



# the Cornerstone

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION MAGAZINE ISSUE 22 | SPRING/SUMMER 2017

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'67 1<sup>ST</sup> XV REUNION

## Dinner raises \$36,000 for Foundation

In June we welcomed more than 250 guests – Old Boys, parents, friends and even a former Rector and the Prime Minister – to the College for the Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction.

It was a wonderful evening of friendship and support which raised over \$36,000.

These vitally important funds will be used to assist Learning Support for programmes and initiatives aiding young Patricians with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia) and the refugee migrant students within our community.

We were privileged to have not one, but two, powerful speakers address us on the evening.

Sir Michael Jones, a gracious man who is very much more than his significantly successful All Black career, shared some of his history and motivations.

He encouraged an ideal of community support and responsibility that sits easily within St Pat's ideals, as well as being engaging and entertaining.

The other speech is published inside on page 5. Year 12 student Yohannes Abrham bravely stepped up to the lectern to share his personal story.

The jazz band, Con Anima and Poly Club all performed superbly, and the evening was a great success in the competent hands of MC Xavier English.

If you would like more information about the funds managed by the Foundation which assist initiatives like the Learning Support Department and in aid of those at the College who experience a significant disadvantage, please contact [development@stpats.school.nz](mailto:development@stpats.school.nz).

We can all play a small part in ensuring these young men can leave the College with sufficient language and qualifications to be able to contribute to society and lead well-rounded lives in New Zealand.



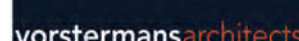
*Sir Michael Jones encouraged an ideal of community support and responsibility that sits easily within St Pat's ideals, as well as being engaging and entertaining.*

### GRATEFUL THANKS TO THE 2017 DINNER SPONSORS

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR:



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## Passchendaele wreath on old site

The former school-grounds of our Old Boys who died at Passchendaele 100 years ago are now home to a permanent friendship memorial given by the Government of Belgium to New Zealand.

On October 12 Passchendaele 100th commemorations were held at the National War Memorial and adjacent Pukeahu National War Memorial Park. The eastern terraces of the park on the corner of Tory and Buckle Streets were once part of the St Pat's Cambridge Terrace site.



*The laurel memorial wreath in the old St Pat's grounds in Buckle Street, with the former Sisters of Compassion crèche (which has been moved slightly from its original site) in the background.*

After the formal part of the commemorations a metal sculpture designed by Belgian artists Niko Van Stichel and Lut Vandebos that combined the symbols of a laurel wreath (marking victory) and a memorial wreath (paying tribute to those who have died in battle) was officially opened and wreaths laid by Governor-General Dame Patsy Reddy and the Ambassador of Belgium, Marc Mullie.

The Battle of Passchendaele covers action over October 1-18, 1917. The darkest day in New Zealand's military history was October 12 when 843 Kiwis died plus a further 114 later died from wounds.

Old Boys Duncan McMurrich (1900-1903 and Dux) and Charles Fitzpatrick (1899) died on October 12 in the thick of action on Bellevue Spur at Passchendaele.

James Prendergast (1889-1891), who was in the Australian Infantry, James Carmody (1905-1908) and Daniel Hurley (1912-1913) died on October 4 in the Third Battle of Ypres which was part of the overall Battle of Passchendaele.

Dignitaries playing an official role in the October 12 commemorations at the National War Memorial included two Old Boys – newly elected Labour MP for Ohariu Greg O'Connor (representing Labour Leader Jacinda Ardern) and Chief of Army Major General Peter Kelly.

## STREAM APPOINTMENT

A former St Pat's Town Rector, Grahame Duffy, has been appointed new Rector at St Pat's Silverstream.

He will start in Term 1 next year, taking over from the current Rector, Gerard Tully, also a former Town Rector.

Mr Duffy left us in 2001 to become principal of Hutt International Boys School. Currently he is taking a brief break from teaching.

He was one of three applicants shortlisted for the Silverstream position.

## NEW MANAGER

The College Foundation appointed a new Development Manager in September.

Louise McKenzie was involved with the organisation of the annual benefit dinner after Corinne Barnard's departure in June, and was asked to stay on in a permanent part-time capacity.

She has a background in marketing and project management and spent 13 years overseas, in Denver and London.



*Louise with Sir Michael Jones at the Benefit Dinner.*



## Yes, I'd Like To Donate To St Patrick's College



### Please can you help our students in 2018?

*This Christmas, as we enjoy quality time with family and friends, some St Pat's students are struggling to make ends meet.*

*Often they arrive in New Zealand with refugee status and nothing but the clothes on their backs.*

*It is for us as a caring Marist community to welcome them and do what we can to support them as they build a new life.*

*A gift today can go towards our annual Chromebook appeal to ensure students starting out in Year 9 in 2018 are provided with a device to assist their learning. Please help to make a difference.*

*Some donors may be able to give \$10, some \$100 and others \$1,000. Giving is a personal decision and all gifts ARE IMPORTANT. Every gift helps a St Pat's student.*

Yes, I'd Like to Donate to St Patrick's College

My/our gift to the Foundation is \$.....

Internet banking  Cheque  Credit Card

**ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE WELLINGTON FOUNDATION**  
 FOUNDATION BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER: **06 0574 0236995 00**  
 PO BOX 14022, WELLINGTON 6241  
 Email: [development@stpats.school.nz](mailto:development@stpats.school.nz)

#### CREDIT CARD DETAILS:

VISA  MASTERCARD

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CARD NO:

EXPIRES: /

S/N (LAST 3 OF 4 DIGITS ON SIGNATURE PANEL)

SIGNATURE:

YOUR NAME:

ADDRESS:

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FAMILY  STAFF  FRIEND  OLD BOY – YEARS ATTENDED

## Albin Evensen sports gear for archive

Athletics medals, running shoes and the Wellington rugby representative cap belonging to Old Boy Albin Charles Evensen have been presented to the College's archive collection, after Albin's grandsons Tony and Carl Evensen decided the College collection would be the right place for the family items.

Albin was born in Te Awamutu and attended St Pat's in 1899 and 1900. He played rugby for the Wellington Athletic Club, first as a junior in 1902 and in the senior team from 1905.

As a Wellington representative he played as five-eighth, three-quarter and fullback. He was a representative player every year from 1906 until 1914, playing 49 rep games for the Wellington Rugby Union.

In 1908 he played in the England-Wellington match held on May 27 which Wellington won 19-13.

In the New Zealand v Wellington match at Athletic Park on June 3, 1910, Albin played for Wellington representing Wellington Athletic and scored a try and a penalty goal. The fulltime score was New Zealand 26, Wellington 17.

He also excelled at the high jump and hurdles, and won several New Zealand Amateur Championship national medals including gold in the 120 yards hurdles in 1910. He was also a Wellington provincial champion in the high jump, 120 yards hurdles and 440 yards hurdles.

Albin was an engineer with the Wellington Gas Company before he joined the Army during World War I. He served in the field artillery, reaching the rank of Gunner. According to his military records he dislocated his right shoulder in early November 1916 during football training in England and spent a month in a military hospital.

On Boxing Day 1916 he played in what was called the New Zealand "All Black" Military Rugby Team against Wales in Swansea. According to the programme Albin played at wing three-quarter for that match. On returning to his unit he was posted to France in early 1917. But he found he could not carry out much of a gunner's work because of the shoulder injury. He was discharged from the army later the same year and returned to New Zealand.

He worked at the Wellington Gas Company for a total of 30 years. He died on 18 January 1940 aged 53 and is buried in the Soldiers' Cemetery at Karori.



Old Boy Albin Evensen's grandsons Carl, left, and Tony Evensen with some of the items they donated to the college archives.

## Gerard Tully named Old Boy of the Year

Former St Pat's Town Rector Gerard Tully was named Old Boy of the Year at the annual association dinner in October.

Mr Tully, an Old Boy and boarder of St Pat's Silverstream, received the Felix Kane Cup which recognises Old Boys who have promoted the betterment of the people of New Zealand, fostered the Catholic way of life and carried the principles taught at the two St Patrick's Colleges into the community.

Mr Tully is retiring this year from his current Rectorship of Silverstream and was the first layperson to serve as Rector of both colleges.

He was Rector of Town from 2002 until 2007 and Silverstream since 2011.

During his time between Rectorships, he worked as a facilitator for the J C Colin Team, and the Young Marist initiatives. He has also been Principal of the Challenge 2000 School, dealing with marginalised students.

The Old Boys Association dinner was told Mr Tully may have courted controversy in the stances he has taken in supporting Gospel values and his care for students in difficulty.

Much of his work has been behind the scenes, such as in supporting students who have struggled to come to terms with their sexuality, those who have been involved in serious criminal offending, and those who have chosen to act inappropriately towards college staff.

"He fully epitomizes the qualities of a Patrician through his significant commitment to both Colleges and to the wider New Zealand Community," said Old Boys Association president George Collins.

"He has walked the talk and has lived 'the Marist Principles' in all of his actions, both professionally and within his communities."

The cup is named after Old Boy "legend" Felix Kane. Felix had a life-long involvement with the association, starting in the late 1940s up until his death in 2009.

The cup was presented to Mr Tully by the 2016 winner, Sir Patrick Mahony.



Above: Winner Gerard Tully with the Felix Kane Cup and citation.

## TWO NEW MPs

St Pat's now has three Old Boys in Parliament following general election victories for Paul Eagle (Rongotai) and Greg O'Connor (Ohariu), both representing Labour.

On September 23 Wellington Deputy Mayor Paul Eagle won the safe Labour Rongotai seat, vacated by retiring long-term MP Annette King.

Standing against him for National was high-placed list MP and Cabinet Minister Hon Chris Finlayson, potentially creating history by both major party candidates being St Pat's Old Boys.



Newly-elected MPs Paul Eagle, left, and Greg O'Connor at the Old Boys Association dinner in October. It was the same evening New Zealand First leader Winston Peters announced his decision to form a coalition government with Labour, resulting in Prime Minister and Silverstream Old Boy Bill English becoming Leader of the Opposition.

# Nos Habebit Humus

Old Boy Tim Reynolds (1965-69), who now lives in Australia, has been searching out and photographing the graves of former All Blacks schooled at St Pat's Town. Here he explains his motivation.

There are supposedly two certainties in life: Death and taxes.

I have my doubts about the latter, which applies definitely to those lower down the financial tree but as you ascend to the heights the likelihood of you paying taxes diminishes, to the point where billionaires and major corporations would consider it a sackable offence for their accountants if they had to pay any tax.

But death is the great leveler.

Be you president or pauper, the Grim Reaper will call for you at some stage, and that's when I get interested!

My preoccupation with photographing famous graves seems to have morphed from an earlier hobby of collecting autographs, and the realisation that people who could avoid you when you lingered in a hotel foyer or at an airport cannot do so when they are in a cemetery. One of the earliest graves which grabbed my imagination was that of Jules Verne in Amiens Cemetery.

Probably the most intriguing grave I have photographed, but there have been many others which I have found fascinating for different reasons.

I have tried to organize my obsession into projects, such as the first New Zealand rugby team (1884), New Zealand Prime Ministers, Olympic gold medalists, police officers killed on duty, and so on.

The fun is divided into doing the research to find out where people are buried, then getting to the cemetery, finding the grave, and living the moment that the person you have been hunting is there at your feet.

One such occasion was in tracking down New Zealand's first Prime Minister, Henry Sewell. Like many who followed him he was an Englishman, and after his time in the New Zealand sun he retired to his homeland and died.



The grave of Maurice Brownlie, Taruheru Cemetery, Gisborne.



Patrick McEvedy's grave in Karori Cemetery.

I knew he was buried in Cambridgeshire but had no idea where. Out of the blue I got a message from a man in England who some years before had done a tour of the cemetery concerned and photographed the graves for the local historical association.

When I was in Britain in 2015 I met this chap and he led me to Sewell's grave. I would never have found it otherwise.

I felt a similar delight when I located the grave of the captain of New Zealand's first rugby team, William Millton. The team was not representative of the whole of New Zealand but is still recognized as being the first. They toured Australia and set a trend for the future in winning all their games.

Quite a man was Millton - New Zealand's first rugby captain, a Canterbury cricket rep who played against the touring Australians in 1886, a hero in a shipwreck in 1878, and dead from typhoid, aged 29.

And in all my chasing around the world I have not forgotten my old school.

Of the Old Boys who have played international rugby for New Zealand, Australia and the British Isles, I have only a few in Australia to finish this project, but one special grave right there in Wellington is that of Patrick McEvedy.

With another St Pat's Old Boy, Arthur O'Brien, he went to England to study medicine at Guy's Hospital, only for both of them to return to New Zealand as members of the 1904 British touring party.

McEvedy went one better and also toured with the 1908 Anglo/Welsh team. He, of course, went on to other things, becoming the president of the NZRFU in 1934 and presenting the McEvedy Shield for inter-school athletics.

Other Old Boys who have fallen prey to my camera include the great Maurice Brownlie, captain for the 1928 tour of South Africa

and still remembered as one of the first magnificent All Black forwards.

He was only six foot tall, which is laughable by modern standards, but his play belied his size. And the man who broke the St Pat's drought of All Blacks, which lasted from Brian Finlay's brief appearance in 1959 through till he became an All Black in 2001.

Jerry Collins was worth the wait and there were many international opponents like Sebastian Chabal who regretted that the drought didn't last a little longer.

I just hope that before I slip this mortal coil there are more living St Pat's All Blacks to celebrate rather than only dead ones.



The headstone at Whenua Tapu Cemetery for Jerry Collins and partner Alana Madill.



*Top left: Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Xavier English (above), Student Representative to the Board of Trustees. Grace was said by Cardinal John Dew, speeches were given by Rector Neal Swindells and Board of Proprietors Chair Justice Denis Clifford and Mick Robbers conducted the live auction. Top right: The Poly Club entertains guests at the Benefit Dinner. Below: Yohannes Abraham . . . looking forward to his future as an African New Zealander.*

## Student shares his journey from Ethiopia

**Year 12 student Yohannes Abraham bravely stepped up to the lectern to share this, his personal story, at the Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction in June.**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

My name is Yohannes Abraham.

I'm a Year 11 student at St Patrick's College and this year it was found I have dyslexia, so please excuse me if I have any difficulty.

I want to tell you about my journey from growing up in Ethiopia to coming to New Zealand four years ago.

In Ethiopia I lived with my grandparents from the time I was born. My grandmother was blind and they had limited money to raise my four siblings and I. I never knew my parents. No one has ever explained how they died - and I still do not know - to this day.

I grew up being called an orphan and getting discriminated against. Until I was seven years old, I believed my grandfather was my actual father.

I often asked my extended family about my parents. I would love to have heard stories about them. I know my father was a teacher. He taught Physics, Chemistry and Biology at secondary school. Apparently he was very tough and a very good teacher.

I know my mother was loved in the community and her family were known as peacemakers.

My Aunt was living in New Zealand and had been trying to arrange for my four siblings and I to come here and live with her since I was two years old. I was 13 when I left Ethiopia.

It took three whole days of flying to come to New Zealand - with no sleep the whole time. I was the only one who ate anything. I screamed at the toilet flush on the plane. I was so surprised by the noise and convinced I had done something wrong. It was a scary experience.

Wellington was nothing like I expected. I was expecting big buildings and skyscrapers everywhere. Over the next few months I learnt my way around a little, although the only English I knew was "hi," "hello", "excuse me", "sorry" and "toilet". My first language is called "Amharic".

Two months after arriving here, I started St Patrick's College with my brother Yarid. I was excited and not scared at all. In my first couple of years school was really difficult. I didn't speak the language and I couldn't keep up with my studies. I got "Not Achieved" in every single subject.

I'm now in my fourth year here and things have got better. I have had a lot of help from many people at this school and I am very grateful. Last year one of my teachers got me tested and discovered I was dyslexic.

I now get a Reader/Writer for all my subjects and my grades have improved a lot. I am much more confident in class now. I also have Teacher Aides in many of my classes and they really help me with all my work, especially my writing.

Since being at school, I have also been given a Kiely Scholarship. This helps me and my family pay for school fees and my uniform. It's really a big help.

Now, I am looking ahead to my future. I am trying to be a good student, a good brother and a good friend. I have a part-time job as a Baker's Assistant at New World which I really enjoy and I'm learning new things.

In the future I want to be a Real Estate Agent. I like deals, moving around and not sitting in an office and I'm good at convincing people.

I am happy in New Zealand but I am a proud Ethiopian. I like it here because people don't judge others and people are helpful. I still have a sister in Ethiopia and my grandmother too - so I'm keen to go back at some stage to visit them.

I am an African at heart - but I am looking forward to my future as an African New Zealander.



## Distinguished Old Boy Judge mourned

Retired **Judge Bruce Alan Palmer** passed away in his Christchurch home, at the age of 81, on April 3 this year.

While at St Pat's, both Bruce (1949-1953) and his older brother Malcolm (1947-1951) enjoyed an incredible run of sporting success. Bruce played for the First XV for three years, captaining the team in 1953. As a runner, he set a new College mile record, and in 1952, won the senior mile and broke the Secondary Schools Intermediate 880 yards record as part of the winning McEvedy Shield team. He won the Raymond Powers Cup in senior swimming in 1953 and set an open backstroke record.

After college, Bruce concentrated on his legal career, rising to the post of acting Solicitor General for Fiji in 1967. He later became a much valued criminal/family law solicitor for Wellington legal firm Bell-Gully and Co, before becoming a Christchurch



*Judge Bruce Palmer on the occasion of his daughter Emily's admission to the Bar.*

District Court magistrate in 1975. He moved to the Family Court in 1981, and, in 1987, was appointed a judge of the newly created Labour Court.

Following the transformation of that Court into the Employment Court in 1991, Bruce

was reappointed as its sole judge in the South Island.

When he retired in 2003, after 28 years of service, he was the longest serving judge in the country, and in recognition of this, made a Companion of the Queen's Service Order for Public Services (QSO) in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

After his retirement, Bruce offered extended legal assistance to the Catholic Church, for which he proudly received the Papal Cross in 2012.

Bruce was the husband of 56 years to Gillian Palmer and father of eight. He was much loved by his family, enjoyed a highly successful legal career, and was a devoted servant to the Catholic Church and the greater community. His warmth, integrity, intelligence and wit will be greatly missed by his family, friends, colleagues and fellow Old Boys of the College.

## Called to the Priesthood at 6

St Pat's Old Boy and Wellington Archdiocesan Priest **Fr Dr Michael Anderson** died in July at the age of 86. Eighty years ago he was called to the priesthood at a Sunday Benediction in Marton when he was just six. From that day on he went to Mass or made a visit after school. He was a Marist boy, educated at Palmerston North and then St Pat's Town from 1946 to 1948.

After a year studying at Mosgiel he was sent to Rome for further studies where he spent eight years at the Pontifical Urban University.

He was ordained a priest on December 7, 1954, and went on to receive a Doctorate in Canon Law and a Licentiate in Moral Theology. His years in Rome were particularly happy ones with students from all parts of the globe.

While in Italy Fr Michael met Saint Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo on two occasions and spoke with him. He also had a private audience with Pope Pius XII. On a later visit to Rome, he offered Mass with Pope John Paul II in his private chapel.

Fr Michael was the New Zealand Secretary at the Papal Nunciature in Wellington for 16 years, while still running his parish. He served God in parishes at Hataitai (1974-1976), Khandallah (1976-1980) and Waiwhetu in Lower Hutt (1980-1988).

Father Michael loved his priesthood. He retired for health reasons but being so steeped in Latin had been offering the traditional Latin Mass at his home in Lower Hutt. He died peacefully at St Joseph's Home of Compassion in Upper Hutt on July 25.



*Fr Dr Michael Anderson*

## A life dedicated to others

A life dedicated to the church and community was honoured at the funeral of Old Boy **Patrick Francis Walsh** (1941-1945) who died last year on 6 March in Oamaru, at age 87.

At college he was a keen swimmer and played tennis but his true passion was rugby.

In the fourth form he made the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV and the 1<sup>st</sup> XV two years later. After he left school he played some games for Wellington.

Patrick was a Prefect, Dux (1945) and won a university scholarship.

At school he developed his skills as an orator and won interschool speech competitions.

He began studying for a BA and was offered the opportunity to work in a law office.

But his growing sense of social justice clashed with what law firms charged their clients so he walked away from that career. Knowing he had been given much and that much was expected, he devoted his life and work to the service of the disadvantaged.

His next move was to train as a teacher, working in Wellington and later Invercargill before finding his true vocation in social work for 30 years.

Levin was his first posting, followed by the poorest of neighbourhoods of Auckland and then Rotorua and Taumarunui and Campbell Park School (inland from Oamaru) for boys. He taught himself Te Reo so he could speak to Maori students in their own language.

He appreciated that many former Campbell Park students later tracked him down to say how grateful they were for his guidance.

In retirement he continued to be focused on others, including his church work. He also travelled overseas, including Lourdes in France and Medjugorje.

His first wife, Eileen Cairns, died in 1990. He later married Mary Cullen, niece of two Marist Cullen priests.

It was through a 50-year reunion of the St Pat's Town 1945 1<sup>st</sup> XV that Mary and Patrick met. Patrick attended the reunion as a former team member and Mary was among the reunion organisers. They married several years later.



## Home Guard Trophy returns home

A trophy for military training last presented to boys at the college in 1965 has been returned by its holder, prompted by media stories in June about children at rural schools being taught how to handle guns. Paul Prendergast has held the Home Guard Trophy since its last presentation to him as Sergeant of the winning No 5 Platoon in 1965.

The brass trophy, about 40cm high, was made from a former shell case. Its engraving says the Home Guard Trophy was presented for inter-platoon competition. It was first presented in 1942 to the Army Cadets No 5 Platoon.

The 1943 *Patrician* includes a photo of the presentation of the Home Guard Trophy by Colonel Foster to the Air Training Corps' Flight-Sergeant M Webberley.

However no further winners were engraved on the trophy until 1957 when the Sea Cadets won it.

It was then presented annually with winners ATC's A Flight, B Flight, the band and No 1 Platoon until 1965 when No 5 Platoon won it again.

Paul enrolled at St Pat's in 1963 at a time when all third formers had to join school cadets. However, he says, in the fourth form they could choose to leave the Army Cadets and join the Sea Cadets or the Air Training Corps (ATC). It was the era of the Vietnam War and adult men were still being called up for compulsory military training which was later scrapped by the 1972-75 Kirk Labour Government.

At St Pat's students learned how to march and were given training in assembling and dismantling rifles and safe loading and unloading of ammunition. From the New Zealand Army the college had obtained about 150 British Army World War I .303 rifles that had been made inoperable for training purposes. The boys learned how to assemble and dismantle the rifles and practise shooting with fake bullets.

Paul says hundreds of operable .303 rifles were sold in sports shops after the war. Some of the boys were taken to an underground 25 yard firing range in Buckle Street where they were allowed to shoot with .22 rifles under strict Army supervision.

The college also had six operable World War II Bren guns (light machine guns) that used .303 ammunition. Boys were shown how they worked but not allowed to fire them. The college stored its weapons in the armoury in the basement under the north-east corner of the Cambridge Terrace building.

Some students were selected to attend school holiday camps run by the Army at Linton or Papakura which could become stepping stones to a military career.

In the 1960s many colleges gave up cadet units. In 1966 St Pat's abandoned its compulsory cadet unit for a variety of reasons. *The Patrician* said the army unit and air training unit ceased during that year but the navy group continued for a time, with the school band joining it.

Paul says publicity about gun safety being taught in schools reminded him to contact the college to offer the trophy back. It will be added to the College archive collection.



Paul Prendergast with the Home Guard Trophy now in the college archives.

## CALLING ALL 1954 3<sup>RD</sup> FORMERS

If you started in the third form at St Pat's in 1954, a reunion is being organised for you next March.

Old Boys Jim Murtha and Simon Taylor are organising the event in Wellington likely to be held on **March 16-17, 2018**. Some Old Boys have been contacted but others are asked to email Jim at [murthajp@gmail.com](mailto:murthajp@gmail.com) or phone him on 027 246 8333.

## NEW DATES

Our postponed 1959-1964 Class Years Reunion will be held from **Friday to Sunday, October 26-28, 2018** (the weekend after Labour Weekend) at the college. Please register your interest with [development@stpats.school.nz](mailto:development@stpats.school.nz)

Next year's Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction will be on **Saturday, June 30**.

## EMAIL CHANGES

Some of you will be changing emails as a result of Vodafone's withdrawal from email services. Please send any updates to [Rosemary.McLennan@stpats.school.nz](mailto:Rosemary.McLennan@stpats.school.nz)

We also welcome email and phone contact details from all of you for our database. They are particularly helpful if you move house and your Cornerstone is returned to us.

## In Memoriam



We remember in our prayers Old Boys who have passed away:

ANDERSEN, Christopher Kaj 1959-1963

ANDERSON, Fr Dr Michael 1946-1948, Priest of the Wellington Archdiocese

CHRISTENHUSZ, Robert Gerard 1970-1973

COSTA, Robert Anthony (Bob) 1964-1967

DOWNEY, Garth John 1943-1945

DRUMMOND, Vivyan Peter 1940-1942

GREALLY, Daniel Gerard 1954-1957

HOLLIER, Peter John Gerard 1945-1946

HOWARD, Brian Everill 1940-1941

HINDMARSH, David Thomas 1961-1963

KEPPEL, John William 1957-1959

KALOLO-APOLINARIO, Danziel Nehru Davy Lewis 2006-2008

McKONE, Michael Joseph 1948-1949

MORLEY, Stephen Christopher 1965-1969

RAMSBOTTOM, Peter Kieran 1983-1987

SCOTT, John David 1944-1948

SHIVNAN, John Neville 1953-1956

SIMON, Derek Maxwell 1948-1953

SPILLER, Robert John (Rob) 1978-1981

STEVENSON-WRIGHT, Christopher Earl 1961-1964

STROTHER, Peter Montague 1946-1949

SZYMCZYCHA, Rudolf (Rudolph) 1948-1950

WALSH, Patrick Frances 1941-1945

WHELAN, Thomas (Tom) Aquinas 1967-1969

**Research done for the 1955-58 reunion in 2016 revealed the following Old Boys have also passed away:**

PRITCHARD, Neville William 1956-1958

RADFORD, Bernard Francis 1958-1959

RAFTER, Kenneth Raynold 1955-1959

READ, Ian Harold 1956-1959

REARDON, Michael John 1957-1959

RIKA, Michael Pakeho 1958-1959

ROBINSON, Terence Carnegie 1956-1957

ROUSE, Raymond Arnos 1956-1958

SAFFIOTI, Salvatore Santo 1958-1959

SCOTT, Paul Trevor 1957-1960

SERCI, Robert Bartolomeo 1957

SINNOTT, Timothy Francis 1957-1959

STAVELEY, Gavin Lester 1958-1960

STEPTOE, Michael Joseph 1957-1959

SWAN, Christopher Allan 1958-1961

SZARECKI, Stanislaw 1956-1959

TARRANT, Michael Dennis 1957

TAYLOR, Paul Michael 1958

THOMAS, Allan Sydney 1956-1957

TINDILL, Dennis 1957-1961

TROTT, William James 1956-1957

VRSAJKO Ivan Ante 1956-1958

WATTERSON Malcolm Kenneth 1955-1960

WILKINS, Brian Barry 1955-1957

WRIGHT, Bernard John 1956-1960

## His story goes behind him with no stain upon its page

by Tim Donoghue

It was a time to spare a thought for Fr Norm Scambary SM, the coach who gave many of us our happiest college rugby memories from half a century ago.

Aussie bush poet John O'Brien obviously had "King Normie and the Playboys" in mind when in 1921 he wrote:

"His story goes behind him with no stain upon its page ....

"And with him goes the little band that sailed in sixty."

Fifty years after the 1967 St Patrick's College, Cambridge Terrace First XV last played together a sense of fun permeated a memorable golden anniversary weekend of reunion celebrations in August 2017.

Once again, as he always did, "King Normie" had the final word in the team talk to his former players and their wives.

The message this time from the late coach took a day or two to deliver however. It came via a letter he wrote 30 years ago to reunion co-organiser Brian McGuinness.

The former lock forward in the team read extracts from the letter to the 50 people who attended the reunion dinner on the night of Saturday, August 18.

Fr Norm wrote in part:

"I have a photo of the 1967 First XV in front of me and recall how difficult it was to motivate some of that group of colourful performers to keep fit.

"A common word in (lock forward) Tom Pivac's vocabulary is periphery because he was so reluctant to run around it to warm up . . . and so many preferred car rides to running back to college."

By way of background we trained at Macalister Park and were under instructions from Fr Norm to run to and from the college to the Berhampore ground before and after training.

We were also often instructed to run round "the periphery" of our training ground during practices.

Helping Fr Norm out with support and coaching duties in 1967 were former All Black rugby supremo Jack Sullivan (father of our captain John Sullivan) and my father Paul Donoghue.



Team members present, from left: Phil Grigg, Tom Montague, Glen Johnstone, Brian McGuinness, Tim Donoghue, Michael Moore, Pat Lumber, Greg Cameron, John Sullivan (captain), Richard Orgias, Clive Brugh, Steve Hutchison, John Gray, Mike McKenzie, Paul Reid, Tom Beaton. Inset: Bernie Hill, Tom Pivac and Kevin Southee



Both these men shared the captaincy of the 2NZEF rugby team during World War II at varying times between their injuries and war wounds.

With the backing of Fr Norm, management and key parental support teams there was an inevitability rugby would become a life-long common bond for us.

It was no surprise then that the collective sense of humour surrounding 1967 games won and lost was very much in evidence at the reunion.

In his highly entertaining speech our half-back Kevin (Jockey) Southee focused on the fact we were all once roosters, drinking milk and crowing in the "covered way" of the old college.

Now we had found ourselves in varying stages of moult, subjected to the sometimes not so tender hands of medical practitioners, awaiting transformation to feather duster status.

As an aside there was also mention of the fact that in 1967 the team beat Wellington College 9-8 on Athletic Park in the first ever live rugby telecast match in New Zealand.

Following the celebrations we once again went our parted ways on a night of wind and rain.

We realised how fortunate we all were to have had an understanding, jockey-sized coach with a giant heart, whose interest in the game was great and whose pride in his players never diminished.

Fr Barry Scannell SM assisted MC John Gray preside over proceedings during the reunion.

The team's loyal band of supporters was recognised via an entertaining speech from "The Chaser" John Hewitt at the Saturday night dinner.

Contributing also to the priceless attributes of loyalty and humour gifted each other over the years were speeches from co-organiser Paul Reid and our prop forwards Tom Montague and Pat Lumber.

Thanks go to Brian McGuinness and Paul Reid for their capable organisation and - once again in the words of John O'Brien - "letting the doves of fancy loose to bill and coo again".

The weekend included a visit to the college at Evans Bay where we were hosted by Rector Neal Swindells.

Already McGuinness and Reid have arrangements in hand for the next reunion in 2027.

Team members present at the reunion were: Glen Johnstone, Brian McGuinness, Tom Pivac, John Gray, Mike McKenzie, Greg Cameron, Pat Lumber, John Sullivan, Bernie Hill, Phil Grigg, Kevin Southee, Tom Beaton, Mike Moore, Tom Montague, Paul Reid, Dick Orgias, Steve Hutchison and Tim Donoghue.

The late Michael Rowberry was represented by his sister Hazel Dunlop.

Among the group of loyal supporters present were Larry Mahoney, Paul Prendergast, John Hewitt, Leo Brett Kelly, Paul Gini, Kit Nixon, Clive Brugh, Nick Theobald, John Delany, Charles Purcell, Myles Wareham, John Ogier, Ross Armstrong, Michael McDonald and Dougal Dunlop.



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