



# Network News

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

# 10

Mar 2005

Email: [hvhspffa@paradise.net.nz](mailto:hvhspffa@paradise.net.nz)

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

## From the Principal

The school year has started well, with the roll a little higher than last year (1790). We are grateful for the run of superb weather – this time last year we were still recovering from the floods; some families were not able to return to their homes until much later in the year, and the effect on students was considerable.

Once again we are working with architects on new buildings, in response to roll growth. We will build a new Art block, with 3 classrooms, in front of D block, and the old Art space will be converted to Dance and Drama facilities. This is a subject area that has grown enormously over the last few years, and NCEA has been a boon in that regard. We will also knock down the upper gym changing rooms, which are all that remains of the swimming pool complex from the '60s, and build new toilet and changing rooms plus a half sized "training gym".

As a result of building in front of D block, we will need to provide new courts, south of the lower gym. It would be wonderful to be able to put down Astroturf, so that it could be used by hockey, netball and tennis, but the budget will not, alas, stretch that far.

While our own building goes on, the Hutt River flood protection works are

proceeding apace. If you stand on the stop bank now, you get a clear view to the far side and the amazing stone defences being constructed. It will be extremely dusty when they start on our side, if the last few weeks are anything to go by. We are hoping to squeeze a training field for this rugby season out of what is left of Strand Park, before the diggers move in.



There is little to add to the NCEA debate that is getting a thorough airing in the media. We were delighted to have 24 individual scholarship passes, eight at "outstanding" level, from 18 students. There are strange anomalies in some Level 2 and 3 subjects, particularly English, which must be sorted before next year. Our overall feeling at school is that Level 1 has been really positive for Year 11 (fifth form) students – they have a clear goal, and are working steadily towards it through the year. They know that they can move on the following year to Level 2, or to the completion of Level 1, so there is no presumption of failure.

If any of you are in the vicinity and wish to come and look around, please feel free to contact me – I would be delighted to do the honours.

Sylvia Burch

## **“Yes Minister”**

### **Graeme Marshall (Principal 1990–2000)**

Graeme left HVHS in April 2000 and joined the Ministry of Education as Project Manager for the Schools Staffing Review. This review was chaired by Minister Mallard and it developed a programme of staffing improvements for primary and secondary schools that is now almost fully implemented.

In early 2001, he was appointed Regional Manager for the MoE's Central South region. This encompasses the Taranaki Territorial Authority, Ruapehu District and Tararua District in the north to Cook Strait in the south – some 540 schools and 730 early childhood education services.

In 2003, he was a member of the Ministerial Taskforce, chaired by Dame Margaret Bazley, enquiring into secondary teacher workload and career structure, and was also a member of the MoE team negotiating the Secondary Teacher Collective Employment Agreement in 2004 (much of which sprang from the earlier Bazley Taskforce).

Late 2004, he was seconded to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as education advisor in the Department's Policy Advisory Group. He has since returned to his managerial

role in the Ministry's Central South region.

*Graeme serves on the HVHSPPPFA committee and will be guest speaker at the Association's AGM (see details below).*

### **HVHSPPPFA – COMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March –  
7.30pm**

#### **in the HVHS Pavilion**

Come and hear former Principal, Graeme Marshall, speak about these experiences and other current educational issues. His talk will follow a brief AGM and will be followed by supper.

ooOoo

## Past Pupils in the news

**Helen Lear (1990s)** won a postgraduate place at two prestigious music schools, the Royal College of Music in London and The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Dance in Glasgow.

**Richard Ussher (early 1990s)** won the individual section of the Speights Coast to Coast race, which covers 243 km over the Southern Alps from the West Coast to Sumner in Christchurch. Competitors run, cycle and kayak the distance. Richard stopped the clock at 11h 44m 7s, nine minutes ahead of his nearest rival.

**Jonathan Wyatt (late 1980s)** teamed up with fellow Olympian, Ben Fouhy, to win the two-day team race by 18 minutes. Jonathan will soon be focussing on the Commonwealth Games marathon event in March next year.

**Nick Willis**, who also competed at the Athens Olympics, has recently made an impressive comeback from injury by winning a 3000m event at a United States indoor college meet. Nick returned from a stress fracture injury to win the Meyo Invitational event recording a time of 7m 48.65s.

**Stuart Bannatyne** is preparing for his 4<sup>th</sup> round the world Volvo (formally Whitbread) yacht race that starts in October.

**Kirsten Podmore**, an Otago School of Art graduate, has her second solo exhibition of her prints showing at the Williams Gallery in Petone. Her last year's show, *Wellington Harbour and Beyond* was very popular. This year's show of twelve limited edition prints is titled *North Island Perspectives* and includes scenes featuring Piha, Mt Ruapehu and Matiu/Somes Island. Kirsten, an avid tramper, packs her drawing pencils whenever she ventures out in order to capture scenes. Her wood-cut prints are created using the reduction technique, which is a very time-consuming process.

*Congratulations to these past pupils for their achievements - (Ed)*

## From the school archives

Year 13 (Form 7) commerce students doing IT (Information Technology) are again using the school archives as a client this year. Their project is to produce a computer program designed to meet the needs of the client. Our archivist Colleen Cresswell is working with these students. Last year's most impressive project was done by Nicole Lines and consisted of a ten minute computer video clip about Claude (Nipper) Jarvis who is on our Role of Honour for WWII.

The current archive display has the theme *New Entrants in uniform*. Can you remember back to your third form year?

**Information sought:** Jean Bowden (ph 5672358) would like to know the location of Mrs Reynolds' home where the HVHS garden parties were held in the 1930s.

## Can you help?

Bruce Kennedy (1954-57) is trying to organise a reunion for the members of 5 Latin (1956). He has made contact with 35 of the 39 in the class, but seeks help in finding the other four:

- **Anne Jamieson**, a Canadian girl, who only had a couple of years at HVHS
- **Gillian Patterson**
- **Lynne Spottiswoode**.
- **Brian Jones** who may have become a qualified pharmacist.

If anyone can assist Bruce with information about these former 5 Latin students, please email him at [dbkennedy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dbkennedy@xtra.co.nz)



Aerial view of HVHS in 1956

## HVHSPPFA ANNUAL BRIDGE RUN

to be held on

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2005

### FOUR EVENTS:-

- Three bridge walk
- Three bridge run
- Four bridge walk
- Four bridge run

\$10 entry – proceeds to fund Student Centre improvements

Entry forms available in April/May from HVHS office, Hutt swimming pools or from our website.

**This is a fun event with spot prizes and a sausage sizzle after the event.**

## HVHS students in the news

Sally Andrews starred in the film *Her Majesty*, which is showing in cinemas now. She was 11 yrs old at the time of filming and hopes to pursue acting as a career.

Huei Yih Lee, Luke Fieldes, Kenneth MacKechnie, Jennifer Oliver, Matthew Webby, and Ben Bruno were presented with the 2004 Hutt City Council Scholastic Awards that recognise excellent scholastic achievement in the Hutt Valley schools.

## What is on at HVHS this term?

The well-known musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" will be performed on April 14, 15, 16 & 17 at school.

## Thanks

Thanks to all of you who renewed your membership of HVHSPPFA. The committee thinks it may send out reminders with the next newsletter as mid December seems such a busy time of the year and renewals are often overlooked.

Remember to check the address label to see the year when your financial membership expires. If it shows **2005 (or later)**, then you are up to date! Thanks again.

## HVHSPFPA Committee 2004-05

**Chairperson:** Rosemary Thompson

**Vice Chairperson:** Paul Giles

**Secretary:** Judi Witcher

**Treasurer:** John Cranefield

Celia Andrews, Carol Barker, Pat Blades, Katriona MacDonald, Pat Manning;  
Graeme Marshall, Pauline Patchett, John Stanton, Pam Stevenson, Ken  
Stevenson.