



Network News

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

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hutt Valley High School has always been a big school, and for the last few years has been the largest between Burnside, in Christchurch, and Auckland. This year the roll is larger than ever, 1739 as I write. Of those, 415 are in Year 9 (third form), and this has been something of a shock.

Since I became principal in 2000, I have endeavoured to keep the Year 9 roll between 360 and 368; while this is large, we were accustomed to managing our resources to create the right number of form and option classes. While we knew that there was a bulge coming through from the primary sector, the size of the increase has taken us all by surprise.

So how do we manage the numbers, and what control do we have?

The school has an enrolment scheme and a defined zone, and under the Education Act it is specified that students who live in the home zone have an absolute right to enrol at the school, and the home zone must be drawn in such a way that every student can attend a reasonably convenient school. Out of zone students who apply for the school must be accepted in the following order of priority:

- a) Students accepted for enrolment in a special programme – in our case, the Learning Support Unit;
- b) Siblings of current students;
- c) Siblings of former students;
- d) Children of board employees;
- e) All other students

You will notice that there is no consideration given to the fact that a previous generation may have attended the school, or to any other strong family links. When the legislation was being discussed, John Strahl, Board Chair, and I appeared before the select committee to argue for this relationship to be recognised, but it was not to be.

I am currently in the position of having over 400 **in zone** enrolments in Year 9, and have siblings on the waiting list. Previously I have been able to accept siblings towards the end of the year, when it was clear that there would be a little room to manoeuvre. This has not been the case this year. There are heartbreaking stories, not only from siblings, but also from people who recognise the quality that we offer and want it for their children. In some ways I am relieved that the legislation is so cut and dried – I have no discretion to go outside the guidelines, and can make no special case.

I want to assure you all, past pupils and friends, that the school is very conscious of the huge role that former students and their families play in our collective past and present, and that the strengthening of links over the last few years, in particular, has helped us to maintain our position as one of New Zealand's most sought after secondary schools. In a way, we are victims of our own success, although demographics have a big part to play too. The Minister and the Ministry are well aware of our position; we can do no more.

Sylvia Burch.

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

Celia Melton (Bishop) 1930–33 writes

What news is there of J. M. (Moc) Robertson and Jean Aitken? I think we must be the only remaining students of form 3L 1930. We must all be about 87 years old by now! Mr Kidson was headmaster; "Maggie" Price was our form mistress and we had Mary Cooley (French), Ginger Colgan (Latin), "Fat" McKenzie (Musical Appreciation) and "Crow" McKenzie (History) – but he used to talk rugby with the boys much of the time

Chris MacKay (1968–72) writes:

Many years ago when I was a student at Victoria University, I worked for the Lower Hutt City Council on the rubbish carts over the summer holidays. It was probably in the summer of 1973/74.

These were in the days when rate payers would leave their bins outside their front gates and the "garbiologists" would pick up the bin and empty it into the back of the rubbish truck. These were the days before the wheelie bin and the plastic rubbish bag.

I recall when we were collecting rubbish in the Wyndrum Avenue area, I emptied a bin into the back of the truck and looked down to see that amongst the contents of the bin was a trophy cup, which I rescued seconds before the ramming device crushed and compacted it.

Upon closer inspection I saw that it had been a Hutt Valley High School trophy, with the last winner noted about 10 years earlier.

I read through some of the winner's names including Ron Jarden and realised that this was a treasure that deserved to be back at the school at some stage when I could be sure it would not be confined to the rubbish bin again!

It sounds like the new display case is just the perfect answer. As the custodian of the cup for almost 30 years, I now hand it back to Hutt Valley High School, where it belongs.

I trust it looks wonderful in its new home.

We have been able to track down Keith Horrobin (1939–42) who was the first recipient of the Horrobin Cup. His parents donated the cup to the school for the winner of the 100yards for boys.

As yet we have not been able to find the last recipient, one Daryl Gibson (1960–64), but we understand he lives somewhere on the Kapiti Coast.

We've got m@il (continued)

Pat Blades (nee Lawrence) 1956–60 writes

When I started in the third form at HVHS in 1956, I was struck by the numbers of (male) teachers who had been given nicknames. At the time I thought the nicknames were clever and funny. Looking back, I realise that while some nicknames were quite apt they were also cruel. For those of you from my era, I wonder how many names you can put to the nicknames below?

Barney	Benny	Bung-eye
Chisel	Colonel Bogey	Crow
Dirty Dick	Gabby	Herman
Jo and Mo	Muscles	Pansy
Pip	Plumbum	Pruney
Spit & Dribble	Spot	Stan
Stirling Moss (non-teaching staff)		

Before you arrived, Pat, we also had – Pasty & Tweet (Ed)

HVHS Scholarships

At the 2003 Senior Prize-giving, the Past Pupils and Friends Association awarded the following scholarships to students who are going to continue their study this year at a university:

Keesing MacLeod Scholarship to Gemma Easton, who intends to study for a double major degree in Law and Arts at the University of Otago. Three of the partners in Keesing McLeod are past pupils of the school.

Chris MacKay Financial Planning Scholarship to Daniel Fung, who intends to study Health Sciences at the University

of Otago. Chris is a past pupil of the school and was Head Boy in 1972.

Dennis Clout Scholarship to the 2003 Head Girl **Miriam Boniface**, who also intends to study Health Sciences at the University of Otago. Dennis attended Hutt Valley High in its second decade.

Past Pupils and Friends Association Awards for Valued Contribution to School Life has been awarded to **Priyanka Panchal** who wishes to do a double degree studying for an LLB and a BCA.

HVHS very much appreciates the support and generosity of past pupils who have made scholarships available.

ooOoo

HVHS to compete in Stage Challenge Event at Queens Wharf Events Centre on 5th & 6th May. The team seeks help with sponsorship/donations and/or materials for their production. Contact Ms Fiona Pearson – English Department 566 4584 x8825.

What's on at school?

Drama in the school hall

30 Jun & 1 Jul – Year 12 drama performance 7pm

12 & 13 Aug – Year 13 drama performance, 7pm

Music in the school hall

20 Aug – Music festival, 7.30pm

14 Oct – Year 13 performance, 7pm

5 Dec – Carol Service, 8pm.

Sport at HVHS

10 Mar – Wairarapa Col. sports exchange

16 Mar – PNGHS sports exchange

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OBITUARY

H. J. B. (Jim) Coe (1917–2003)

The death occurred on December 17, 2003 of Jim Coe, head of the HVHS Art Department from 1945 to 1959.

Born in Timaru, Jim was at Canterbury School of Fine Art when his studies were interrupted by war service in the Pacific. After the war, he was seconded to the Department of Education to establish an art scheme for secondary schools. This brought him to HVHS where he set up a pilot programme.

Those who studied art at school under Jim Coe greatly appreciated his guidance and inspiration.

After leaving HVHS in 1959, he took up the position of art school director at Wellington Technical College and soon after helped to establish and lead the new School of Design as part of the Wellington Polytechnic.

Jim's contribution to design education was recognised when he was awarded the QSO in 1981.

PAST PUPIL NEWS

Noticed in the New Year's Honours List:

Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit – **Robyn Broughton (nee Quirke)**, who attended HVHS 1956–60, for services to netball and the community.
Congratulations Robyn.

Hutt Bowling Club celebrates 100 years.

The Hutt Bowling and Lawn Tennis Club resulted from a meeting held in August 1903 and the asphalt tennis courts were opened on 12th October 1904 and the bowling greens soon after. In 1911 they also added a croquet section. At their centenary celebrations held recently, attendees received a book *Bowling On* with the history of the club. The book was produced by a team led by past pupil and former HVHS principal **Peter Barlow**.

Congratulations to the Hutt Bowling Club on reaching 100 years. I expect many past pupils have been members of the club over the years.

Sharon Beder (nee Benda) attended HVHS from 1970–74 and was Head Girl and dux in her final year. Recently she was named as one of Australia's "Smart 100" by the business magazine *The Bulletin*, which listed her as one of the country's 10 brightest environmentalists. After Sharon left HVHS she attended Canterbury University and graduated with a first class honours degree in Engineering. She moved to Australia in 1980 on a Commonwealth Postgraduate Scholarship and subsequently gained a Master of Science and Society and PhD in Science and Technology Studies in 1989. Now Professor Beder, Sharon teaches at the University of Wollongong. She is a world-renowned social scientist, an expert in environmental politics and has written six books.

Congratulations Sharon on your success in Australia, but we know you are still a 'kiwi'.

HVHSPFA – COMING EVENTS

Saturday March 27th (at HVHS from 6pm)

'Reunion Dinner' for 3rd and 4th decaders – who started at HVHS between 1946 and 1965.

There are still tickets available for this event and we urge those of you of this era who can attend to send in your registration and \$45. Programme starts with 'Drinks and Nibbles' followed by a buffet dinner and some great entertainment.

Wednesday April 7th (7.30pm at HVHS)

Annual General Meeting of HVHSPFA – come along and support your association.

Sunday May 16th (tentative date at this stage)

Fun Run – last year's event was very successful and we plan to hold this year's event in May.



CELEBRATING YOUR 50TH DURING 2003/2004???

Lets have some more celebrations with schoolmates from your year on Easter Saturday, 10th April, 2004. We would love to catch up again after all the fun of the 75th reunion.

Check out the **Oldfriends** website under [HVHS Mini Re-union](#) or email us soon for details.

FIFTY AND PROUD OF IT!!

Contact :Bev Whitelaw Bev.w@paradise.net.nz or Merle Ramsay Merleramsay@clear.net.nz