



Network News

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

12

Oct 2005

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HVHS 80th Anniversary next year

Celebrations and reunions

What is your committee planning?

- March/April Dinner for 3rd & 4th decades
- September Luncheon for 1st & 2nd decades

What can you do?

- Use the past pupils database, HVHS web site and the Old Friends web site to contact class mates or team members and organise your own reunions in NZ or overseas. We will advertise any planned reunion on the web and in our newsletters, as we did with the 1956 5L reunion
- Send us reports of reunions held to include in the Network News. Bruce Kennedy has written a report on how he went about organising one reunion.

Class reunion 5L 1956

The idea of a class reunion came about as follows. Last year I listed myself on "The Old Friends" web site and within 48 hours I had e-mails from two ex classmates, one based in London and the other in Wellington; I reside in Auckland. One thing lead to another and I met up with my Wellington classmate and the seed was sown. Both of us and our London contact knew the whereabouts and had the e-mail addresses of a handful of other class members.

I then e-mailed each one, personally, advising as to what we were planning and at the same time I asked if they would be interested and gave a date some nine months out to allow for plenty of time. In these e-mails I also asked if they knew the whereabouts of any others that were in our 5 Latin class and, if possible, any address where they could be contacted.

The response to this was excellent and by June, most of the class had been contacted leaving only three eluding us. However, come August all living members of our class had finally been reached. E-mail made the task quite easy but it was the enthusiasm and information from others, in the class, which kept up the momentum plus some "prodding" from myself!

There were 39 in our 5 Latin class but sadly three are now deceased. However, out of the remaining 36 only four cannot attend and two of these are overseas - one in the United States and the other in Germany. Our London based man is coming, we have one from Canada, four from Australia and the rest of us from the length and breadth of New Zealand.

We shall also have three of our actual 5 Latin form teachers in attendance so we feel that we have done rather well with this sort of turnout. A number of the class are also bringing their spouses/partners, as this was an option we were more than happy to accommodate, and this will see us with a final number of attendees at 45, excluding our teachers.

My Wellington man sorted out the venue and the dinner menu etc. so all in all most of the class had a part to play.

The Committee has decided to change the end of the financial year for HVHSPPFA to March to correspond with the AGM. This means that renewed membership will be current until March 2007.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

As I write this we are entering the last phase of the school year for senior students, with a host of prizegivings, last minute revision, and course selections for next year. Everything in this business is cyclic, and we are always left wondering where the year went.

This year, as always, there have been some outstanding students and outstanding achievements, in academic, sporting and cultural fields. Alongside these stars, there are a large number of good, hardworking and responsible students who quietly go about their business and are a credit to their families and the school. Unfortunately publicity tends to go to the small minority who, through their appearance or behaviour let the rest of us down. Rest assured that HVHS still embodies the qualities we all remember and respect.

The Board of Trustees is currently reviewing its Strategic Plan, and the draft should be available for comment before too long. I hope that the PPFA will be able to provide a response. The climate in which we are working has changed even in the five year life of the current plan, with technological advances and societal attitudes quite radically different. Schools need to be pro-active, as well as reacting to unforeseen situations that arise, and we must be guided by core values and beliefs.

We are working on final details of the David Kaye Memorial Scholarship, made possible by the generous bequest of George and Elizabeth Kaye to the school. We hope to be able to support a number of students in academic, sporting and cultural endeavours. Judi Witcher, as trustee, is working with the school on this, and we are very grateful for her time and support.

Next year the school is 80 years old - celebrations considerably more muted than for the 75th, but a time for reflection, nevertheless.

Best wishes to you all

Sylvia Burch

Congratulations to achievers:

Daphne Cohen, Year 13, won the national genETHICS competition, organised by the Royal Society. She had to write an essay and make a presentation offering a solution to an ethical dilemma. She was interviewed by Linda Clark on 9 to noon, and was extremely eloquent.

Megan Kennington, Year 10, was one of about 40 students nation-wide to win a prize in the Australian Mathematics competition

Amy Thomason, Year 13, won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Karate Championships in Wellington. Amy will represent NZ in Belgium and Cyprus this year.

Lydia Gammie, Year 13, won the "Play it Strange" National Secondary Schools Songwriting Competition with her song "They think they're in love"

Karlo Margetic, Year 13, won a second major music competition this year. His composition was played by the Auckland Philharmonia



ARCHIVES REPORT

The International Student display has been popular, probably because it is very colourful and had many exotic artefacts included.

David Gledhill, on the staff in the 80's, and now on the staff again has loaned his photograph albums for us to scan. David was responsible for the first Duke of Edinburgh Award programmes run at the school.

Long serving Art Teacher Gordon Haws is on a year's sabbatical - he had to clean out his office and he has gifted us with many photos, negatives, posters, videos, and CDs of school productions and other events - it has been a long job to sort and accession all these

HVHS past pupils in the news

John Bevan Ford (1930-2005)

John was considered a leading Maori artist but was virtually ignored by the New Zealand art world. Critics considered his linear work "too unusual" friend Richard Ponder said. He was the first NZer to be invited to lecture and show work at New Yorks Metropolitan Museum in the 1990s and was awarded a Creative NZ Ta Kingi Ihaka award earlier this year.

Jonathan Wyatt

Recently won the World Mountain Running competition for the fifth time but the first time on home soil at Mt Victoria, Wellington. There were over 300 athletes from 30 countries competing making the race the largest international event held in NZ since 1988.

Tim Groser is now a National Party MP and will be debating as the opposition in Parliament now that the Labour coalition deals have been settled.

We asked about **Peter Wilson** last newsletter Sadly he died in the 1970s.

COMING EVENTS for 80th Anniversary

DINNER - 3RD & 4TH DECADES

March/April 2006. Date to be finalised
School Hall
Entertainment and reminiscing

TEA & CHAT - 1ST & 2ND DECADES

End September 2006. Date to be finalised
Special Lunch in School Hall
Plan to be in the Wellington area to join the reminiscing and fun

Panda Update

Audrey Lidgett remembered her sister Betty Lidgett (sewing teacher for many years) making a Panda Bear for the school and kindly came to the school to look at the bear. On closer examination a small tag was found under one hind leg stating "Made in New Zealand". Not Betty's bear!!

"Tea and Chat" for 1st and 2nd Decade Past Pupils - Wednesday 7 October

50 Past Pupils living in the Wellington area (including Levin and the Wairarapa) attended this event, held in the HVHS Library. Principal, Sylvia Burch was there and enjoyed chatting informally to guests.

After a relaxed half-hour spent chatting, the guests gathered for a welcome from HVHSPPFA Chairperson, Rosemary Thompson. Rosemary made special mention of Lois Mair who was the most senior past pupil attending that day. Special mention was also made of foundation pupil/former staff member Marjorie Kinlock (nee Marryatt), who had just celebrated her 90th Birthday. PPFA sent a card of good wishes to Marjorie on her birthday. Rosemary took the opportunity to ask those present to let her know birth dates of those past pupils 90+ so cards could also be sent to them. She reported that Jean Bowden had received a number of enquires as to where other 1st and 2nd Decaders now live.

Archivist, Colleen Cresswell, thanked pupils for archival material donated during the year. She encouraged further material, which is always gratefully received.

Guests watched a video made for the 75th Reunion. The extracts shown were interviews with Foundation and early pupils of HVHS.

Following the video showing, Past Pupils answered questions about early school years put to them by a group of Year 9 & 10 (third & fourth form) pupils led by Katriona Macdonald (Staff). The questions and answers, on a variety of topics, showed the present pupils the vast difference in school life in the early years compared with today's schooling. The session was entertaining for all who attended.

Guests then adjourned for a light afternoon tea served by HVHSPPFA Committee Members. There was more opportunity for conversation and another chance for Past Pupils to talk with present day pupils.

The HVHSPPFA Committee thanks Jean (nee Darnell) and Ivan Bowden for organising this pleasant occasion.

Pat Blades

HVHSPFPA Committee 2005-06

Chairperson: Rosemary Thompson

Vice Chairperson: Paul Giles

Secretary: Judi Whitcher

Treasurer: Geoff Kiddle

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

CHECK ADDRESS LABEL FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE

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**If undelivered, please return to:
Past Pupils & Friends Assn, HVHS, PO Box 31 909, Lower Hutt**