



Otago Boys' High School Foundation

Newsletter



December 2015

Dear Foundation members,



It is just over 12 months now since my appointment as the 14th Rector of this fine school. As an old-boy (1987-88), I know the value of an Otago Boys' education, as an 'OB's boy' I know the value of the character this school taught me. As a lifelong fan of the blue and white hoops I know the value of comradery this school taught me.

And as someone with a tertiary education and as a lifelong learner I know the value of an academic education, and at our core – that is what we are about – an academic education.

Obviously, our school is a boys' environment with all of the hustle and bustle that that brings. Boys aim to be and need to be busy, give them a platform a stage to perform a goal and a task and let them go. Often, they will flourish. The support this year that the foundation has given to the environment to the school has been invaluable.

I am writing directly in reference to two significant projects; the redevelopment of the tennis courts and the purchase of a new school van. While these may not sound impressive, their impact upon the school and particularly the learning programmes cannot be over-estimated. A van that can safely transport students around the country, open the classroom to the world. A redeveloped facility will ensure students learn and are active in a safe, well-appointed facility.

I would also like to thank the Foundation for their support of our staff, our school at its core is about people, not buildings. While we continue to invest in our teaching staff we continue to invest in our future and our boys deserve the very best teaching staff.

The 2014 scholarship was awarded to Mr Warwick Kain, a physical education teacher with a special talent in Outdoor Education. Warwick puts the time into the school and the boys, for a teacher with young children to do that is very important and the impact of his travel on him and our classrooms will be significant. Warwick plans to travel to Borneo and Brunei from Dec 12 to Jan 19. The idea is to visit several areas, with the focus of looking at the deforestation comparisons between the two countries and the effects. Brunei is oil dependent and its forests are largely untouched and have become an industry themselves. While Borneo is using theirs for palm oil with devastating effects. In the future he would like to take students to these areas for service trips.

As a school our successes this year have been numerous, there have been three overseas trips, to China, America and Australia, with South Africa still to come. Academically our boys continue to excel in a rigorous 'Boys' High' style, we don't do easy credits, we don't fudge statistics and last year more boys at our school achieved a scholarship, the highest academic award in New Zealand, than any other school that teaches boys in Otago.

In culture our students also do very well, our choirs remain successful, our Kapa Haka has grown in strength this year and we were third in regionals. Our Production, 'Rush' was well attended and reviewed, with over 70 boys taking part in various roles. Matariki Pakaua-Inwood was awarded national honours as a member of the New Zealand Youth Choir.

On the courts and fields of New Zealand we have maintained our status as a major player. For a school of just over 780, we punch well above our weight. All of our 1st and junior A teams qualified for the top New Zealand tournaments, we were 4th in 1st XV Rugby, 9th in Basketball, 16th in Football and 12th in Hockey. In each of these we were the top Dunedin school. Our cricket 1st XI have qualified again for the Gillette Cup.

We have seven New Zealand representatives; Josh Buckan, Slade McDowell and Tim Hogan were selected for the New Zealand Secondary School Rugby Team, Mackenzie Faulks represented New Zealand in Touch Rugby, Henry Hodgson was selected as a reserve in Volleyball and Hadley Johnston has been selected to the 2016 NZ U18 National Ice Hockey Team. Not to be outdone Hamish Walker has been selected for the New Zealand U21 Curling team and will travel to Finland, and is a reserve for the Youth Olympics next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy festive season. Thank you for your support during 2015 and we look forward to a successful 2016.

Richard Hall

Appointment of Deputy Rector



My name is Andrew Turner and I have the privilege of being the new Deputy Rector at Otago Boys'. I am excited to be joining a leadership team and staff that is committed to excellence in boys' education. As the new Deputy Rector, I look to uphold and enhance the vision and values of what is one of New Zealand's leading secondary schools.

I have taught for just over 11 years in Tauranga and been involved in a number of leadership roles within the life of the school. I have also been active in co-curricular activities both coaching sport, promoting music and culture. I am a passionate advocate of boys' education; teaching boys is my "mission". I look forward to the challenges Otago Boys' High School will provide and empowering and supporting young people to be the very best they can be in school and in life.

I have a wonderful family. My wife Michelle and I have been blessed with 4 children- Israel (17), Josiah (16), Phoebe (14) and Chloe (13). We are all looking forward to settling here in Dunedin and being part of what is a generous and supportive community.

Old Boys' Society

Once again it has been my privilege as Society president to attend prize giving ceremonies and celebrations around the boys who are leaving school. Our lads continue to do well in all areas - academic, cultural and sporting which is a credit to the hard-working and dedicated teaching staff at OBHS. My eldest son, Nick, completed year 13 (7th form) at the end of last year while my 16 year old son, George, has just finished NCEA Level 1 (5th form) exams after an enjoyable year 11. Both boys have formed some great friendships as we did during our time at the school.

Earlier in the year we welcomed our new rector Richard Hall to the school. Richard has quickly settled in and has made an impressive start. In a very short time he has gained the respect of teachers, parents and most of all the boys. Our new deputy rector, Andrew Turner, came on board at the beginning of term 4 and completes the formidable senior management team also comprising Anne Gorman, Lindy Marr and Mark Hooper. The school is in very good hands so there is no need for our members to worry about the future of OBHS which, from my perspective looks very solid. The abundance of learning and growth opportunities available to our sons is extraordinary and OBHS remains in very good shape heading into 2016.

The Stuart Street tennis courts have undergone a complete transformation over the last few months thanks in large part to a group of volunteer Old Boys, parents and a few students. This is an excellent example of Richard's influence in (re)connecting old boys with the school. Nothing like a bit of hard work to stir up a keen sense of ownership and camaraderie. There has been talk of a similar working bee happening at the Mt Aspiring lodge so please keep an eye out in our newsletter or in other bulletins if you are able to help out in some way.

Also keep an eye out for the annual Old Boys vs Pupils sports day in early February, as well as the golf tournament penciled in for 26th February 2016. I hope to see you there.

It's been a busy year and I am looking to a hard-earned break over the holiday period.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2016.

Brent Alexander
President
Otago High School Old Boys' Society

Jessie Frank Evans (2010-2013)

My name is Jesse-Frank Evans. I am a student athlete whose calm steady farm boy character lends to my natural golf swing and solid ball striking ability. My wholesome maturity, level headed, hardworking ethic, brings consistency and results to the game, and I would offer a reliable ambitious nature to a college team.

My passion for golf began at age 3. My dad made my first club out of an axe handle and block of wood, which I used to belt golf balls around the farm. My family have supported and encouraged me to compete and work steadily towards my full potential, both academically and in sport.



I represented Otago Boys High School at the World School's Golf Challenge in South Africa, and aspire to represent New Zealand on tour and travel the world playing golf. This amazing opportunity to play and study in the United States means the world to both myself and my family.

I met a golf pro Murray Macklin at the NZ Open at The Hills golf course when I was caddying there. He was giving free lessons and I leapt at the opportunity to get some advice. I had a few swings, hit a few balls, he measured my statistics and was impressed. He asked questions like my name, number, where I played, what my handicap was, I was curious why he needed my details. A couple of months later I had just gotten home from youth group and found a letter on my bed from NZ golf. I didn't think much of it, I started reading, and as I got further and further through the letter, it was an invitation to play in a golf tournament in Christchurch with a golf scholarship up for grabs from an Australian based talent prospect company (NSR).

I went up and competed, we were told that we would receive a letter in two weeks if we were successful. After 10 days I received a phone call from Australia to say the letter was on the way. The excitement was huge. Our whole family was invited back to Christchurch for a family interview a few weeks later with a prospect manager from NSR. She really liked my attitude and personality and couple weeks later I received a letter from NSR saying I was going to be put forward to Universities in the United States for scholarship selection. The process to be put forward involved making a video of my golf swing with every club, making a 10 page web site of my academic and sporting achievements and sitting my SAT examination to have recognized achievements for University in America.

It was a long wait, but NSR were in constant contact with me, guiding me through what I needed to do. In December last year I received a phone call from West Virginia University of Technology asking me to join their golf team and offering me a scholarship. Since I have received this amazing opportunity I have worked very hard with my golf coach (John Griffin) on my swing and scoring. I am in weekly contact with my coach in America and leave on August the 8th for the most amazing experience of my life.

My schooling was at Otago Boys' High School, I was in the school golf team playing daily at Balmacewen Golf Club. I also traveled to South Africa to play in the World Schools Golf Challenge in 2011. Many people have helped me along the way. My school golf team manager was Bill Trewern, who took me and the boys to South Africa and on golf tours around the Canterbury region getting a feel of dozens upon dozens of different varieties of courses.

I have caddied for three years at the Hills at the NZ open, where I have been lucky enough to spend an afternoon with Ricky Ponting and Sir Brian Lara, Steve Williams, and have caddied some great players such as Nick Cullen and Japanese baseball star Naoyuki Shimizu.

My scholarship is for 4 years, I will be in a dorm based at the university and will be on the university golf team travelling up and down the east coast of America. I will be competing against other universities on some golf courses I have only ever seen on TV and read about in books. I will be studying for a degree in business management and psychology.



Practice pays off

Until recently, Matariki Pakaua-Inwood was what you would call an undiscovered singing gem of national significance.

It is hard to believe, but before his recent selection to tour Canada with the New Zealand Secondary Students' Choir, his experience singing publicly was pretty limited.

"I joined the school choir when I was 14. And before that, I just used to sing along with the radio. I've been singing since I was about 4 or 5."

The 17-year-old Otago Boys' High School pupil said he had never been in the national choir before.

"I simply didn't know about it until earlier this year. I became aware of it because one of my friends was in the last NZSS choir, and they told me I should audition for it.

"I said, 'Nah, I'm not good enough', because I'd heard it was for the top of the top New Zealand secondary school singers - it was for the geeks of singing. So, it was a really humbling experience when I was accepted."

He was one of 60 singers selected during a nationwide audition process of more than 350 people.

At a recent training workshop, his leadership skills shone through and he was elected by his fellow choir members as the choir's leader and cultural leader.

"It's an incredible experience. The amount of talent in the choir is really educational for me - I'm learning a lot by listening to the people around me."

The NZSS Choir will travel to Canada in June next year, to perform as the guest choir at the International Choral Kathaumixw Music Festival in Powell River, British Columbia.

So, he is practising hard at the moment.

"I do most of my singing practice in the bathroom in the morning while I'm getting ready for school. An iPod on the bathroom counter is a necessity."

Matariki said he had planned to take a gap year next year while he decided which career path to pursue.

However, being selected for the choir had given him a confidence boost and he now hoped to study performance singing at the University of Otago next year.

"This has really inspired me."

Thank you to the ODT for the use of this article

*VISION: Boys reaching their potential in life and learning
Excellence- Hiranga; Integrity-Ngakau tapatahi; Fairness – Pono; Respect - Manaaki*

Blair Tarrant (2004-2008)

Suddenly, defender Blair Tarrant has played 133 games for the Black Sticks.

When did that happen? It seems like only yesterday the 25 year old was a lanky teenager who looked like he needed a second helping of the Sunday roast.

He was part of a talented group who emerged from Otago Boys' High School late last decade, along with Black Sticks striker Hugo Inglis and development squad member Nick Ross.



The trio have played a lot of hockey together over the years and form a strong core for Southern Dogs this season. That side features another former OBHS pupil, Kane Russell. They are all expected to be in action during Southern's match against North Harbour in Dunedin on Sunday.

"North Harbour is a really strong team this year and if we are not switched on in defence they will punish us," Tarrant said. "I think it will probably be one of our toughest games but I'm confident we can win the game. But they are a good side."

Tarrant, who made his debut for the Black Sticks in 2010, lives in Auckland these days in the trendy suburb of Takapuna. But while you can lead a man to the North Shore, you cannot make him drink the soy latte. He is a proud Southerner and enjoys returning to play for the Dogs. "Yeah, mate. I love it. We all love it. We just need to get a win, I think."

His desperation is perhaps a little premature. Southern suffered a loss to Canterbury in its season opener in Christchurch last weekend. The game was tied 2-2 at fulltime and the home side eventually won the shoot out 5-4 in sudden death.

At one stage, Southern got ahead in the shoot out and was perhaps unlucky not to score a third goal in regulation time, when the team was running hot during the third quarter.

It was a heartening performance from the Dogs, who had only come together as a team the night before. Canterbury, on the other hand, went to Australia for its preseason and was better prepared.

"It is always a bit tougher for us because we have quite a few guys based up here and we don't get to train together as a full team. We had eight guys I had not played with before who were all pretty impressive in the weekend, so that was a good sign," Tarrant said.

The Dogs have lost the services of experienced defender James Nation and goalie Hamish McGregor this season, which leaves Tarrant and Russell as the key players at the back.

"James Nation has probably been our most consistent player for the last few seasons, so it is always going to be tough filling in a gap for a player of that calibre."

While Southern might be a little weaker defensively this year, the attack perhaps has more punch.

"I did like what I saw from the team up front. We have some young guys up there but there was a good skill set and that is a positive sign. And we've got Hugo up there, obviously."

Tarrant had a professional stint in Germany last season, playing for a club side in Berlin, but otherwise he has to work to help pay the bills. He has an administration job which he does three days a week and he is also studying international business extramurally through Massey University.

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Sydney Cricket Trip



The first week of Term 3 school holidays saw a group of OBHS senior cricketers in Sydney for five games against different Sydney schools. The aim was to provide important pre-season games on grass wickets on grounds that resemble facilities at Lincoln where the 1st XI will attempt to win the Gillette Cup in December.

The first game with Sydney BHS did not take place because of ground conditions however the team had a full net session before exploring the delights of Bondi beach in the afternoon.

Games against Waverley College and an under-strength Cranbrook School team resulted in convincing victories.

St Ignatius proved stronger as for the first time we had to field for 50 overs in the Sydney heat, and then chase a good total against a strong bowling attack. The lessons from this defeat were valuable with OBHS successfully chasing 285 to beat Scots College in the final game.

As a group the improvement in play over the course of the week was significant in all aspects of the game. There were also some fine individual performances with the undefeated centuries scored by Jarryd Taig (174) and Taine Bayly (104) standing out. The wickets taken were spread through the team as players adjusted to the vastly different conditions in Australia.

All of the schools visited made us and the parents supporting the team very welcome.

It will be difficult not making the trip an annual event.

The Sydney Players: Taine Bayly(captain), Sam Angus, Will Hunter, Declan Su'a, Cameron McAuslan, Jarryd Taig, Jackson Miller, Gus Wood, Sam Kilsby, Matt Robinson, Max Chu, Ben Lockrose, Nathan Coldwell. Coaches: Tim Ford, Ken Rust



Successful Cricket Fundraising Event



On Friday 14th August nearly two hundred people watched a lively and entertaining debate in the school theatre as two teams of local sporting celebrities argued the topic "that cricketers are the ultimate elite athletes." Anything lacking in debating technique was more than made up for in wit, ready response and amusing repartee. Orchestrating most of the laughter was well-known radio presenter, Jamie Mackay who was merciless in his introductions and running commentary. Dominic George was his long-suffering victim, but none of the other debaters, Craig Cumming, Mark Craig, Eben Joubert, Kees Meeuws, and Joe Latta were spared Jamie's rapier-like jabs throughout the night.

The successful evening was the culmination of weeks of hard work by a group of parents on behalf of OBHS cricket. Thanks to their untiring efforts in organising the guest presenters, co-ordinating the catering and liquid refreshments, and running the event more than \$5000 was raised to go towards providing coaching opportunities for all teams in the coming season.

A big thank you to all those who helped make the debate and the associated entertainment so enjoyable.

For the record, the rugby team convincingly proved "that cricketers are the ultimate elite athletes."

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Senior Prize Giving 2015

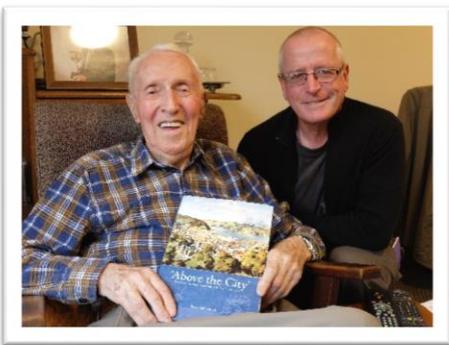


On Thursday 5 November Senior Prize Giving was held at the Regent Theatre. It was a wonderful evening where we were able to celebrate the successes of our students and be entertained by both the Orchestra and Choir. Staff were joined on stage by special guest Dr George Mason who awarded Thomas Baker with the Mason Brothers Scholarship. The speech by Rector Mr Hall to our Year 13 students was one of the highlights along with Head Boy Scott Bezett's final address. Congratulations to Johnny Mottershead who was named Dux and Ben Guest and Scott Bezett who were jointly named Promix Accessit. Edward Grant was named Head Boy 2016 and Sam Kilsby

Deputy Head Boy. At Skippers Feast earlier in the week Mitch Pryde was named Head of School House and Ben Sinnamon Deputy Head of School House.



Happy Birthday



Walter 'Wattie' Thomas, probably the oldest of OBHS Old Boys, had a pleasant surprise on celebrating his 99th birthday when he was presented with a signed copy of 'Above the City' by author, Dr Rory Sweetman. Wattie happily recalled most of the masters of his day (1929-34), many of whom would go downhill (as it were) to found King's High School in 1936 (including 'Baz' Howard, 'Stewey' Thomson, and 'Frosty' Fraser). His memory of the then rector, William 'Jerry' Morrell, is of an eccentric but lovable character, fond of a joke. Wattie, who lives in Invercargill, has a distinguished war record, fighting with the 5th Infantry Brigade at El Alamein and later in Italy. In late July 1943 he was among the 150 Old

Boys who gathered in Cairo to celebrate his old school's 80th birthday. His signature can be spotted on the illuminated scroll composed on the occasion and currently held in the OBHS museum.

**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**



The Class of 1970 - Eye Ball Reunion

Boys Night Out

40 years, where have they gone?

Time to catch up for a yarn or two

When: Saturday 13th February 2016

Where: Forsyth Barr Stadium, Alexander McMillan Suite

Time: 6pm - 11pm

Cost: \$45 / head includes venue hire and a rolling supper

Full bar service available

Direct Credit: 06 0911 0198871 01

RSVP by 22nd January 2016

Stephen Chittock - stephen.chittock14@gmail.com

027 223 8200

Ross Naylor - spennymoor@ruralinzone.net

027 406 1409

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:

Paul Twemlow (1991-95) – Associate Fellow

Bob Wardrop (1939-40) – Donation

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



The Otago Boys' High School Foundation and Old Boys' Society would like to wish all fellow Old Boys' and their families a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. We thank you for your support over 2015 We look forward to an exciting and promising 2016.



In Memoriam



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

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

Alan Douglas Girvan (1975-76) died 11 August at Yvette Williams Retirement Village aged 56 years

Evan Forsaith MacDonald died 12 August at Marlborough Hospice aged 79 years

Graham Allan Hotop (1947-49) died 15 August at Buller Hospital aged 82 years

Murray Robert Smith (1967-71) died 2 September in Christchurch aged 61 years

Mark Kelvin Sutton (1970-72) died 18 August at Dunedin Hospital aged 58 years

John Barrington Martin (1950-54) died 24 August in Perth

Brian Elder Botting (1944-48) died 31 August in Nelson aged 84 years

Graham Wallace Robertson (1927-29) died 4 September at Dunstan Hospital aged 101 years

Allan Ash Doig (1934-35) died 15 September in Dunedin aged 95 years

Charles Henry Jelley (1934-36) died 29 September in Waikanae aged 94 years

Alan Andrew Kitto (1953-56) died 4 October at Silverdale aged 76 years

Dr. James Young Yee (1945-50) died 7 October in Christchurch aged 85 years

Roger Vaitupu (Tupu) (1989-92) died 17 October in Queensland, Australia aged 40 years

Neil Alexander Williamson (1942-46) died 19 October in Melbourne, Australia.

Benjamin John Naylor (1937-41) died 20 October at Yvette Williams Retirement Village aged 92 years

Sinclair David Jones (1950-54) died 24 October at Ross Home aged 79 years

George McMillan (1944-47) died 23 October at Longview Rest Home, Tawa aged 84 years

Magnus Sinclair (1955-59) died 24 October at Leslie Groves Hospital aged 74 years

Arthur Thomson (1935) died 3 November at Wesley Care, Christchurch aged 93 years

Lee Dunn (2011-2013) died 4 November in Balclutha aged 19 years

We will remember them