We also invite them to join the Old Boys' Association so they can keep in touch with the students from their year in the future through us.



It was a great evening with the awards given by Old Boy Gaurav Correa and our Y13 Deans, Ginny Hill and Vanessa Luders. The boys were relaxed and enjoyed their evening with family celebrating their achievements. They then showed their appreciation by doing a haka.



Networking Event and Snooker

It was another successful snooker and networking evening. Unfortunately, Adam Goodall was not able to attend to defend his title. Steven Brockbank was the winner on the night, and we will arrange a playoff between the two of them.



The people who attended were:

Brian Morris
Gordan Eddie
Steven Brockbank
Gordan Lambeth
David Templeton

Gaurav Corea
Murray Batger
Mike Curran
Rod Watson
Rufus Ellis

Brock Fannin
Jarrod Goodall
Ryan Grey
Trent Morgan

Auckland Networking Event

Thanks again to Murray Holdaway for providing the venue for us this year! We had another fantastic turnout for the Auckland Networking event!

Next year we will be looking for somewhere new to hold this event. Please let us know if you know of an area in Auckland where we are able to bring our own alcohol and nibbles and we can have a quiet one and catch up with our mates.

The people who attended were:

Murray Holdaway
Jarrod Goodall
Al Kirk
Gaurav Correa
Craig Wedge
Peter Morgan

John Haigh
Tim Armstrong
Denis West-Hill
Kane Wilson
David Miller
John Leitch

Howard Randal
Craig Waalkens
Garth Lovatt
Tony Green
Nigel Armstrong
Denis Snelgar

Alan Williscroft
Phil Cooper
Michael Crawford
Mike Budd
George Ferguson
Claire Ferguson

Fideliter Fellowship Awards

This year it was our honour to induct three WBHS Old Boys into the Fideliter Fellowship. The citations were read by our school leaders and given by school Principal Karen Gilbert-Smith and Vice-President of the Old Boys' Association David Templeton,

Blyth Tait brought his medals with him which were a huge hit with the boys (and staff!).



SIR DONALD MCKAY

WBHS from 1921 to 1926

At Whangarei Boys' High School, Sir Don was head prefect, captain of the first XI cricket team and captain of the first XV rugby team. Another student at the same school was future parliamentary colleague Jack Marshall who described McKay as his schoolboy hero.



TREVOR WORTHY

WBHS from 1971 to 1974

Trevor developed a passion for Biology at WBHS that has led to notable scientific achievement. Known as "Mr Moa", Trevor is now one of the world's leading authorities on NZ fauna fossils and in particular the Moa.

Trevor was a Carruth House resident for 4 years.



BLYTH TAIT

WBHS from 1974 to 1979

Blyth Tait became one of New Zealand's greatest sportsmen, winning world and Olympic titles, and excelling in all the other major three-day eventing competitions around the world.

SIR DONALD MCKAY

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TREVOR WORTHY

WBHS from 1971 to 1974

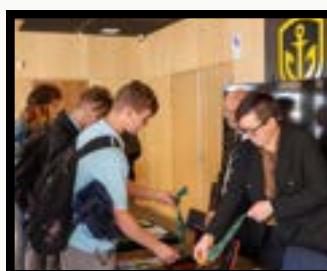
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WBHS from 1974 to 1979

Blyth Tait became one of New Zealand's greatest sportsmen, winning world and Olympic titles, and excelling in all the other major three-day eventing competitions around the world.

Fideliter Fellowship Awards



*Advertise your business
on our Website and help keep
the Old Boys' Association going*



Leave a Legacy For Your School

Your gift will last forever

*'All good men and women must take responsibility to create legacies
that will take the next generation to a level we could only imagine'*

Jim Rohn

Below is a brochure we will soon have in Solicitors' offices around New Zealand. Please take the time to have a look and consider investing in our school and boys long-term.

Our aim is to raise \$1,000,000.00 for the Endowment Trust which would create approx. \$50,000.00 for the school each year to use on things the Ministry of Education does not cover.

The formation of the WBHS Old Boys' Association Endowment Trust was initiated in 2009. The purpose was to establish a fund to take the place of the existing WBHS Foundation whereby Old Boys could build up a fund to create some sort of legacy for the future of not only the School but also the Association.

This was a fund that would be managed by Old Boys for Old Boys, although the ultimate goal always remains to provide help to the School. The broad objectives of the Trust are:

- To foster the pursuit and advancement of high educational standards for pupils of Whangarei Boys' High School.
- To support, assist and advance the aims and objectives of the Whangarei Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Incorporated so long as this Association remains a recognised charitable organisation in accordance with New Zealand Law.

The Trust is to be administered by Trustees who are appointed by the Association. The current Trustees are as follows:

- Erc Angelo (WBHS 1956-62) – Chairman
- David Dent (WBHS 1968-70)
- Murray Holdaway (WBHS 1970-74)
- Jarrod Goodall (WBHS 1995-99) – President of the WBHS Old Boys Association
- Paul Ahlers (WBHS 1976-79)
- Shane Culham (WBHS 1970-73)
- Mark Wilson (WBHS 1980-84) – Treasurer OBA & ET
- Lindsay Faithfull (WBHS 1973 -76)

WHANGĀREI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT TRUST

LEAVE A LEGACY FOR YOUR SCHOOL



Your gift will last forever

*'All good men and women must
take responsibility to create legacies that
will take the next
generation to a level we could
only imagine' Jim Rohn*

The Endowment Trust

In 1878 a group of Whangārei citizens approached Sir Robert Douglas, Member of Parliament for Marsden, to seek his help in establishing a High School in the pioneering township of Whangārei, New Zealand.

Whangārei Boys' High School has established itself as an excellent place of learning for day boys and boarding students over its 140-year history. Our school has grown from humble beginnings to become an internationally recognised Boys' High School with strong traditions that have enabled young men to be educated to a high standard academically, artistically, and in the sporting arena.

However, in the modern education environment, not all facets of the educational curriculum are funded by the central government, so in 2009 the WBHS Old Boys' Endowment Trust was established.

The income-generating fund was established to provide the school with income for special projects and events that were not covered by the standard funding sources eg equipment for sports, the arts, and music, as well as specialised technical equipment.

School trips, individual scholarships, and the golf academy are among the many items already funded and have enhanced the school's offering.

How does the Endowment Trust Work?

- Old Boys and friends of the school contribute to the trust fund, which invests the money to generate income.
- The income is used to build the fund and to provide meaningful assistance to school life.
- Only the income from the fund is distributed to the school. All contributions remain in perpetuity.

Who manages the Endowment Trust?

- A group of trustees who are all Old Boys' of Whangārei Boys' High School manage the trust. The President of the WBHS Old Boys' Association is automatically a trustee of the Endowment Trust.
- As at 2021, 7 trustees had been appointed covering a wide range of school attendance from 1956 to 1999.

How is the fund invested?

- The trustees have appointed JB Were to invest the trust's funds in a diversified portfolio of shares, bonds and cash.
- The trustees meet twice yearly with representatives of JB Were to review the portfolio and the investment strategies.



WHANGĀREI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT TRUST

How can you leave your legacy?

- **Bequeaths:** Leaving a legacy via your will is a simple way of giving that costs you nothing in your lifetime but will make a positive difference to your school for years to come
- **One-off Donation:** No matter how small or large, when added to other Old Boys' donations these will make a big difference to the income-earning power of the fund.
- **Regular donation:** Even the equivalent of a cup of coffee a week can make a difference over a period of time. The Trust administrator can help you set up a weekly, monthly or annual donation.
- **WBHS Endowment Trust's** long-term investment horizon makes it an attractive place not just for donations but also for bequests and wills.



You can make a one-off credit card donation to the Whangārei Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Endowment Trust by visiting:
<https://wbhsoba.co.nz/the-endowment-trust>

If you wish to donate via online banking you can do so by paying into our account:

ASB WHANGĀREI 12-3099-0056381-00

Endowment in *Particulars*
Trust in *Code*

Name and Initials e.g. SMITH AB in the *Reference* fields.

How are the funds used?

- It is important to note that the donations themselves are never spent - only the income they generate.
- Trustees evaluate the performance of the fund and set aside amounts for the school to use. The School Principal will canvas staff and school members to propose projects to apply the funds to.
- From time to time the school may apply to the Endowment Trust for funds for a specific purpose.



Northland Secondary School Sports Senior Rugby 7s
sheltering from the elements under the Gazebo,
proudly sponsored by WBHS OBA

If you wish to discuss any matter at all regarding a donation or bequest please feel free to email the OBA President at: president@wbhsoba.co.nz

Alternatively, you may contact the OBA administrator
Email: communications@wbhsoba.co.nz
Call 09-430-4170 extn 807

Write to:
Whangārei Boys High School
Endowment Trust
PO Box 5034, Whangārei 0140

ALL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE