

Network News

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

5

Email: hvhspffa@paradise.net.nz

Website: <http://www.hvhs.school.nz>

Jul 2003

FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings for 2003. I wish to sincerely thank Judi Witcher for her strong leadership as Committee Chairperson over the last many years. The AGM was held on March 31 and the Committee has had meetings in April and June to plan for what we believe will be an exciting two years of activities.

We elected our Committee office holders at the April meeting and proposed that a two year planning cycle be adopted to ensure that some momentum is developed with the planning and running of activities. This is a similar approach to that which we took for the 75th Jubilee.

We devoted most of the June meeting to developing an outline plan for the next two years. The focus will be on building the strength of our local membership in the Hutt Valley and Greater Wellington area. Through strengthening local membership we anticipate greater support for sustained planning and running of activities. We also propose to involve others in the organisation of activities as was done for the Jubilee.

Some of the key ideas that we are exploring include:

- Expansion of the popular "Tea and Chat"

- Inviting Billy Graeme (an ex-teacher who is now a motivational speaker) to speak at a local evening function
- Holding of concert activities together with the school Music Department
- An annual "Bridge Run" with sponsored support from local businesses and health agencies
- Challenge for each current member to join a new member.

Other ideas that will also be explored include, book sales, quiz evenings, fund raising for the Archives and expansion of the web site.

The core Committee membership has remained stable for a number of years, from well prior to the Reunion. Sustainability of the PPFA will require us to strengthen the small core of dedicated individuals who keep things moving.

I ask you, if you live in the Hutt Valley or Greater Wellington area, to consider helping with the planning of one event in the next two years. We have a lot of fun with our activities and I am sure that you will enjoy meeting other past pupils of Hutt Valley High School.

John Eastwood (1972-73)

1ST & 2ND DECADES AFTERNOON TEA

An Afternoon Tea for all 1st and 2nd decade past pupils living in the Greater Wellington area is being held on Wednesday 10th September 2003 from 1:30 pm in the old HVHS library.

The afternoon will commence with an address from Principal Sylvia Burch followed by a conducted tour of the new library and learning support unit.

If you are a 1st or 2nd decade past pupil and you did not receive an invitation to this event, or you live outside the Greater Wellington area and would like to attend, please phone Jean Bowden on (04) 567 2358

HVHS Archives.

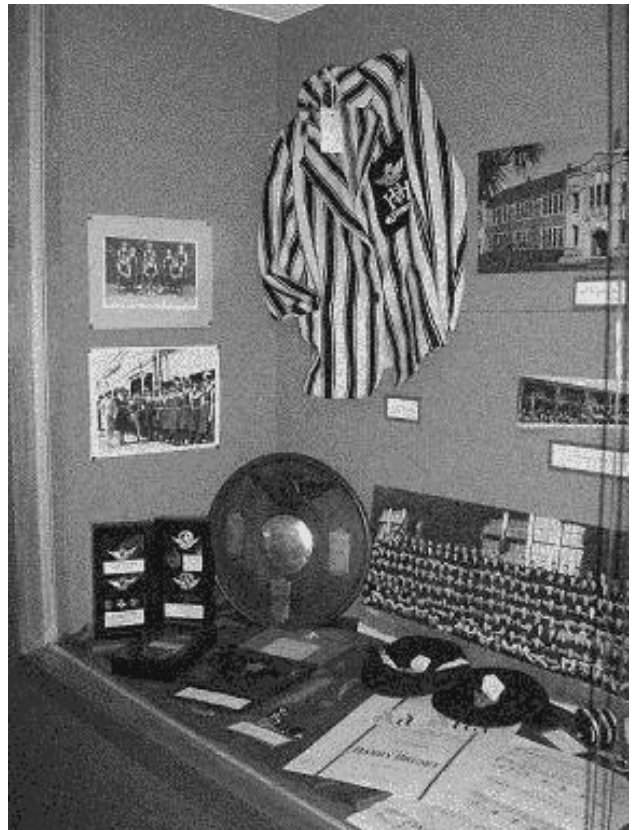
We are very happy with our new situation in the new Administration Block. We have vastly improved storage capacity, and have been continually working to make the finding of materials easier and quicker. We now have a computer (a hand-me-down), and a scanner (borrowed and very slow), and are making a slow change from lists to a database. We do not have a printer and printing is done through our connection to the library.

This year has seen an increase in the number of enquiries coming in - most weeks there have been two or more - only one week has not had any. Most enquiries have been able to be answered satisfactorily. One recent enquiry to do with a book being published was about Hutt Valley High girls dating American marines during the 1940's. Another was a personal visit from Jay Proctor who was in town for three weeks after 10 years away. He lives and works in the South of France and wanted photos of late 70's Rugby teams for a reunion with five others, also living and working in his area.

We have also had many donations of materials and artifacts. We received a timely donation of a girl's panama hat. The Library Foyer has a large cabinet (see picture below) in which an exhibition of our artifacts was displayed when the new block was opened. This display has proved popular with the students, staff and visitors and will be changed from time to time.

The Archives is staffed for four hours a week - currently Friday mornings. Messages can be left with telephonist, or the Library can deal with simple queries.

Colleen Cresswell, Archivist.



A word from the Principal.....

With two terms of use behind us, I think we all agree that the new administration building is a great success: it looks good and it works extremely well.

Helen Clark formally opened it in March, but we did not at the time have a commemorative plaque – with the possibility of war in Iraq, her presence could not be guaranteed. We will move soon to rectify that situation, so that there are no significant gaps in the school's recorded history.



We are very keen to have a “phase one” student centre up and running early in term 3, while the weather is still miserable. It is currently being painted, and the Junior Student Council have formed a management committee to regulate use. We will need to purchase furniture for upstairs, and to install a few drink/food machines, but there are no major structural changes at this time. I think it will be helpful to see how the centre is used at first, so we can develop final plans based on actual need, not our wishful thinking! It is the start of a very exciting project.

Sports teams are doing well this winter and our new Sports Coordinator, John Herewini, is doing a great job of keeping the whole school informed of what's on and who's doing what. Of particular note is the progress of the 1st XV, who are carving their way through the premier 1 competition and attracting a good following. Keep an eye on the College Sport Wellington website www.collegesport.org.nz to see where, when and who they are playing. Your support for this and any other school teams would be greatly appreciated.

There is a lot going on in other spheres as well – we welcome students from our sister school, Minoh Senior High School, at the end of July; the auditioned choir, Volante, heads to Sydney in early August to compete in the Macdonalds choral festival; the school music festival concert will be held on Friday 25 July, and tickets are available from the office; there will be a Monologue evening on Wednesday 6 August in the school hall, offering a chance to hear the very best of our Year 12 (6th form) talent.

As past pupils you are an important part of our school community, and if ever you want to come and look around the school, please do not hesitate to contact me. It is always a pleasure to meet former students and to share with them the “then and now” stories that make up the rich tapestry of a shared past.

Sylvia Burch

PAST PUPIL NEWS

Jessie Cudby (nee Eastwood) 1945-47, and her husband Cedric have recently been honored for their contribution to Basketball in the Hutt Valley. Several lengthy articles have appeared in the Hutt News this year related to their work. Jessie and Cedric have worked tirelessly to develop and maintain the Walter Nash Stadium. As trustees they, and other trustees, put their own homes as collateral when the newly formed Stadium Trust took on running the stadium. The Stadium Trust was named supreme winner in 2002 Trustpower Hutt City Community Awards. Cedric was also recently awarded the Paul Harris Rotary Fellowship for his contribution to New Zealand basketball, youth, sport and the wider community.

~

Richard Allen (1953-56) has been working in the Canadian Police Force for forty years. Earlier this year he was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for his significant contribution to Canada and the community

~

Nick Willis, who left HVHS recently, (and was mentioned in our last newsletter) continues to impress with his running performances. The 20 year old shaved more than 4½ seconds of his personal best time for the 1500m event at the end of June and is very close to reaching the qualifying time for next year's Athens Olympics.



From the 'inbox' We've got m@il

Just one since the last newsletter, from **Jean Mather** (1951-54) matherjean@hotmail.com with thanks for including her message and saying that as a result she was contacted by an old friend who she had lost contact with some years ago.

Maybe this could happen to someone else if they sent a message to **our new email address** hvhsppfa@paradise.net.nz

We are also keen to hear from past pupils who have got together with former classmates to chat about 'old times' and of course it is always good to hear about the achievements of past pupils since they left HVHS.

OBITUARY

A.H. Tuson (1921 – 2003)

The death occurred on the 25th June of Win Tuson, a long-serving teacher at Hutt Valley High School. An Englishman, he was born in Eastbourne, Sussex, and during World War2 he was on active service with Air Sea Rescue.

He joined the staff in 1953 in the days when all staff were expected to be sports coaches – he coached rugby and cricket and, when soccer was introduced, accepted responsibility for that game. His RAF background led him to a commission in the ATC in the cadet corps and later he assumed responsibility for the pipe band

He taught French and German, and when he retired in 1980, he had been head of the Languages Department for a number of years. His ability as a language teacher was recognised by the award of a scholarship to Germany

At first he assisted with the maintenance of the swimming baths but later assumed full responsibility. He will also be remembered for his efforts to clear the flooded playing fields.

He was a fine teacher, an excellent colleague, a raconteur with a fine collection of stories and limericks - and he was a gentleman and a *gentle* man.

He is survived by his wife Cyndy and his children David and Carol.

A.L.Whiteman

Thank you Alan for your fitting tribute to a fine teacher - Ed.

HVHSPFA Committee 2003-04

Chairman: John Eastwood

Secretary: Judi Whitcher

Treasurer: John Cranefield

Celia Andrews, Carol Barker, Pat Blades, Paul Giles, Katriona MacDonald, Graeme Marshall, John Stanton, Pam Stevenson, Ken Stevenson, Rosemary Thompson.