



Otago Boys' High School Foundation Newsletter



August 2015



Dear Foundation members,

My first six months have simply flown by. The 'busyness' of a secondary school, coupled with being my first principal ship, means that we hardly get time to stop and think.

The success of our students continues to humble us. Our 1st XV have gone undefeated again in interschool matches, racking up 261 points for to 28 against. Our 1st XI Hockey team is off to Rankin Cup as is our 1st XI Football to the top national tournament.

In the classroom, over 62% of senior students remain 'centurions'. They have passed 100% of their internal assessments. Johnny Mottershead, a top mathematician scored 100% in a recent University of Canterbury engineering exam. I recommend you follow us on Facebook to see the sheer amount of student success.

Definitely our success relies on staff and community support. The tennis courts are a fine example of that. I am especially grateful to old boys (one from 1968) who pitched in to help recently. That kind of spirit is invaluable. Significantly some of the pledges that were made to the Foundation have stopped. I can only speculate as to why, but I believe with a new energy and vigour in the school, it is time for these pledges to be restarted. I would hope that any outstanding pledges could be tidied up. I do not mean to cause offence, but the issues of the past are being addressed, and the purpose of the Foundation is still as relevant today as ever. Therefore the donations are the life-blood of the Foundation, it simply does not have the means to fulfil its purpose. I look forward to the next six months, leading, learning and providing opportunities for this fine school.

Richard Hall
Rector

SCHOOL SONG

Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ahead
When others shall be singing here where once our
voices led
Shall memory rise and call to mind the days that
long have sped
As the years go rolling by.

CHORUS

All together raise the chorus
Here in youth with life before us
Still, when years are passing oer us
"Follow up, Otago High"

Descant

Glory, Glory Hallelujah
Glory, Glory Hallelujah
Glory, Glory Hallelu,
Follow up, Otago High

Deserted are the walls where once our fathers in
their day
Began the goodly record in their work and in their
play
And ours the task to add to it beneath the turrets
grey
As the years go rolling by.

CHORUS

She gave you of her greatness, of her bounties full
and free
So guard her fame, revere her name, wherever
you may be
Past sons, present sons and future sons to be
As the years go rolling by.

CHORUS



Tennis Courts Progress Report

I must firstly thank Martin Dippie for his drive and organisation of much of the work to date - without him it would not be this far along.

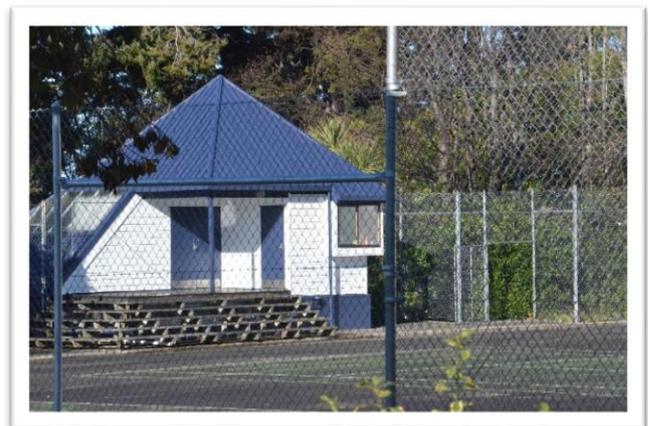
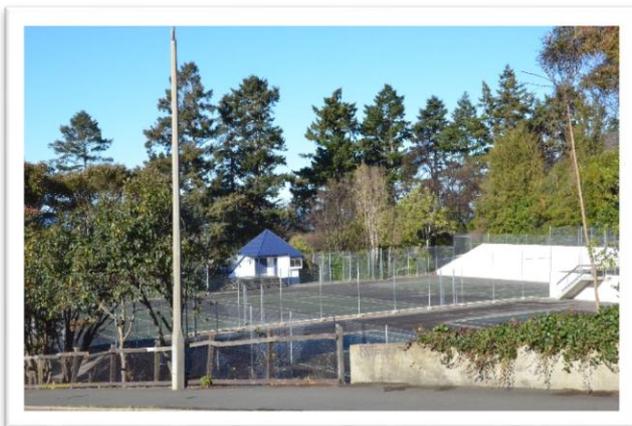
The walls have been painted with a two stage paint to protect the surface from damage. The graffiti has been removed, the steps on the lower level have gone (as this would have been a hazard for boys playing). The fences have all come down and the trees and foliage on the Stuart Street side have been attacked.

I must thank: Steve Mowatt Builders, Resene paints, Nicol's Garden Centre and Programme Maintenance Services for the work to date. It is making a significant difference.

The turf has arrived, the weather though has probably beaten us and I have got the turf company (Superturf), to store it until October. Realistically it is all about the glue, if we get a good dry surface to glue the carpet on with, then it will last, so October seems our best bet. Until then the boys will still be able to use the current surface.

On Sunday 26 July we held a working bee to address the fencing, extra foliage trimming and the pavilion which needed a 'birthday'. The turnout was fantastic with about 40 people donning gumboots, and getting stuck in. It was a great day and the weather played its part with what was one of Dunedin's warmest days in weeks.

Again thank you for your generous support - it is going to be a success and I couldn't be more pleased.





Report from Greg Easton (1990-1994) Chairperson of the Foundation Board

This month marks the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Foundation. The last ten years has seen many memorable events, locally the Christchurch earthquakes dominate, while internationally financial crises and militant groups have led the headlines. Old boys have excelled on the worlds' biggest sporting stages, to name but a few: Sir Russell Coutts won and defended the America's Cup again, Richie McCaw raised the Webb Ellis trophy and Hamish Bond won gold at the 2012 London Olympics. Prize for the best second place definitely goes to Mike Hesson for coaching the Blackcaps through to the final of the Cricket World Cup in March. We also saw things happen that many had resigned themselves to never seeing, Otago won the Ranfurly Shield and the Highlanders won the Super Rugby championship.

Over those ten years the Foundation has facilitated almost \$60,000 in scholarships for students, both those beginning their high school career and those in tertiary study. The Foundation has also funded several Professional Development scholarships for staff, totalling over \$40,000. In more recent years the Foundation has funded projects to the tune of over \$340,000 including the school's history written to commemorate the school's 150th, the renovation of the tennis courts and a new school van.

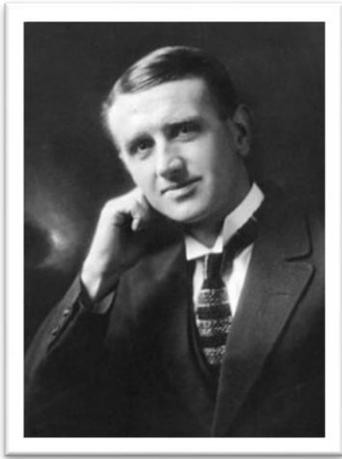
We have shaped the Foundation into a sustainable organisation that will benefit the school over the long term. As always we would like to help more and at the end of the day it comes down to one thing – money. We do not expect to be able to raise enough to cover the school's wishlist. The reality is that money we do manage to pass on to the school means something within the school doesn't receive less funding. To make a real difference we need more, so we continually ask.

There have been many people involved with the Foundation since inception and I thank them all. All the donors, the trustees, staff and volunteers. The work continues and I look forward to the next ten years, may they be as memorable as the last ten.

New School Van Purchase

Whilst boys and staff rested up for the second week of the July holidays, the school welcomed the newest member of its community, in the form of a new van. Thanks to the tremendous effort of the School Fair in March, fundraising efforts from the OBHS Foundation Golf Tournaments during 2014/15 and other fundraising events, the brand new Toyota Hiace is ready for what it was designed for. Reclining business class seats included, it is sure to transport many boys on the many great adventures and opportunities around the country.





Alexander Aitken – The Human Computer Old Boy (1908-1912)

Alexander Aitken was the greatest mathematician of his era and possessed an astonishing computational brain that could complete challenges that today are reserved for the most complex computers. As one of the most remarkable mathematical brains of all time, Aitken could recite Pi to 707 decimal places, multiply two nine digit numbers in his head in 30 seconds, and render fractions to 26 decimal places in under five seconds. Aitken's phenomenal skill in mental arithmetic made him the greatest mental calculator for whom there is any reliable record. In psychological tests in Britain in the 1920s he took thirty seconds to multiply 987,654,321 by 123,456,789 and produce the correct answer: 121,932,631,112,635,269. Asked to render the fraction $4/47$ as a decimal, he waited four seconds and answered: "Point 08510638297872340425531914 – and that's as far as I can carry it." Aitken's mathematical work was in statistics, numerical analysis and algebra. In numerical analysis he introduced the idea of accelerating the convergence of a numerical method. He also introduced a method of progressive linear interpolation. In algebra he made contributions to the theory of determinants.

His main mathematical interests were in Actuarial Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Numerical Methods and Statistics. Econometricians have benefited especially from his applications of matrix algebra to problems in numerical analysis, as well as his statistical contributions to the theory of linear models. Dr. David Giles, currently teaching in the Department of Economics at University of Victoria (Canada) writes that, "Every student of Econometrics must be indebted to Alexander Aitken". Econometricians also use the Generalised Least Squares ("Aitken") estimator when this model has a non-standard error covariance matrix.

Aitken was born in Dunedin, New Zealand on 1 April, 1895, and attended Otago Boys' High School from 1908 to 1912. He was not a child prodigy: arithmetic bored him and he did badly in it at school until he was nearly 14 years old. Then he experienced some sort of numeric epiphany, during a mathematical lesson by a good teacher at Otago Boys. After that, the whole subject came into focus and he became absorbed by figures.

Aitken writes: "Only at the age of 15 did I feel that I might develop a real power and for some years about that time, without telling anyone, I practised mental calculation from memory like a Brahmin Yogi, a little extra here, a little extra there, until gradually what had been difficult at first became easier and easier."

He had the distinction of gaining first place in the nationwide University Scholarship Examination of 1912. He then studied at the University of Otago in 1913, 1914, and 1918, but his studies were cut short by active service during the First World War. He enlisted in 1915 and left New Zealand with the Sixth Reinforcements and served with the Otago Infantry. He served in the Gallipoli landing, Egypt, and in France where he was wounded in the Battle of the Somme in France. After three months in hospital he was sent back to New Zealand in 1917. His wartime experiences were to haunt him for the rest of his life. During the war he astounded his fellow soldiers by his ability to memorise, amongst other things, the numbers on their rifles. While serving in the Otago Company at Armentieres, the platoon book was destroyed. Aitken recited the names and numbers of all members of his platoon.

Following his return to New Zealand and recovery, he achieved, in 1918, First Class Honours in Latin and French and (remarkably) Second Class Honours in Mathematics. Aitken followed his original intention and became a school teacher at his old school, Otago Boys' High School. His mathematical genius bubbled under the surface and, encouraged by the new professor of mathematics at Otago University, Aitken gained a post-graduate scholarship which took him to Edinburgh University, Scotland in 1923. He studied for a Ph.D. at Edinburgh under Sir E T Whittaker, one of the most distinguished of British mathematicians. Aitken's Ph.D. thesis on the smoothing of data was considered so outstanding that he was awarded a D.Sc. In 1925 he was appointed to

Edinburgh where he spent the rest of his life. His initial position was Lecturer in Statistics and Mathematical Economics. After encounters with mechanical calculating machines that made his extraordinary mental powers unnecessary, Aitken's interests matured. At 28 he was at the peak of his calculating abilities, but from lightening fast calculations his focus began to shift to the theoretical. He became a Reader in Statistics in 1936, the year he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Ten years later, in 1946, at the age of 51, he was appointed to Whittaker's chair in Mathematics. Aitken is without a doubt a hero on the edge, but his advantage was not just metaphorical – at Edinburgh he was mentor to a number of renowned mathematicians including one of the Twentieth Century's leading geometers, one William Leonard Edge.

Appointed Fellow of the Royal Society in 1936, Aitken won the Royal Society of Edinburgh's prestigious Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize in 1953 for original work in Physical Mathematics, as well as honorary degrees from the University of Edinburgh and the (then) University of New Zealand.

The root of Aitken's genius was also his curse. Aitken's memories of the war did not fade and his horrific recollections of the battle of the Somme lived with him as real as the day he experienced them. He wrote of them near the end of his life, aged 68 in "Gallipoli to the Somme". It is believed these hauntings contributed to the ill health he suffered, and eventually led to his death in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 3 November, 1967, aged 72. He was a man whose world was filled by numbers. For such a rare person, whose extraordinary mind and memory was predicated on an ability to elucidate numeric progressions.

The annual student award given by the New Zealand Mathematics Society, the 'Aitken Prize' is named in Alexander Aitken's honour, and in 1995, at Otago University, a conference was held in his honour, to commemorate the centenary of his birth. Alexander Aitken is remembered as a warm and gentle man, and a brilliant lecturer.

Space Camp 2016

The aim of the project is to take a group of up to 15 Otago Boys' High School students, ranging from years 11 to 13, to America in 2016 to undertake basic astronaut training and learn about the NASA Space programmes.

The space camp is the ultimate school trip where students could get their hands-on experience in astronaut training and many other activities. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided throughout the trip. The housing is known as the "Habitat" and is well organized, safe and has an excellent sick bay. Students will be taking on a wide range of activities such as rocket making, scuba diving, performing shuttle missions and experience the zero-gravity environment, to name a few.



This is a once in a life time adventure that is incredibly beneficial to student's knowledge of space science. Additionally, it motivates students to pursue their academic careers. Students will attend a week long programme beginning on 11 April 2016, students choose either the Pilot Track or Mission Specialist Track. Students will also have the chance to visit Disney World with the Youth Education Programme, they are also lucky enough to visit the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral. The students are continually holding fundraising events including sausage sizzles, selling of cheese rolls, scratchie boards and more events are planned in the coming months.

Old Boys' Society

Thanks to those old boys who attended the event held on Friday 15th May to welcome our new rector. Richard spoke about his ideas on how to run a boys school in the 21st century and has been making changes in his first few months to great effect. His focus remains for all boys on high academic achievement alongside participation in cultural and sporting activities. It was a shame more people were not there to hear Richard's presentation and to mingle with old school colleagues - this is the purpose of running Old Boys' events.

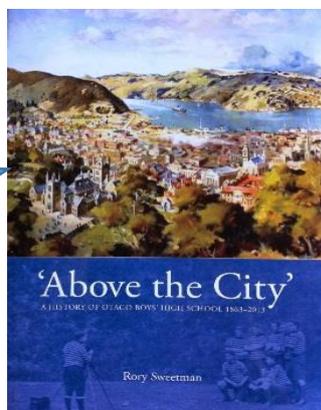
Readers will recall I wrote about the anticipated growth in our school role over the next few years (currently 780, capacity around 900). OBHS continues to deliver a high quality teaching and student care programme which will be the key driver. That and the ongoing support of our community, stakeholders and especially the strength of our Old Boys network. The number of high school aged kids in Dunedin is down by around 500 (a demographic bubble if you will) which accounts for the drop in roles at other schools. The seemingly overzealous approach by some schools to grab market share at the expense of others does not make sense to me at a time when social responsibility is an important part of any business practice.

It was very sad to hear of the recent passing of Warwick Larkins who was president of the King's High School Old Boys for a number of years. I had struck up a good rapport with Warwick who was a keen ally, particularly around our 150th celebrations. Our thoughts extend to the King's Old Boys and to Warwick's family.

What a joy it was to be involved in the recent working bee held on Sunday 26th July. Around 40 people comprising the rector, a number of parents, old boys, a few teachers and a dozen or so endeavouring young students finished off the clean-up of the grounds at the Stuart Street tennis courts. Our sincere thanks go to Martin Dippie for his generous contribution of a huge number of plants and for the use of the MEGA truck which was used to cart 2 loads of garden waste off to the green waste tip. This was a real life demonstration teamwork at its best. A huge amount of work was achieved by a team of hard working individuals for the greater good of the community. It is still planned to run an expedition of volunteer Old Boys up to Mt Aspiring to tackle some well overdue maintenance and improvements. If you think you can help, then please phone, email or call into the school to let them know.

Keep warm.

Brent Alexander
President
Otago High School Old Boys' Society



Copies of the OBHS book 'Above the City' are available from the school office for \$65.00 + P&P
Also available 150th Commemorative ties for \$25.00



Foundation Teacher Scholarship Recipient 2013, Tony Gabbusch reports on his travels.

The advice that I was given by past recipients was to 'do something that you enjoy that adds to your professional knowledge – travel is good'. With these sage perspectives, I thought for some time. Then I listed ideas and narrowed it down — some fun and some insights through visits to other media educators in different locations. And since I am also interested in technology and theatre which are directly connected to today's digital media, I focused on Italy, France and England. Each of these is influential in the shape of today's media products. Italy has generated the narratives for many of the greatest plays, novels – and therefore, is a root of our movies today. Paris, because of the influence of the Lumieres and Melies on the shape of film and visual entertainment. And England because of the effects of the BBC on our media in New Zealand, and the form of television and movies that closely touch our culture and values in a way that is not the mainstream American format which influences teen media today.

Early in my planning I set up Google classrooms so that my classes would be able to continue with their learning and revision activities in a form that I could monitor from the otherside of the world when my students should have been asleep. This was effective use of the School's investment in IT and the fledgling BYOD programme.

Two days lost in the confines of aircraft began my odyssey.

In Italy, my main location was Milan and the lakes district. Milan has a significant technology base and is located north of Rome. Verona is nearby, and it's traditional tale of Romeo and Juliet, familiar to any Shakespeare fan, or West Side Story, or Warm Bodies, made it a place to see and appreciate. Also the home of Dante, the elaborate decorations in every street and square show the Italian obsession with decorative facades. A planned day trip along the famed Cinque Terra led me in to a two hour conversation with a Bollywood producer. We discussed the art and process of their production line format that is peculiarly Indian. These producers see New Zealand as a very expensive, but exotic setting for their movies in terms of their costs and logistics in comparison to India itself. Peter Jackson makes three movies at a time. Bollywood studios are usually producing seven to ten movies at once. Their aim is volume production rather than 'quality products' – rather like being the MacDonaldis of movie makers!

Milan also led me to see the workings and production schedules of the famed 'La Scala' theatre, which is very unprepossessing from the street, but an intricately polished and organised production facility. Their lighting and design crews are famous for being able to carefully create the illusions for theatre that we expect in today's musical movies. Another day trip, with ostensibly, a food focus – led me to Bergamo. A lively street theatre performance by a professional group showed the need for rehearsals and careful production to create a sophisticated, involving modern performance from people dressed in traditional mourning clothes. They were on their way to perform at a three day wedding and what we saw was the warm up!

Ferrari. Modena. No I didn't buy one; but the museum was captivating as a display of the company's history and hints at future production. The use of lighting, sound and moving images to tell a story without words – and the issues that would cause for visitors from many cultures at the same time, is a tour de force in presentation. Then staying at Lake Garda for cultural immersion – much more my style than Lake Como, which is for the rich and famous- like an upscaled Queenstown, where the aim is to separate visitors from their money as fast as possible. A side trip to Marostica, a city devoted to chess where we saw the site of the annual chess games in the piazza, where the pieces are real people in detailed costumes reinforced Italys fixation with creating the sumptuous as a distraction to the every day problems of most people's lives.

France, where I did get to the Melies museum and cinema to see some of the footage and equipment of the magician who bought us special effects in his 1896 vampire movie The House of The Devil and in the famed Voyage to the Moon. So much of what we create in modern movies can be traced back to the work of the French pioneers. An appointment with a professor in the media department at the Sorbonne was cancelled due to his ill health. Some papers he sent to me as an apology to show that their first year course is at about the standard of our

scholarship students, where the focus is media theory, rather than practice at that level. Practical work develops later in their course work. My original idea of visiting sites associated with the Lumieres was not possible without a long side trip to Lyon. I compensated by doing the touristy things – Eiffel tower, Notre Dame, The Pompidou centre and Musée des Arts et Métiers (the museum of technology) – both industrial and media materials form their displays. This filled in the remaining two days before I travelled to England.

We stayed in Bermodesy on the South Bank of the Thames. Fifteen minutes walk away was Shakespeare's Globe theatre. A visit was obligatory. Links to Verona – Shakespeare was a borrower, like all media creators. As famous as the (rebuilt) theatre is, the use of media to help visitors understand it's mechanics and limitations was, like the Ferrari museum, well designed and engrossing. The rest of this day was touristy South Bank investigations.

I contacted the four schools I planned to visit: Acton High School, Hatch End High School, Wanstead High School and Raynes Park High School. Each was a half day visit. The last of the four is the only one of this group that is not a school focused on performing and creative arts. All have dedicated media production suites, with television studios and media editing suites. The expense of these set ups is a reason why some schools do not offer media studies to students. The reception from the staff and students was positive and discussions focused on similarities, differences and how Media studies is recognised as a subject on both sides of the world. There are a huge range of opportunities beyond school for their students; ours have a narrower range of options. That will change in the future, of that I am sure.

I would love to have the studios and equipment of these schools, but will need to grow the subject further to build a sound case for this type of investment by our school. We have gone some of the way, with a dedicated editing room and media room. Other schools tend to focus on print media, but this is an area fraught with challenge in today's internet focused world. The need for web design skills to create web page layouts, or software development kits for games and apps may well become integral to media courses in the near future. That is a real challenge for creating courses, and perhaps mandating a specific device in a BYOD environment so that students can succeed in media creation. This is where the digital divide may be an issue that needs careful thought for all subjects, not just media studies.

I also visited Warner Brothers Harry Potter exhibition at Leavesden, Hertfordshire. The insights in to the process of creating this block-busting series will be integrated in to my Year 10 course, where we look at the history of movies. The planning and technology involved are truly jaw dropping. Some elements, such as green screens are already part of some student work. Seeing examples from the professional world will, I hope, assist students to be more effective in their creation of movies.

Again, theatre – The Lion King, which reverses the tradition of theatre becoming a movie in an engaging and powerful manner. Moving actors in relation to the audience and playing with the scale of sets and costumes are used in a similar manner to that of the movie director, but in a more direct and visceral manner. So too does Wicked. The Wizard of Oz companion piece; it creates a credible world for the action, and the audience. The mechanics and lighting of both musicals was definitely for adults, not the children who appreciate the screen versions.

Another two days of travel returned me to Dunedin, richer for the experience and with ideas and knowledge that will percolate in to the work that I do at Otago Boys' High School. Thank you very much for the scholarship, and the freedom to create an itinerary that suited me at this stage of my teaching career.

Interschool Results 2015

OBHS v Waitaki BHS played 22 July 2015

Debating 256.5 to 254 OBHS, Chess 8-0 OBHS, Smallbore Shooting 677 to 709 WBHS
Badminton 4-2 OBHS, Basketball 82-56 OBHS, Hockey 2-1 OBHS, Football 11-0 OBHS
U15 Rugby 74-7 OBHS, 1ST XV Rugby 86-0 OBHS. Overall 8 wins to 1 win to OBHS

OBHS v CBHS played 30 June 2015

Squash 3 nil to OBHS, Badminton 3 all, Golf 4 nil to CBHS, Basketball 85 - 71 to OBHS
Hockey 1 nil to OBHS, Football 2 all, Under 15 Rugby 35 - 10 to CBHS, 2nd XV Rugby 29 - 25 to CBHS
1st XV Rugby 36 - 17 to OBHS.

OBHS v Christ's College played 16 June 2015

Rugby 1st XV win to OBHS 34-7, Rugby 2nd XV win to OBHS 65-5, Basketball - win to OBHS 86 - 80
Debating - win to Christ's College, Hockey - win to Christ's College 5-4, Football - win to OBHS 4-2.
Overall OBHS 4 wins, Christ's College 2 wins.

OBHS v TBHS played 2 June 2015

Junior Basketball 73 - 36 win to OBHS, Junior Football 14 - 2 win to TBHS, Football 1st XI 8 - 1 win to OBHS
Hockey 1st XI 3 - 0 win to OBHS, Under 15 Rugby 60 - 0 win to OBHS, Rugby 1st XV 67 - 0 win to OBHS
Squash 2 - 1 win to OBHS. Overall result OBHS 6 TBHS 1

OBHS vs Southland BHS played 27 May 2015

Badminton, lost 1 – 6, Basketball, won 99 – 57, 1st XV Rugby, drawn 21 – 21, 2nd X Rugby, won 29-0.
1st XI Hockey, lost 0 – 1, 1st XI Football, won 4 – 0, Golf, won 3 – 0, Squash, lost 0 - 3.
Overall - OBHS 4 wins, SBHS 3 wins, 1 draw.

OBHS vs Kings High School played 20 May 2015

Badminton win to OBHS 5 – 1, Squash win to Kings 3 – 0, Senior debating win to Kings
Junior debating win to OBHS, Cross Country senior win to OBHS, Cross Country junior win to Kings
Surfing win to Kings 130 – 44, Golf win to OBHS , Football juniors win to Kings 7 – 0,
Football seniors win to Kings 2 – 0, Chess win to OBHS 35 – 1, Hockey juniors in to OBHS 2 - 1
Hockey seniors win to Kings 3 – 2, Basketball juniors win to OBHS 63 – 59, Basketball Seniors win to OBHS
92-74, Rugby 1st XV win to OBHS 53 – 0, Rugby U15 win to OBHS 53 – 24. Overall result OBHS – 10, Kings – 7

OBHS vs Timaru Boys' High School played 17/18 February

1st XI Cricket win to OBHS by 200 runs, Colts Cricket win to OBHS by an innings and 22 runs, Senior tennis win
to TBHS 12 – 0, Volleyball, drawn 1- 1

OBHS vs Waitaki Boys' High School played 23/24 February

1st XI Cricket win to OBHS by 1 wicket, 2nd XI Cricket win to OBHS, Tennis win to WBHS 4 – 2 in both Senior and
Junior

OBHS vs Christ's College played 3 March

1st Cricket game abandoned due to rain, 2nd Cricket game abandoned due to rain
Golf OBHS won both 4 ball rounds and 7 single matches, win to OBHS 9-1, Tennis 26-2 win to Christ's

OBHS vs Southland Boys' High School played 12 March

Junior Touch 2 – 1 to Southland Boys', seniors 2 -1 to OBHS, Junior Tennis 5 – 1 to Southland Boys',
Seniors 6 – 0 to OBHS, Cricket 1st XI match drawn due to rain. Colts match drawn due to rain.

Renovated technology block

Finally, at the end of term four of 2014, the long wait was over as everything in the Technology Block was packed up and shifted into containers in preparation for the major revamp of the Wood Tech workshop, Metal Tech workshop and Art room. Many weeks had been spent giving input and helping with the redesign so that the teachers in this area could get what they wanted, their ideal teaching space.

After having to overcome some big hurdles which caused delays the wait was finally over and it was difficult to determine who was more desperate, the staff or students, about getting back to normality and doing some practical work again. The fresh paint hardly had time to dry before machines and equipment were moved back in and it was business as usual. It was well worth the wait as the new facilities have lived up to expectation and have become a real asset to the School. The Wood Tech workshop has had a design room added and the machine area has been separated from the general working area which has restricted the dust and noise significantly. New work benches have been added and there seems to be so much more space even though the outside work area and store rooms have yet to be completed.

The Metal Tech workshop has moved to where the Art room use to be and the old garden out the back has made way for a vastly improved grinding bay. A wide new path has been built up the side to make it easier to transport materials up to this workshop and the gas supply and welding bays have also been greatly improved. A lot more storage space has been added as well. With the Art room moving to the front of the block a lot more space has been created and the big windows overlooking the school allows for plenty of extra light. Extra storage space has been created as well as a new photography area. The partitions which were planned to divide the main area into different teaching spaces have as yet to be installed but hopefully they are not too far off.

At the end of term two this year a new CNC Router was bought for the Technology block, with OB's being one of the few schools in the South Island

with such a machine. Staff are busy upskilling and passing their knowledge onto their students. The functions that this machine can perform seem endless and these will be introduced into the different teaching levels in the future. The back corner of the school is a very active and industrious area and the money spent on the revamp will benefit many students and the community for years to come.

Peter Odgers
HOD Technology



Otago Team of the Year

The 2014 1st Basketball team was named 'Otago Team of the Year' at the ASB Otago Sports Awards dinner held at the Edgar Centre in Dunedin during April. The team had won the National Secondary School's title and had three players named in the all-start team at the completion of the tournament. It is the first time Otago Boys' has won the title and it is also the first South Island school to win the title since Nelson College achieved the feat in 2000. Celebrating Otago Boys' High School's NZ secondary schools basketball title win were Matt Dukes, Benoit Hayman, Josh Petermann, Scott Adler, Paden Kennedy, Jamie MacDonald, Hamish Fitchett, Aaron Roydhouse, Liam Aston, Gavin Briggs (coach), Brent Matehaere (manager) and assistant coaches George Robinson and Kim MacDonald.



Otago ITM Cup Team 2015



The Otago team, and the wider training squad for the 2015 season contains quite a number of old boys. Congratulations to them all and best of luck for the season.

Michael Collins, Sio Tomkinson, and Josh Renton have been named in the backs, while Josh Dickson, Joe Latta, Hisa Sasagi, and Craig Miller are in the forwards. In the wider training squad those named are: Josh Casey, Kurt Hammer, Aleki Morris, Sekonaia Pole and Blair Tweed. Hayden Parker has been included but is unlikely to play because of injury. Interestingly three 1st XV captains are in the team from the last four years- Michael Collins-2011 Captain, Josh Renton-2012 Captain, Sio Tomkinson-2014 Captain.

Rodney Eastgate - concert in his honour

The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra are putting on a concert in honour of Old Boy Rodney Eastgate who passed away in 2012. This will be held on Saturday 21 November in the Air Force Museum at Wigram, in Christchurch beginning at 7.30pm with the Pre-Concert Talk at 6.40pm. "Enchanted Nights" will have a pre-concert reception for friends and family of Rodney, if anyone wishes to attend. For more information or to book tickets see <http://www.cso.co.nz/enchantment-2015>



Foundation Members

Remember, pledges do not need to be large lump sum payments – we are very grateful for all contributions, large or small, and in one payment or spread over a period of up to five years, which often makes the donation much easier to handle from the Old Boys' budgeting point of view.

Since our last newsletter, we have received a donation from:

Brian Jackson (1961-64) – Friend

Paul Twemlow (1991-95 – Associate Fellow

John Sanders (1968-72) – Fellow

We are genuinely appreciative of the continued support and belief in the Foundation's objectives shown by those Old Boys who have become Foundation Members. If you wish to find out more about how you can make a pledge or donation please contact the Foundation Office on 03 - 477 2546.

Cheap fuel with OBHS Foundation's fuel card

As fuel prices remain high the OBHS Foundation has an exclusive Fuel Card offer available to all Old Boys, past Staff and their immediate family members. All Foundation card holders receive **5 cents per litre** discount to the national pump price for petrol and diesel. Discounted petrol and diesel can be purchased at all BP, RD Petroleum and most Gasoline Alley retail sites along with Truck Stops.

HOW IT WORKS: If today the national price for a litre of 91 octane is \$2.159 cents, the cost to you would be \$2.109 cents. If on the West Coast 91 is priced at \$2.389 cents per litre - those with Foundation fuel cards will still pay only \$2.109 cents per litre. That's a 28 cpl saving!

This offer is open to all Otago Boys' High School - Old Boys, staff, parents of a student and their immediate family members so please pass this on to anyone you think may well benefit from joining the programme.

CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE AND START SAVING ON ALL YOUR FUEL PURCHASES!

Individual Application – [Click here](#)

Limited Companies Application – [Click here](#)



Save up to 28 cents per litre

On petrol and diesel by using a personalised Foundation RD Petroleum card



In Memoriam



We acknowledge the recent passing of the following Old Boys of the school:

George Herbert Watson (1935) died on 21 May in Christchurch aged 93 years

Charles Desmond Hay (1944) died on 22 May in Upper Moutere

Leslie (Neil) Collings (1938-41) died 23 May in Central Otago aged 90 years

John Cleminson (1955-58) died 26 May in Dunedin aged 70 years

James Bernard Hawkins (1964-65) died 29 May at Dunedin Hospital aged 64 years

Irwin Chalmers Watson (1943-46) died 15 May at home in Edinburgh aged 85 years

Russell Judd Davenport (1957-61) died 30 May at Dunedin Hospital aged 71 years

Peter John Batchelor (1942) died 14 June at Dunedin Hospital aged 90 years

William Arthur Wright died 24 June in Auckland aged 91 years

George Whiffen Goodyear (1937-41) died 28 June at Dunedin Hospital aged 90 years

Ian Robert McKinlay (1956-59) died 4 July in Geraldine

Roy Allen Griffiths (1944) died on 11 July at Ross Home aged 87 years

Grant Thomas McLean (1977-80) died 16 July at the Otago Community Hospice aged 52 years

David Renfrew White (1928-31) died 3 August in Hamilton

Calum MacArthur Hudson (1970-73) died 4 August at the Otago Community Hospice aged 59 years

We will remember them