

Network News #3 - December 2002

**The Newsletter of the HVHS Past Pupils & Friends
Association Inc.**

Email: ppfa@hvhs.school.nz Website: <http://www.hvhs.school.nz>

FROM THE CHAIR

As the year draws to its close, it is important to reflect on the achievements of students as well as our members and to thank those who have given generously of their time and talents to the Association.

As always, the PPFA is very conscious of the important partnership between school and the Association. The assistance of the principal, staff and students in running such events as the 'Tea and Chat' afternoons, the funding of staff time and allocation of space for the archive collection, the use of school facilities for our meetings, and the Board support, are all very much appreciated.

At the end of this year we say farewell to two staff members who have worked with the PPFA Committee. Gayle Price Moor has been responsible for fundraising for the Jubilee Student Centre and liaison with past pupils. She has also edited this magazine and helped run the Tea & Chat afternoon this year. We are most grateful for all her assistance and wish her well as she leaves to pursue her career in marketing.

Marilyn Espie (nee Jones 1963-67) has been the staff representative on our committee for 4 years. During this time she has helped us develop the student scholarship programmes and provided a 'voice' to the principal and staff at HVHS. Marilyn leaves to join her husband on an overseas posting to Great Britain. Our thanks for all her help and very best wishes go with her.

You will read about some of the excellent achievements of HVHS students in this newsletter, as well as in recent media releases. Our scholarship programme seeks to reward not only those who achieve at the highest levels, but also those who are team players and work for the good of others. You may like to consider donating a scholarship to assist a student with their tertiary studies. We can work with you to establish criteria that suit your wishes and if you desire, you can be

involved in the selection of the scholarship winner as well as the presentation at the Senior Prize-giving. Please contact me if you would like more information. Ph 04 589 1030 or email judi.whitcher@paradise.net.nz

Finally, I would like to thank the PPFA committee, who have spent time this year to plan for a sustainable future for the Association and also the continuation of the programmes that we run. We have some new ideas and opportunities for get-togethers in 2003. (Watch this space!)

Greetings of the Christmas Season to you all.
Warm regards

Judi Whitcher

HVHS CAROL SERVICE
A traditional service of readings and music to
celebrate Christmas
Sunday 8 December 2002 at 8:00pm in the school hall
ALL WELCOME

JUBILEE CENTRE

Since our last newsletter, the PPFA has received donations from the following past pupils, towards the Jubilee Student Centre: Armstrong Downes Ltd (Gold donor), David Thomson (Bronze donor), Elaine O'Brien, Jillian Gardiner, Leon Downes, Bill and Dorothy McLauchlan.
Thank you for your generous support for this project.

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE?

Thank you to all those who have sent in their membership fee for the PPFA. We have received very positive feedback on the idea of membership, with past pupils keen to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Association.

To reward those who have paid so promptly, we have decided to extend your initial period of membership to December 2003. To

those who have not yet paid, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. Your membership fee will ensure that we can continue to:

- Send out regular newsletters
- Provide a website, with opportunities for members to establish network links and view newsletters online.
- Assist the valuable work of the school archive team.
- Fund other PPFA events/activities.

Without a regular income, the PPFA can no longer afford to distribute newsletters to all of the past pupils on our database. Consequently as from 2003, we will only be sending newsletters to those who have paid their membership fee. Please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return to the Secretary as soon as possible, to ensure you remain on our mailing list. We'd like to keep in touch.

Note: Where there is more than one past pupil living at the same address, we ask for only *one* membership fee.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS

- ❖ Congratulations to **Simon Jackson**, a Year 12 student who has been awarded Dux of the school for 2002. Runner up was **Andrea O'Neill**.
- ❖ The boy's A table tennis team came very close to winning the National title in the last school holidays. They lost a gripping final 4-3 to James Hargest High School, being only one point away from victory.
- ❖ **Olivia Harris** and **Anna Bennett** won a gold medal for the Teams' Open Novice Years 9-10 event at the National Aerobics Championships. **Kristin McLoughlan** also won gold in the Individual Open Novice Years 11-13 event.

HALF PRICE BOOK & VIDEO SALE

Last chance to purchase copies of the Jubilee book and video
Video 'HVHS Past & Present' ONLY \$10
Book 'HVHS An Informal History' ONLY \$15
Just send a note specifying how many copies you require, along with
payment to:
The Secretary, PPFA, PO Box 31909, Lower Hutt

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

As we reach the end of term 4, we can look back on a time of intense activity.

Just as things were calming down with the resolution of the teachers' settlement, we were informed that the Review Office would be visiting in weeks 3 and 4. There is always a certain amount of preparatory work that needs to be done ahead of a review, so energies were directed into ensuring that everything was as we would want. Under the new style of review, schools nominate areas to be considered, and we asked the reviewers to look at the management of curriculum delivery and at the initiatives we have put in place to address under-achievement. We are still waiting for the initial report, but have already had useful advice and pointers in post review discussions with the team.

Work has started on the new special needs unit, a purpose built building to house the 20 students with high learning needs who have, until now, been based at the former Petone College. Work is proceeding apace, and we hope to be able to move in, in mid February. The new facility is on the site of the old caretaker's house, which you will all remember. The house was sold for removal, and there will be a new caretaker's flat above the special needs unit.

The gutting and refurbishment of the old administration building is almost complete, and it is an incredible transformation: new offices for senior staff, a large office for the principal's secretary (!!!!!), and a new deans' centre. The whole complex will be ready for use from the beginning of next year, and plans are underway for an official opening early in February. Any thoughts on the format of this would be welcome – sylvia.burch@hvhs.school.nz.

The first set of students to experience NCEA, are currently sitting their external exams, and the atmosphere is as it used to be at School Certificate time. The difference is that students know they already have a number of credits before they sit the exam, so the stakes are not as high as when the exam was the only determinant. We have, as a school, decided to proceed with level 2 next year, and to cease offering 6th Form Certificate. There is no point in going backwards, and with bursary disappearing in 2004, this is the only way to give students the best preparation for that final qualification.

It has been a tiring year for everyone and we are all looking forward to the refreshment and recharging that the holidays bring. Thank you all for the support you have shown the school in so many ways. May you enjoy a happy Christmas and a restful holiday.

Sylvia Burch
Principal

NEWS FROM SOME PAST PUPILS

Jean Mather (HVHS 1951-54) moved to Canada in 1962 after marrying a Canadian school teacher. She now lives in Sarnia, Ontario and works in a Safety Training facility. Jean travels 'down under' every year to see her family and is currently setting up a house-sitting clientele so that eventually she will be able to spend 6 months in Canada and 6 months in Australia/New Zealand. Her email address is matherjean@hotmail.com

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When **Dr Gordon Harper** (Student 1962-66) returned on leave from Britain in late October, a small group of locals from his year group met with him and his wife over drinks and an informal meal. Most hadn't seen Gordon since the day they left school. He has spent the larger part of the intervening years both studying and working in Great Britain. If anyone would like Gordon's email or to be kept in touch with a group of 'Mid 60's Survivors', please email judi.whitcher@paradise.net.nz

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Stu Penman (HVHS 1963-66) who currently resides in the USA, is keen to make contact with some of his former school mates. If you have any info on Mark and Graeme Mentiplay or Kerry Simpson, perhaps you could email stuartgpenman@aol.com

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A group of past pupils who were in the third form at HVHS in 1960, met recently for dinner at Café Monte Lupo (the old 'Orsinis') in Wellington. Always keen for a get together, and with **Peter Kyle** visiting from the USA, it seemed like a perfect reason for a reunion.

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Photos taken by Judi Whitcher at the 1st & 2nd Decade Afternoon Tea held in September are available from Jean Bowden for \$1.00 per copy. Phone Jean on 04 567 2358

PPFA COMMITTEE

Judi Whitcher (nee Grant) 1962-66 Chairperson
Celia Andrews (nee Beckett) 1960-63

Carol Barker (nee Tuson) 1963-66
Pat Blades (nee Lawrence) 1956-60
John Cranefield, former BOT Chairman
John Eastwood 1972-73
Paul Giles 1967-71
John Stanton 1942-45
Pam Stevenson (nee Enting) 1953-57
Ken Stevenson 1950-54
Rosemary Thompson (nee Argue) 1965-69
Graeme Marshall, staff 1988-2000 & ex-principal

SCHOLARSHIPS

At the 2002 Senior Prize-giving held recently, the Past Pupils and Friends Association awarded the following scholarships to students going on to tertiary study:

Keesing MacLeod Scholarship to **Sarah Pettett, who intends to study Law and Psychology at Victoria University. Three of the partners in Keesing McLeod are past pupils of the school.**

Chris MacKay Financial Planning Scholarship to **Hannah Brett, who intends to do a Bachelor of Communication Studies at Waikato. Chris is a past pupil of the school and was Head Boy in 1972.**

Dennis Clout Scholarship to **Simon Jackson, who intends to study Biochemistry and Plant Biotechnology at Otago. Dennis attended Hutt Valley High in its second decade.**

Past Pupils and Friends Association Awards for Valued Contribution to School Life to **Vaughan Smith who will study Politics and Sociology at Victoria and to **Caroline Simpson** who will study Science and Physical Education at Otago.**

HVHS appreciates the support and generosity of past pupils who have made scholarships available and are, in this way, giving something back to the school.

FROM THE ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT

Thanks to **Jean Aitken (HVHS 1930-33) for her recent contribution to the archives. Jean donated her and her brother Graham's metal hat badges.**

The school archivist, Colleen Cresswell, is always eager to receive memorabilia from past pupils and in particular old photographs. As she works only limited hours at HVHS, Colleen can be contacted by leaving a message at the school library (Ph 04 566 4584). She will phone you when she is in the office.

Colleen and her small team of volunteers are currently planning for their move from the existing library into the school's new building, where, for the first time they will have a dedicated archives room. This is an exciting development for archives and a reflection of the importance that the school places on preserving its heritage.

The school archivist would like to know where her copy of Burt Davidson's 'History of HVHS' has got to. The publication was borrowed prior to the 75th Jubilee and, as there are only two copies in existence, archives would welcome its return.

PPFA MEMBERSHIP

In order to ensure long-term viability for the PPFA, it has become necessary to charge a 'membership fee'. This fee will be used for the following:

- ❖ To maintain a PPFA website
- ❖ To produce regular PPFA newsletters
- ❖ To contribute to the important work of the school archives team.
- ❖ To fund other PPFA activities

The annual fee has been set at \$20 (per individual or household), and can be paid by cheque or direct debited to the PPFA bank account. Details of the account are:

Account Name – HVHS PPFA

Bank – Westpac Trust, North End Branch

Account No. – 031537 0026803 00

We would appreciate it if past pupils using this option could still return the reply slip below.

No receipts will be issued (to save on costs!).

Yes, I/we would like to be a member of the PPFA for the year ending 31 December 2003.

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

HVHS years: 19..... to 19.....

Enclosed please find my cheque, made out to HVHS PPFA for \$20.

I/we have made a direct debit to the PPFA bank account for \$20.

I/we would also like to make a separate donation to the PPFA of
\$..... as a contribution
towards

Please return to: The Secretary, PPFA, Hutt Valley High School, Private Bag
31909, Lower Hutt

Or simply send us a message by email!