

Te Horowhenua

A Magazine of the Horowhenua College Past Pupil's

Vol. 7 No.2.

October 2008

The Association is a group of dedicated "Past Pupils" who for many years have quietly maintained an organisation to be able to work for the benefit of present pupils and from time to time organise and run very successful Reunions of persons who have had an association with the College.

It has built up and maintained an extensive data base of the achievements and information on past pupil's, raised and donated money for developments at the College including the Thomas Room named after the first Principal and the Gymnasium and each year makes a substantial donation to the College for prizes presented at the final Assembly.

In an effort to keep the activities of the association relative to the 21st Century and to expand its member base we have been running an annual function in the form of an "Alumni Day". From these days we are able to boost membership, have an annual function to bring together current and past pupils rather than relying on major date reunions, to give the Association a higher profile in the local community and to attract new and younger members to the Executive thereby ensuring its long term viability.

We are currently working at collecting data and information regarding the College which will be deposited in the data bank now established to collect and collate the history of the Horowhenua District. We are working on an information page to be included in the College Web Site and to encourage those leaving College to join the Association as they are our future lifeblood.

Alumni Day 2009

Planning for our fourth "Alumni Day" is well under way with it being held the second Saturday of March every year. The next is on Saturday 14th March from 2pm at the college. These are a good time to met up with past friends, and next year is especially important as it leads up to our big 70th Jubilee at Easter 2010.

The costs are the same as last year.(\$5 for registration, \$5 for afternoon tea, \$35 for dinner.) We have spoken to a couple of past pupil's and have some very interesting after dinner speakers lined up for your entertainment.

There is a registration form included in with this broadsheet for you to fill in or to copy so all your friends can meet and catch up.

For any other information please contact

Christine on

06) 3688740 or email

ceejaye@clear.net.nz.

70th Jubilee Easter, April 2nd – 4th 2010

In 2010 the college will be 70 years young. We will be holding the 70th reunion over the Easter Weekend of 2010. At this time we have a small committee formed to start the business of running this event. We need more people to help us, so if YOU would like to give a little something back to your school, this would be a great way to do so. With the technology of email and internet you do not need to be living in Levin, or attend all the meetings, but a cheerful input from you at times you can attend would help. Thursday 6th November at 5:30pm is the date and time of our next meeting. If you can join us in the Board Room at the college or if you need a ride to attend please contact Christine. We look forward to hearing from you.

News from Horowhenua College

Music has been on a “high” at the college during July and August with the “Smoke free Rock Quest” in Palmerston North and the College Talent Quest. College band, “Sausage Please”, were voted people’s choice in Horowhenua and went to the rock quest for selection in the National finals in Christchurch. Along with Waiopahu College band “Zoultap”, and another Horowhenua College band, Initial Intention, they gave their all on the night, but the winners were “Us As Robots” from Palmerston North Boys High. The college talent quest ended on a night of sight and sound with 14 different acts. The winners were a band called “Euphoric Gas” a heavy metal band.. Second place to Electric Guitar trio, “Bogan Goatee”, third place to Vicky Young (Piano) and Sarah & Regan (dance). Intriguing names for bands!!

Senior Ball at college this year had an Al Capone’s Casino theme. Transport to the ball was certainly varied this year, Limo’s, Hot Rod’s, Hummers, a Cleopatra Chair carried by 4 guys,. Inside was a large casino table, fake cigars and Gold chips. Everyone, including the attending teachers had a wonderful time and were very impressed in the organizational skills of the committee.



L W Andrews Bursary this year was awarded to Nathan Berry. Members of the 22nd Battalion, which Brigadier Andrew commanded, attended the special assembly on 24th September to present the award. Nathan is off to university next year to study engineering..

Anjali Siania entered the Samoan Speech Competition at the Pasifika Fusion Cultural Festival in May. She gained 1st place at this competition and went on to present her speech a second time to a packed audience in the Regent Theatre at the evening performance. Congratulations Anjali.

Love has blossomed for 2 past pupils. In the 1930’s Elaine Parrington and Ernie Norton met at Levin school as classmates. In following years they attended Horowhenua college, until upon leaving both went their separate ways.

Elaine went to Wellington for a few years before returning to Levin where she married Willaim (Bill) Nockels and had 4 children. Ernie meanwhile married and also had 4 children.

60 years later, they met again in Levin, following the deaths of their spouses, and love blossomed for them both for a second time. They married earlier this year. Congratulation to you both.

The Radio Reading Service in Levin has a new voice at the Helm. After 23 years of service, Ash Bell, has stepped aside handing the job of Station manager, over to Chloe Eastham. Ash started his working life in Christchurch on Radio 3ZB before returning to run the family dairy farm. When the Reading Service started in 1985, Ash joined up and has been working there ever since.

Another past pupil to call it a day is JP Richard (Dick) Denton. While Dick will still be available as a JP for signing forms etc, he said his time at the Bench in court is now over. On his last day Dick was presented with a plaque for 18 years service at the Levin District Court.

NUA = Never Under Achieve

News from Levin

When next you arrive in Levin you will have to do a quick “Tiki Tour” to check out all the changes. The town is in a real “go ahead” phase.

The old Council buildings in Bath St. and The Central Buildings on the corner have been demolished and made way for a new BP Petrol station adjacent to the local New World supermarket. Today they are finishing tar sealing the new car park, between new World and the petrol station, then shortly the supermarket is to increase in size, coming out to nearly halfway over the old car park. It is good to see that they have incorporated the same stone fences that now adorn the corners of the 2 main intersections and other sites along Oxford St.



Then there is the new Court house that's going up next to the Police Station. The old courthouse had been there since 1904

And a newer larger model has been proposed.. The old buildings have been shifted to the rose gardens opposite the Cenotaph. The local Historical Society said the building had historical significance and the Levin Garden Society and Rose Society have both responded favorably to the building being sited in the rose garden.

Houses at 19 and 21 Bristol St. have been purchased to be used as the temporary courthouse and 2 prefab cabins have been placed in between the houses to join it all into one large building.

The new courthouse is still some 2 years away but it will be work as usual for Police and staff in Levin

The new courthouse will include Lawyers areas, Hearing Rooms, JP's office, 2 court rooms, one of which will be jury capable. These are all new initiatives. There will also be extra work stations to

cater for 7 staff, extra counters and a designated bail counter. Also new Judges chambers, duty solicitor offices.



Another “big Day” in Levin was the big weather bomb of 30th July. Winds, rain, hail, power cuts, trees down, schools shut. We had it all. Power was lost to eastern side of Levin about 7:30am, west side bout 8am and was not restored until 9pm in most places. Some of the more rural areas were without power for up to a week.

Schools closed for the day with no power, no heating. Had to laugh at friend's teenage children, happy to have the day off school, but why oh why cant we go shopping?? Do they have to shut the shops??

Owlcatraz in Shannon, run by Ross and Janette Campbell lost upwards of 600 tres, Lindsey Rd farms lost 100's, and then there were all the ones in town that were blown over.

The 20 old trees in Kings Drive now number 12. They had been there many years. I remember them standing when I walked along Weraroa Rd to Levin North 40 odd years ago.

By 10;30am Levin was like a ghost town, trees down over the main roads North and South meant no cars were getting through, just a few hearty truck drivers brave enough to move their big rigs. The council said the situation was very unsafe – roads were treacherous – stay indoors. Write Price Food Barn had parts of its roof lifting, although luckily it stayed in place. Houses in Wallace Rd and George St. were not so fortunate.



The daily Chronicle is now the Biweekly free Chronicle being published on a Wednesday and Saturday.

They are still sponsoring such events as the Great Forest Event in the Waitarere Beach Forest each year. There was a record number of entries from participants this year from all over the world and all ages. Included this year was MP for Otaki and past pupil Darren Hughes, who was competing in the 10km walk, twice what he did last year. Proudly showing his 5km medal in the local paper, Darren said "he was working his way through the event and hopes to be in the 20km half marathon next year"

On the night of the senior ball, the fire siren went off about 2:30am as clouds of smoke were seen coming from near the town center. First reports said it was the Memorial Hall, which caused a flutter in many a heart of both the students and staff, after the ball. Did we leave something on? What of the casino table we had hired for the night.

Luckily or unluckily for CYFS it was their building over the road. A 16 year old local lass had decided to remove the hurt in her life that she believed CYFS had caused her.

CYFS, ACC and Kirkaby Lawyers offices were all gutted and it will be a while before the Kent and Little building is safe enough to use.

Collis Blake and his wife Helen have handed over the running of the Adventure Playground in Oxford St to the council. In 2001 Collis and Helen looked at the wasteland that was where the Levin School used to be and dreamed of an area where family's could go to meet and play, enjoy a picnic or just "chill out" for a while when passing through Levin. In the last 7 years with the help of family and friends it has become a credit to Levin. School Holidays and most weekends it is full of children of all ages have fun. The train that stood for many years at the lake is now part of the fun. With the closure of Kimberley Centre, the train, that had been moved there from the lake, was brought out of retirement, cleaned and painted. The tracks were repaired and restored and placed in a loop track at the front of the park near the big oak trees.

Arohanui Hospice from Palmerston North now has its own base in Levin under the guidance of Barbara Easterbrook. The local New World supermarket has been supporting the hospice by customers adding \$1 to their dockets.

It was the 40th anniversary of the Wahine disaster on 10th April this year. Some of the guests of honor were Shirley Hicks (nee Parr) of Shannon and her son David Knight, who were passengers on board. Mrs Hicks lost her daughter Alma and her son Gordon suffered a brain injury after he was resuscitated several times.

Obituaries

Robin Brassington (Staff 1970-1980) Robin taught English at senior school level while I was at school. It was a pleasure to know him, and I will miss his smiling face, whenever we met up town in later years.

Peter (PJ) Kotsifikas 2006-2008

Dale Corner 1979-1980

Lyn Pene 1961-1964

Juanita Zillah Geange (nee Bills) 1954-1956

Benjamin Winiata (Ben) 1955-1956

Michael Cooper 2004-2007

Stewart Hooper 1963-1964

Horowhenua College Old Pupils Association

If you have access to the internet go to the College website at www.horowhenua.school.nz and check out the Old Pupils website. We are hoping to keep this page updated at all times with information about what's on at the college and who's where etc. If you have any ideas or information we can use please email to Christine at email address below,

The association would like to thank Lynne Gill and her helpers for updating and maintaining this site, which is a way of keeping in contact with past pupils all over the world.

Life Membership is \$20.00

This entitles you to a lapel badge and all information on upcoming reunions, if we have your current address.

"Te Horowhenua" is a broadsheet intended for past pupils of our college, to keep them up dated on old friends and classmates. You will also get the latest news from Levin and the college.

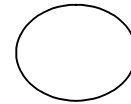
If you have access to a computer and the internet, this is available free on the college website. Alternatively you can have it posted to you for a cost of \$10 per annum.

This money goes towards cost of publication and postage, and a small amount to helping the Association funding of Prizes at both Junior and Senior Prize giving.

Please Note, if you have a red dot on this page then your membership id due for renewal at \$10 per year.

Please forward same to Christine Warren Secretary.

Thank you



Donations: The Association relies on the voluntary services and generosity of many past pupil's to maintain its profile within the college and wider community and to assist with the sponsoring of prizes at Senior Prize giving.

If you wish to make a donation you can forward the same to the Old Pupil's Association at the College.

You can make a donation

- In response to a specific appeal
- By arrangement for a particular amount to be paid annually/monthly to the Association
- By giving once a year when you pay for your Broadsheet or Alumni Day registration
- By making a gift in memory of someone you have loved and lost, for example "a donation in lieu of flowers"

Note: We have applied to the Charities Commission for registration. All donations over \$5 (five Dollars) are tax deductible

Please send all correspondence to the Secretary :

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