



# THE KINGSMEN

DECEMBER 2005

## OVER THE YEARS

### Redevelopment of School Buildings

In our July issue the reproduction of an aerial photograph taken over the 1988-89 school holidays was probably the last taken of all the old main buildings before demolition and rebuilding in stages over the 1990s. The one below was taken by Doug Clark (Staff 1988-98) from the Westpac helicopter on the eve of the Bledisloe Cup Test on Friday 16th July 1993.

There was a Government departmental proposal to completely rebuild King's High School instead of a piecemeal approach which had happened over the years. Cabinet approval for

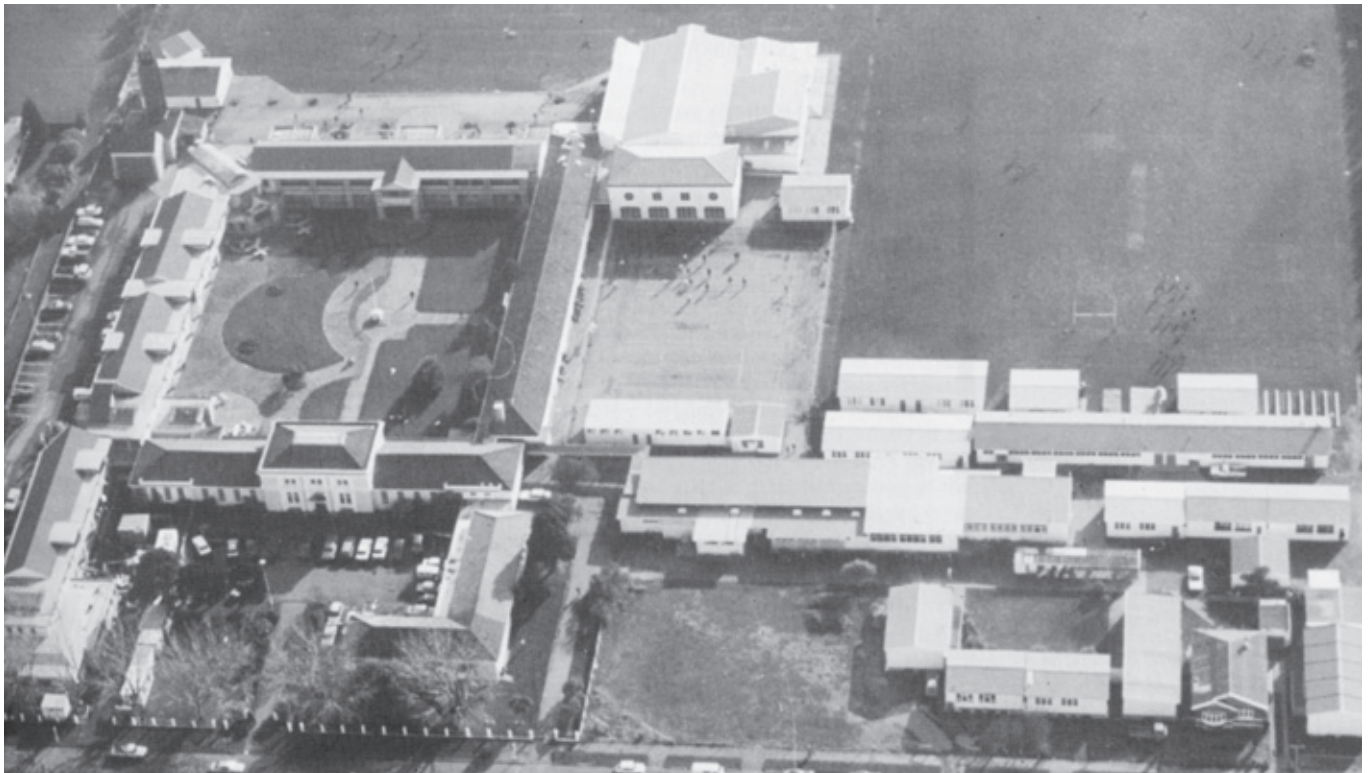
rebuilding over 80% was made in 1989 at a then cost of nearly 9 million dollars. For over nine years the school had sought some redress regarding the sad state of its buildings, its rising overcrowding, and its vast shortfall on code facilities.

The rebuilding plans were to be in five stages since the first demolition in 1990. Stage I was built in 3 phases covering two storied buildings containing a catering suite, six laboratories, two computer rooms, fifteen classrooms and a Special Needs (handicapped) department.

These were completed in 1992 and 1993 and can be seen in the photograph occupying the area where the hall, Senior wing (south side) and Science block (south front) existed.

Stage 2 covered the Library block completed in early 1996. It is where the old Junior wing was situated (north side). Stage 3 was the two storey excellent up to date Technology Centre completed at the beginning of 1998. It is on Bay View Road (northern side of the school) where houses were built.

The fourth stage was the double storied Administration block which was completed in 2001 positioned on a smaller area



### Members of the 1956 1st XV Rugby, 1st XI Soccer, Hockey and Cricket Teams

A reunion of members of these teams is proposed for the middle of 2006, preferably to correspond with an annual interschool fixture held at school.

All those interested should respond with their current contact address to email: [ggd@extra.co.nz](mailto:ggd@extra.co.nz) or by letter to P.O. Box 163, Dunedin.

where the original was built.

Many ex-pupils have now seen these fine buildings and facilities superior to what many of us had in our time.

### School Hall, Auditorium, Performing Arts Centre

What about the fifth stage mentioned above which was the first and only 20 odd years ago?

In 1984 the Golden Jubilee Appeal was launched to raise funds for extras not provided from tax payers money for a new Assembly Hall. It was hoped by some that the hall would be built for the Golden Jubilee in 1986.

A new ball game developed in 1989 with the development detailed above putting the hall/auditorium on hold. Also another new ball game apparently developed somewhere along the line with a decision that school halls were not an essential part of school funding!

We have previously mentioned that for most of the years since 1996, excluding Secondary Schools with Intermediate departments (year 8 and before), but including co-educational and girls' schools, King's has been the biggest in Otago. Also it is reported that they were only one of two Secondary Schools in New Zealand without a place for all students to meet, under cover on chairs or seats.

The old hall was demolished over the 1990/91 summer break and since then the boys have sat on the floor (or stood) of the gymnasium for assembly. On occasions they have stood in the Quadrangle.

A music and drama suite was proposed in the original Auditorium plans and education has been affected by the lack of that facility. This suite was one of the extras that our Golden Jubilee Appeal was launched for. That appeal raised about \$83,000 and with interest by the end of this year the Fund will be approximately \$510,000.

Over all this time Governments and decisions have been changed! What is now being built is called a Performing Arts Centre which for approval is a joint project with Queen's High School.

For decades King's and Queen's have joined for varied musical and theatrical productions. Many familiar faces are seen in photographs of these, which will be recalled by Old Boys with pleasure.

If you have not already done so and wish to donate to the schools' appeal enclosed is another return slip with the details.

## Administration

### Subscriptions

The subscription notice was posted in July in a large envelope with more paperwork than usual, and receipt of money is lower than this time last year.

### Membership

An ex-pupil living in Australia was sent the July 'Kingsmen' in which was mentioned the Queen's High School 50th Anniversary and some names. One of those ex-girls had business dealings with our man in Australia who recognised her name. Small world again. We now have another member through a former Queen's girl!

Members please remember to sell our membership and if you are aware of a non-member plus his address, please inform us.

### School History and Records

Some years ago when the old Administration block was demolished some old boys went through the school records and sent them to the Hocken Library for storage.

These records covered a wide variety of school history and it is standard procedure in accordance with the dreaded Privacy Act not to have access to individual records for 75 years.

After communication with the Hocken Collections it has been ascertained that records can now be accessed with a letter from the Principal giving such permission.

## Activities Around the Country

### Dunedin

1. Below six of the sixty who attended the Annual dinner held on the 18th August.



From left around the table: Irvine Duncan (1947-49), turning around, Bob Glass (1948-52), Ray Lockhart (1938-41), George Lyon (1938-41) partly obscured, Graeme Burns (1949-52), Huia Ockwell (1949-52) both turning around.

2. Soccer Old Boys v School

The 2005 King's 1st Soccer XI has had a very successful season winning the local Secondary Schools competition in addition to being undefeated in Interschools. The OBHS encounter saw a 7-1 victory.

An end of season fixture was arranged against a strong Old Boys XI on a renovated Tonga Park. The older heads proved too strong on the day and won 7-3. Here are the Old Boys' XI pictured against the Queen's High School fence on a sun-filled early spring day in August.



Back row L to R: Neil Wright (1975-77), Craig Johnston (1983-88), Jim Muir (1960-64, Staff 1981-current, the Stanley Matthews of the XI), Geoff Rodden (1974-78) BOT Member, Andy Coburn (1993-97), Tony Martin (1982-87), Richard Murray (1989-94), Andrew Duncan (1984-88).

Front row L to R: Paul Cameron (1978-84), Michael Burgess (1994-98), Ben McMaster (1998-2001), Darren Munro (1979-84), Bradley Scott (1993-97 and current Staff member), Tim Horner (1998-2000), Greg Andrews (1993-97) and son of long standing staff member Neil Andrews (1976 to current) who took this photo.

## Christchurch

1. A social was arranged at the Russley Golf Club for 16th November from 6 pm onwards.
2. Contacts in Christchurch

**Chairman** Murray Dunbar (1953-57) 44 Ashgrove Street, Rangiora.  
E-mail: dunbars@ihug.co.nz

**Secretary** Ian Gamble (1955-58), P. O. Box 5178, Christchurch.  
E-mail: meadowpark@xtra.co.nz

**Treasurer** Alan Malcolmson (1970-75), 10 Parkham Drive, Burnside.  
E-mail: amalcolmson@foodstuffs-si.co.nz

**Database** Alister Campbell (1949-53), P. O. Box 52, Lincoln.  
E-mail: alandpat@xtra.co.nz.

## Nelson

1. A questionnaire was sent to known ex-pupils in the area requesting ideas on activities they wished to have. One suggestion was to engage in a little inter-city mingling and competition with Blenheim. We do not have many members there at present but are compiling a list of known ex-pupils. Jim Cochrane has spent many hours trying to locate more in the Nelson electorate.

## Contacts

**Chairman** Jim Cochrane (1951-52), 2/18 Ferguson Street, Stoke. E-mail: jimcochrane@xtra.co.nz

**Secretary/Treasurer** Kevin St John (1957-62) 19 Bryant Road, Brightwater. E-mail: kgstjohn@xtra.co.nz

**Ladies Rep** Jan Reddington (wife of Eddie Reddington 1952-54), 7 Somerset Terrace, Stoke.  
E-mail: edjanr@xtra.co.nz.

## Wellington

1. The seventh Annual Meeting and dinner was to be held on the 16th November at Turnbull House, the speaker being Philip Rush (1977-80) the long distance swimmer here and overseas.
2. The Old Boys' Associations' golf tournament in Wellington is due to be held early in December. Could be the first Tuesday which is the 6th but contact Laurie Davies phone: 04-234 7517, e-mail davies@clear.net.nz for details. Wellington must be envious of the record of our Christchurch Old Boys in their similar tournament so members schedule a trip to Wellington to help them take "The Bruce Cameron Team Trophy".

## Contacts

**Chairman** John Bray (1944-48) 14 Biddle Street, Taita

**Secretary** Morris Barling (1961-63) PO Box 26118, Wellington. E-mail mbarling@xtra.co.nz

**Treasurer** Brian Farrant (1952-55) 19B Kowhai Street, Eastbourne. E-mail bandmfarrant@xtra.co.nz

**Database** Alex Ross (1942-46) 62 Collins Avenue, Linden.  
E-mail: joyce.alex@paradise.net.nz

## They are everywhere!

Principal Colin Donald recently, on an overseas trip to Germany recruiting students for 2006, arranged a gathering of Old Boys at the Danubius Hotel (formerly Ramada Plaza) across the road from Lords Cricket Ground. Six managed to make rendezvous with considerable distances being travelled by some. Michael Lake (1950-52) from Hereford, Peter Ruhen (1954-58) from Devon, Lindsay Fortune (1950-54) from Somerset and Ken Payton (1950-54) from Bedfordshire. The Londoners were Barry Neilson (1961-64) and Hamish McMillan (1949-54). A couple of hours was initially planned but it has been advised to *Kingsmen* that some lasted through to midnight. Incredibly, Mrs Fortune, Payton and McMillan were in Form 6A in 1954 (15 in class). Someone work out the odds of that happening.



Back row L to R: Michael Lake, Peter Ruhen, Barry Neilson.  
Front row L to R: Ken Payton, Hamish McMillan, Colin Donald, Lindsay Fortune.

Our Patron also arranged a visit to Cambridge University where 5 Old Boys are on the staff, but prior commitments made it possible for only two to attend.



From L to R: Michael McIntyre (1954-58), Colin Donald (2001-current), and Colin Harris (1973-76).

Professor Michael McIntyre's research into global warming and ozone depletion is world renowned as is the gentleman who is

housed in the office next door to him—Stephen Hawking of black hole theory and author of *A Brief History of Time*.

Dr Colin Harris is the Director of Environmental Research and Assessment at the British Antarctic Survey based at Cambridge University.

## Honours

In June 2005, the Executive Board of the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) met in Washington, D.C. and selected P. M. (Michael) Willis (1966-70), general manager of Blue Mountains City Council, NSW, Australia as ICMA's 2005-2006 president—only the second ICMA president (the other was also a Kiwi!) from outside North America in its 91-year history. His appointment reflects his passion for, commitment to, and the significant contribution made to the local government managerial profession stretching for nearly 30 years. Most of his career has been NZ-based: after graduating B.A. from Otago University, he joined the Dept. of Internal Affairs, leaving in 1979 to become Waihemo County Clerk, and subsequently Silverpeaks County Clerk. In 1989 he became CEO of Palmerston North City, before taking up his present position in 2001. Following on from involvement with the former County Clerks' Institute, Michael was president of the NZ Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM) 1992-94, and also served as an international vice-president of ICMA 2000-03. Typically he has been claimed by Australia, his appointment being 'an outstanding recognition of the qualities of Australian managers,' and thereby he has attained the same exalted status as Phar Lap and pavlova!

## Cultural Affairs

Dr P. V. (Peter) Adams (1972-76), a lecturer in music at the University of Otago, was a foundation member of the Dunedin Youth Orchestra in 1972. This orchestra has provided a training ground for Dunedin musicians, many of whom have gone on to play in the Southern Sinfonia, the NZSO, and to careers overseas. Presently the orchestra's conductor and joint musical director, Peter's composition 'Horizons' was premiered at its September concert. He was also conductor of the St Kilda Sentinel Brass Band, and has written compositions which have been performed by the band at national championships.

M. L. (Michael) Andrews (1957-61), musical director for the Really Authentic Gilbert & Sullivan Performance Trust's production of 'Iolanthe', had a few problems when searching for the most authentic conductor's score—mainly because it hasn't been published yet! However, Boude Brothers of New York offered to let him have a photocopy of the first draft in return for feedback. Normally, music for orchestra and singers is hired from the Australian agents for the D'Oyly Carte Opera Coy, but they had never produced full scores for the conductor. A further complication was that part of the score was originally written to be played by a military band, although most productions make do with the orchestra. Detective work in the D'Oyly Carte archives, and in the rare books section of the Birmingham University Library confirmed that the Boude Brothers' draft was largely consistent with Sullivan's original score, but the daunting problem was how to cope with 600 flimsy single-sided loose pages while conducting. Fortunately, a retired book-binder came to Michael's aid, and glued the pages back-to-back to make firm double-sided leaves, held

in place using specially constructed boxes—gaps in the sides at the bottom enabled the leaves to be turned easily. So in September a 12-member military band (St Kilda) on stage, a 25-strong orchestra (Southern Sinfonia) in the pit, and a chorus of 18 British peers on stage, performed music that had not been heard in that form for many a long day. P. R. (Paul) Facoor (1965-70) starred in the production.

The posthumous career of James K. Baxter (1940-43) has been stuttering of late—perhaps not surprisingly, given that it is 33 years since he died! However, it received a fillip earlier this year when a previously unpublished poem, found on a loose piece of paper in the Hocken Collections, was dusted off for a limited edition print run. The poem, *Pinetrees in the Key of F and a Rose in the Key of G*, is thought to date from the late 1960s, and is regarded as a 'quick satire' on the work of the American poet Wallace Stevens. It has been printed by craft printer Dr John Holmes of the University of Otago Library, on a piece of artwork by Dunedin printmaker Inge Doesberg (Visual and Fine Arts Tutor 1997-).

E. J. (Errol) Moore (1965-69) was a euphonium player in the 40-strong NZ National Brass Band which returned recently from the World Championships in Kerkrade, the Netherlands, having achieved third place—despite being refused government support (Creative NZ declined funding because the band was an 'amateur group!'). The three top bands were each awarded gold medals with distinction for their outstanding playing. The band's repertoire featured works by NZ composers, including Anthony Ritchie from Dunedin.

Emeritus Professor E. N. (Eric) Olssen (1955-60) is one of 20 leading historians who contributed to the 13-part TV series *Frontier of Dreams*, also published as a stand-alone book. He provided a background essay as the storyline for Episode seven 'God's Own Country 1878-1913', with the focus on NZ as a world leader in social reforms. Erik found that contributing to a television series was quite unlike any other form of writing.

The 2005 spring edition of *Art NZ* revealed that A. E. (Adam) Douglass (1993-97) had been exhibiting at Artgiano in Parnell, Auckland, while B. V. (Barry) Cleavin (1953-58) and G. C. (Grahame) Sydney (1962-66) had been exhibiting at Paper Graphica in Christchurch. It also presented a three-page exposition of the career of Fleur Yorston (Visual and Fine Arts Tutor 2005-) and her philosophy on painting—although she had originally qualified in sculpture, and her abiding passion is in jewellery; she had also been influenced by travel and work experience in Australia, Britain, Ireland and Thailand.

Queen's High School has published *A Tapestry Through Time* to celebrate its 50th Jubilee, one of the five editors being Barbara Newton, wife of G. P. (Graeme) Newton (1966-69)—author of the recently published history of St Clair. King's features on several pages, such as the attempt by P. G. (Peter) Buckmaster (1954-56) to enrol (portrayed in the July *Kingsmen*) and a very angelic M. J. B. (Murray) Deaker (1958-62) as a member of a King's/Queen's madrigal group!

## Thomas Cameron Brown

K. C. (Keith) Gordon (1939-41) currently resides at Mt Surprise out west from Cairns in Queensland, Australia. He wishes to find out more about T. C. (Cameron) Brown, whom he remembers from his schooldays, and feels that Cameron's wartime exploits should be better known. Keith has

obtained the following information from the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum in London, who refer to him as being Thomas Brown—obviously not realising that he was known by his second name:

“Thomas Brown was born on 22.9.1922 in New Zealand. He was decorated with the *Krzyz Walecznych* (Cross of Valour) awarded for personal bravery in face of the enemy. His award was for his action on 2.8.1941 when the SS ‘Kmicic’ fought off an enemy air attack. SS ‘Kmicic’ was the commodore ship in a transatlantic convoy when it was attacked by several Dorniers close to the British Isles. It shot and badly damaged two of them. No ships of the convoy were lost. Leading Seaman Thomas Brown handled one of the heavy machine guns in the stern of the ship. At the time he had been serving on SS ‘Kmicic’ for six months. The ‘Kmicic’ had held the name of ‘Robur III’ before the war, being one of five merchant ships of ‘Polskarob’, the Polish-Scandinavian Transport Association Company. In 1939 it was renamed ‘Kmicic’, one of the heroes of Henryk Sienkiewicz’s historical novel *Potop* (*The Deluge*—action takes place during the Polish-Swedish wars of the 1650s).”

Keith remembers that Cameron joined the Merchant Navy, but how he came to be serving on a Polish ship is not known. However, the fact that an 18 year old leading seaman was the recipient of what is believed to be Poland’s highest award (and decorated, it is believed, by General Sikorski himself) is particularly noteworthy—especially as the only other NZ recipients of the award were Wing Commander Checketts, then of Invercargill (and father of C. J. (Chris) Checketts (1961-66) and Group Captain Scott! Keith has asked us whether Cameron is still alive, and we do not know; indeed we have never known his address, nor even if he ever returned to NZ after the war—but his name is not on any 2004 electoral roll. When he attended King’s he lived at Abbotsford, but there is some confusion as to the exact dates: the Silver Jubilee book offers two possibilities—1936, and 1937-39—while the Golden Jubilee book records his attendance as being 1936-39. We would welcome any information concerning Cameron, no matter how tenuous, in order that we might construct the big picture.

For the record eight other Old Boys were decorated for their exploits during World War II: The Distinguished Flying Cross (D.F.C.) was awarded to G. R. B. (Geoff) Highet (1937), the late R. M. (Reay) MacKay (1939), J.D. (Dave) Mercier (1936-38) and the late W. A. L. (Bill) Trott (1937-40); J. R. M. (Jack) Morris (1936-37) received the Military Medal (M.M.); J. E. (James) Brown (1941) was awarded the British Empire Medal (B.E.M.); while Sir Frank W. Holmes (1937-41) and the late A. S. (‘Dick’) Mills (1937-39) were mentioned in dispatches (m.i.d.).

## Business Sector

C. D. (Chris) Baker (1967-71) of Wellington is Chairman of the Coal Association of NZ and has reservations about the proposed carbon tax scheduled for 2007, which it is rumoured will add \$30 to a tonne of sub-bituminous coal. Representing coal producers and a wide range of coal users, he maintains that such a tax is an inefficient, ineffective, and damaging method of sending a carbon price signal to the economy. He believes that it would be a selective tax which would create distortions in the economy; that it would damage those sections of the NZ economy relying on competitively-priced energy when competing overseas; that agriculture (50%) and

transport (20%) emit most of the greenhouse gases; that it will be ineffective in changing behaviour; and that industries not exempt from tax and unable to pass on increased costs will have to cut back output, or close. Chris believes that research and development of CO<sub>2</sub> emission education technologies should be encouraged, and incentives in that direction provided. He further stresses that NZ should also be aware of overseas research, and position itself to be a fast adaptor of such technologies when they become commercially viable.

A. W. (Bill) Baylis (1959-62) has been the driving force behind the merger of rural servicing companies Pyne Gould Guinness and Wrightsons. After leaving school in the sixth form, he joined an insurance company while studying accountancy part-time, before leaving to complete his B. Com, and subsequently an M. Com at Otago University. He joined the small accountancy firm of Cowan & Morton with a view to obtaining his professional qualifications before heading overseas—but he never went for at age 23 he was offered a partnership. Through various amalgamations the company grew to be part of KPMG, with Bill as its chairman of partners. He resigned in 1992 seeking fresh challenges which have resulted in his becoming a professional company director rather than a chartered accountant, and is chairman of PGG, Fiordland Travel, Naylor Love, and Cotton Soft, and is on the board of Affco and Blackhead Quarries. The merged combine of PGG-Wrightsons Ltd will be good for Dunedin, for while the corporate office would be based in Christchurch, the two regional administrative centres would be Dunedin and Napier. Bill is a traditional Otago businessman, typically preferring to toil away in the background, while ensuring that reporting structures are in place to address any problems. He is regarded as being pragmatic, having the skills and the ability to focus on the important aspects of governance, as well as to see the larger goals.

S. J. (Steve) Brocklebank (1968-73) was one of the facilitators running a free seminar under the auspices of the Otago Chamber of Commerce, designed for those who are treasurers of not-for-profit organisations.

Specialist Dunedin eftpos company Technology Holdings was established five years ago, with one employee to rent and finance eftpos terminals to business firms. However, rapid expansion, especially within the last year means that it now has 12 franchises nationwide, a finance division, \$12 million in assets, and employs nearly 40 people. To cope with expected future partnerships with Telecom and banks, while sticking to its bread and butter business of serving small and medium-sized businesses (which make up 80% of the NZ business landscape) the company has made governance changes, with a new chairman L. J. (Lindsay) Brown (1956-60), while G. R. (Geoff) Thomas (1958-62) is also on the board.

For 45 years, L. S. C. (Stuart) Botting (1957-59), Wrightson’s wool technical executive officer has travelled up to 100,000km throughout Otago, spurning promotion to executive positions elsewhere in NZ, to spread the message and his know-how to farmers that they should not compromise the quality and preparation of their wool clip. Starting as a trainee classer in the Dalgety woolstore, he eventually became head classer-wool supervisor, before NZ Loan & Mercantile merged with Dalgety, who then merged with Wrightson, who are now merging with Pyne Gould Guinness. He has greatly valued his contact with his clients over the years, sometimes dealing with fourth generation families, and he rued the closure 10 years ago of

the Dunedin wool selling centre. Stuart's contribution to the wool industry was recognised recently by the Otago Merino Association with an award thanking him for his services. In his spare time he works on his North Taieri farmlet and indulges his passion for gardening.

R.P. (Paul) Clough (1971-74) is the manager of the Dunedin firm C. J. Saunders Engineering, which is as busy now as at anytime in its 30 year history. The company operates in the lower half of the South Island doing a broad range of engineering work from hydraulics maintenance to the structural engineering of commercial buildings: recent projects have included structural steelwork for Southland's new hospital, and the construction of practice nets for Otago Cricket. Like many engineering businesses in NZ, the firm is struggling to find qualified staff, but employs several apprentices among its 30-strong staff.

At the internationally recognised Le Mondial Du Pinot Noir competition held in Sierre, Switzerland in August, the Shaky Bridge 2003 pinot noir, together with another Alexandra entry, was awarded a gold medal. This label is used by William Hill vineyard, operated by W. H. (Bill) Grant (1945-50), for its export line of wines. Such success in Europe reflects Central Otago's growing reputation as one of the world's best producers of pinot noir grapes, and will hopefully help Central winemakers gain entry into new markets in Europe.

M. J. (Mike) Henderson (1968-72) has recently been appointed chairman of the NZ Franchise Association.

In July last year, D. J. (Dennis) Ireland (1968-71) established Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), a \$1 million vehicle supply company at Ward St in Dunedin, which also included a Kawasaki dealership, thereby maintaining links with his motorcycle racing past. His business can rent an extreme range of vehicles: trucks, concrete-mixer trucks, diggers, trailers, and even jet skis. In 1976, Dennis had left Dunedin to pursue a motorcycle road-racing career in Europe, where better financial opportunities were available. In 1978, he hit the headlines by winning the Race of Aces in England, beating the then world champion. Next year he won the Belgian Grand Prix, and was voted NZ motorcycle sportsman of the year; but while contracted to the Suzuki Great Britain team, a publicity photo-shoot went wildly wrong, he crashed into a concrete post and was hospitalised for five months—but he did marry one of the nurses! In 1982 he won the Isle of Man TT feature event, and enjoyed considerable success on the highly competitive European circuit. However, after the birth of the first of three daughters, he retired from racing and became involved in the heavy commercial transport industry in England, before returning to Dunedin last year. His enterprise has proved to be so successful that recently he expanded to Cromwell, opening a five-person operation there.

Yet another prodigal has decided to forsake the synthetic futilities of Auckland and return to his native land! Since 1997 orthodontist A. G. (Tony) Lawrence (1961-65) and his archaeologist wife Joan have been commuting to the 45th parallel near Lowburn and quietly establishing a boutique vineyard. They have planted nearly 20 hectares in pinot noir, pinot gris, riesling, and chardonnay grapes, and induced their son to qualify as a winemaker and viticulturist. They have also had a house, modelled on the original Feraud winery near Clyde, built from schist rock and materials obtained from demolition yards, and furnished to reflect their magpie progress over the years through Europe, the Middle East and Asia. At

Labour Weekend they opened the tasting room for Aurum Wines in a small wooden cottage near the Cromwell-Wanaka junction, selling small quantities of the 2003 pinot noir, and their 2005 riesling and pinot gris, and are constructing a large winery alongside to cope with their 2006 vintage. They also sell their own olive oil and walnuts, along with other Cromwell products.

About 20 years ago when the late A. J. (Allen) McAuley (1966-70) established a retail business in George Street that is now called Health 2000, the health and well-being industry was considered to be somewhat alternative. His younger brother G. C. (Graeme) McAuley (1973-77) took over when he died eleven years ago, and now the vastly expanded firm is regarded as a lifestyle solution for the mainstream. People no longer blindly trust the medical and pharmaceutical industries, but have better access to information and are free to make choices. Health stores are no longer just about bulk foods and muesli bars, but stock everything from cartilage-care supplements, to natural hair dyes, and aim to prevent poor health. This diversity of product may be loosely classified by three 'S's: sports zone, skin (& hair) care, and supplements. Within these fields there is an astonishing and ever-expanding choice of brands and lines

## Obituaries

- J. A. (John) McMillan (1943-46) died at Tauranga 18.6.04
- I. A. (Ivor) McMillan (1938-42) died at Christchurch 13.11.04
- T. G. L. (Trevor) Trott (1940-43) died at Lower Hutt 5.7.05
- J. R. (John) Howorth (1947-51) died at Waiinui Beach, R. D. Wanganui 9.7.05
- J. A. (Alan) Brighting (1936-38) died at Auckland 11.7.05
- J. R. (Jay) Debenham (1991-95) died at Dunedin ? .7.05
- N. J. (Neville) Barrington (1953-54) died at Auckland 30.7.05
- N. R. (Nelson) Redshaw (1951-54) died at Alexandra 3.8.05
- J. P. (Jim) Malcolm (1936-39) died at Christchurch 15.8.05
- A. M. (Murray) Gillan (1939-40) died at Gore 4.9.05
- N. L. (Norman) Angell (1949-50) died at Pinehaven, Hutt City 12.9.05
- R. G. (Bob) Russell (1939-42) died at Christchurch 19.9.05
- T. C. (Tom) Miller (1938-41) of Alexandra, died at Clyde 25.9.05
- C. J. ('Jim') McDonald (1962-66) died at Invercargill 3.10.05
- H. K. (Keith) Tomkins (1937-38) died at Tapanui 3.10.05
- W. K. (Keith) Sudden (1942-45) died at Picton 4.10.05
- G. C. (Gordon) Panting (1937-40) died at North Shore City 15.10.05
- R. I. (Ron) Williams (1937-39) died at Hamilton 16.10.05
- N. J. T. (Nikora) Unu (1999-2003) died at Dunedin 23.10.05
- A. J. (Aaron) Batchelor (1992-95) died at Dunedin 24.10.05
- J. N. (Jack) Cox (1938-41) died at Lower Hutt 24.10.05
- M. A. (Merv) Gunn (1943-45) of Twizel, died at Timaru 31.10.05

carried by the firm, which has earned a trusted reputation as a supplier of high quality health, fitness and cosmetic products.

G. W. (Grant) McLean (1966-70) is managing director of a South Dunedin firm called Electrolink Services, which helps authorities monitor and manage water resources. It supplies data-gathering equipment which may be installed in remote areas to relay the data via telemetry to operators where it is presented in graphic form. The company has been providing Otago and Southland businesses with industrial and PLC-controlled systems for more than 20 years, and clients include the DCC, Contact Energy, Innovative Engineering, Fonterra, Allied Concrete, Fulton Hogan, Sealord, Scott Technology, Metcoil Automation (USA) and McLeay Industries.

Otago Chamber of Commerce Central Otago Chairman S. J. (Stu) Millis (1973-76) reports that sky-rocketing industrial land prices in the Queenstown Lakes District are forcing business owners to relocate to other areas such as Cromwell, and more recently to Alexandra. Wanaka has priced itself off the market for industrial land, while those working in trades could no longer afford to live there unless they worked from home. This problem had been happening in Queenstown for years (with workers commuting from Lumsden and Cromwell!) and as a result the community was losing services.

E. W. (Ewan) Oats (1971-73) is senior construction supervisor for Naylor Love Ltd, which has grown from its small beginnings in Dunedin 95 years ago to now rank as one of the top NZ construction firms with an annual turnover exceeding \$150 million. From Kaitaia to Invercargill the firm is working on construction projects as varied as aquatic centres, sea walls, bulk retail complexes, shopping malls, casinos, university buildings and factories, and the company has won regional and national awards for its work (e.g., as at Otago University, Otago Museum, Ross Home, and for a reservoir at Queenstown). The key to its success is its high levels of communication with all stakeholders, and its long-term approach to relationships and commercial dealings. The lack of skilled workers is a problem, although Naylor Love has traditionally operated a very active apprentice-training programme (Ewan himself started as an apprentice there 31 years ago—today they have around 50 in training) and acknowledge the value of such skills by promoting capable workers into more senior roles within the company.

We have from time to time in past issues of the *Kingsmen* followed the career of former banker turned ice cream maker M. M. (Mark) Scorgie (1967-72) and can report that the Gourmet Ice Cream Company has celebrated its 10th birthday. As the company now produces 1000 litres a day in 20-litre batches of more than 400 flavours, a larger factory is planned where tourists can watch the process—‘made by connoisseurs not chemists’—and taste the finished product. Sadly, Mark’s own ice cream consumption has been curtailed following the diagnosis of his diabetes, although fortunately the company does a range of diabetic ice cream! However, the main problem is the weather: if it is a cold summer, sales suffer, while in a heat wave, customers prefer ice blocks!

D.J. (David) Smillie (1987-91) graduated from Otago University with a LLB (Hons) degree and specialises in commercial and intellectual property law, which means involvement in acquisitions, commercial leases and licensing, financing, and securities. He joined the commercial team at Dunedin law firm Gallaway Cook Allan in 1997, but moved to the UK in

1999 where he worked within the in-house legal departments of firstly British Aerospace, and subsequently Hitachi Data Systems, the global information technology company. He returned to Dunedin and rejoined the commercial team as an associate, and has recently been accepted as a partner.

Fonterra recently paid \$754 million for the Anchor brand in NZ, part of a company that three years ago cost \$310 million—half of which was previously owned by Fonterra! Director of strategy G. R. (Graham) Stuart (1971-75) explained that the purchase was partly emotional: it had retained the brand overseas, while it was also part of the strategy to fine brand numbers from more than 100 to 10 global names. It also aims to be ‘category captain’ in the consumer brands it is in, and it would be embarrassing not to have that position in NZ.

G.R. (Geoff) Thomas (1958-62) is board chairman of Dunedin-based South Island law firm Anderson Lloyd Caudwell, which recently brushed aside some legal heavyweights to be named NZ large law firm of the year. The firm which also has offices in Queenstown and Christchurch was also named resource management and environmental lawyer of the year.

P. F. (Peter) Tibbitts (1961-65) who works for Ernst & Young, multinational chartered accountants, has left Turkey for Romania after more than three years—about the usual length of time he has spent in the last seven countries he has worked in. Turkey has been a great country in which to live, but a hard place business-wise, whereas Romania was much more westernised, and would be joining the EU in 18 months (Turkey’s entry is 10-15 years away). Peter is also getting more sleep, and is not missing the 4.00 am prayer calls!

Mosgiel horticulturist C. M. (Clive) Wallis (1964-65) is managing director of the Shanghai Opel Horticulture Company’s nursery at Yong Sheng village, west of Shanghai. The business is a five-year-old Chinese-Otago joint venture, with the emphasis on producing shrubs for landscaping, new housing projects, and roadside plantings. Unfortunately Typhoon Matsa called by recently and blew away all the propagating and tunnel houses, destroying thousands of cuttings in the process, but normal service should have been resumed by now!

## Sporting Triumphs

### Skeggs Foundation

Recent recipients of grants have included: J. A. (James) Coombes (1996-2000), T. S. G. (Tim) Hunt (1998-2002), A. E. (Andrew) Newton (2000-04) and P. J. (Peter) Ryan (1996-2000) in beachsports; N. L. (Nathan) McCullum (1994-98) in cricket; and R. C. (Rhys) Applegarth (present boy) in swimming.

### Bowls

K. G. (Ken) Walker (1960-63), played in the Northeast Valley Invitation singles tournament held at Labour weekend. He also comments on matters concerning bowls every Saturday morning on the Newstalk ZB sports programme.

### Cricket

W. K. (Warren) Lees (1965-69), the former international cricketer and coach, has been coaching the Central Otago Hawke Cup team for the past three seasons, but will coach the Southland Hawke Cup team this season.

G. P. (Geoff) Rodden (1974-78, Board of Trustees 2003-) has been appointed director of coaching for Otago women's cricket.

Former Otago all-rounder D. J. (Derek) Walker (1973-78), son of the late S. A. (Alan) Walker (1937-38), took up umpiring three years ago after attending a seminar. This season he has been contracted by NZ Cricket as an umpire under a new fast-track initiative.

## **Cycling**

G. A. (Gordon) McCauley (1985-89), representing Counties Manukau, won the national road race for the fourth time recently, having previously won in 1997, 2001 and 2002. Riding from the front in a strong display, and taking 4 hours 15 min 28 sec for the 175km journey, he is only the third cyclist to achieve this feat, joining Trevor Carter from the 1940s and Jack Swart from the late 1970s/early 1980s. In August he finished third in the Tour of Tasmania, and is now heading south to compete in the Tour of Southland.

## **Golf**

In September, B. A. (Brent) McEwan (1995-97) blitzed the field to win the North Otago strokeplay by about 10 shots. He then led Otago to victory over Southland later in the month, while in the Masters (over 40), a team led by G. (Graeme) Barbara (1969-71) and including J. S. (John) Roche (1956-60) and K. I. (Kim) MacDonald (1966-71) also defeated their Southland counterparts. Brent will lead the Otago team, which won the South Island team's event in October, at the national championships at Titirangi in November, while Graeme Barbara will be a member of the Masters team.

W. J. (Bill) Trewern (1962-66), prominent schoolboy coach and science teacher at OBHS, has become the golfing correspondent for the *ODT*.

J. R. (John) Howorth (1947-51) who died recently represented Otago in Freyberg Interprovincial Golf (now the Tower Trophy) for many years before becoming a club professional. He was the professional at the Otago Golf Club before moving to the North Island, and died at his home near Wanganui. Golf was not a sport at King's until 1967 but several who commenced at the school before this date became prominent, representing Otago or other provinces. They were R. C. (Ross) Murray (1948-50), B. A. (Brian) Colquhoun (1949-50), C. G. (Corran) Munro (1952-57), R. F. (Russell) Jones (1953-55), G. D. (Graeme) Brown (1956-59), J. S. (John) Roche (1956-60), and P. J. (Peter) Young (1956-60). Ross Murray and Graeme Brown also represented New Zealand.

## **Hockey**

When D. C. (Darren) Smith (1987-91) played against Spain recently, it was his 195th international—and he is still in the squad! On several occasions he has captained the Black Sticks this year.

The Southern Men's National Hockey League team included C. W. (Chris) Ashton (1998-2002) and J. P. (Jeremy) Botting (1993-97).

The Under 18 Otago team, coached by A. F. (Alister) Young (1960-64) and captained by 2005 head boy A. J. (Andrew) Ashton, won the national title this season (traditionally dominated by Auckland and Canterbury) for what is believed to be the first time ever.

## **Horseracing**

J. W. (Bill) Duell (1960-62) was one of nine lucky *ODT* readers to win an all-expenses-paid share in 'U-bet', a 4 year old bay gelding leased by the *ODT* and the TAB for 12 months.

## **Multisport**

P. E. (Eddie) Smith (1993-97) won the North Taieri duathlon (5 km run, 20 km bike, 2.5 km run) by more than 4 minutes in July.

## **Rugby**

C. J. (Carl) Hayman (1993-97) is currently touring the British Isles with the All Blacks.

P. C. (Paul) Miller (1994-95), who was a guest speaker at the 2005 Blues dinner to honour King's elite sportsmen, has accepted an offer to play for a Japanese club for the next three years.

R. T. (Roy) O'Fisa (1999-2001) was named North Otago NPC forward of the year.

King's remarkable record as a nursery for prodigious front row forward talent continues with the naming of I. A. M. (Mike) Mata'afa (prop) and B. T. (Breydon) Mitchell (hooker) in the NZ Under 17 rugby team. They follow in the recent footsteps of J. M. (Joe) McDonnell (1986-88), T. E. (Tom) Willis (1992-97), Carl Hayman, J. M. (Jason) MacDonald (1995-98), and B. M. (Ben) Nolan (1997-2001). When Dunedin won this year's premier club final, the team included Jason MacDonald (hooker) and (prop) W. M. (Will) Henry (1998-2002)!

On the Friday morning before the Springbok test at Carisbrook in August, 430 gathered for a testimonial breakfast to honour L. W. (Laurie) Mains (1960-64) for his contribution to rugby as a player and a coach in both NZ and South Africa. With Paul Allison as MC, speakers included Colin Meads, Sir Brian Lochore, Johan Prinsloo (CEO, SARU), John Dowling, Sir Clifford Skeggs, Ian Jones, Frank Bunce, Hennie le Roux, Dick Taylor, along with tributes from overseas by video link. Funds raised as a result of the breakfast were given to the Sassenachs Club to be used for rugby scholarships for talented young Otago players.

## **Rugby League**

B. (Barry) Jordan (1992), R. K. (Ryan) Tapsell (1986-88), and P. (Phil) Tuitufu (2002) represented Otago this season.

## **Snooker**

G. A. (Garry) Hale (1985-87) and his partner won their 5th South Island chartered club pairs title in Oamaru in August.

## **Soccer**

A. D. (Andy) Coburn (1993-97) and T. C. (Tim) Horner (1998-2000) are members of the Otago United team which competes in the NZ Football Championships.

## **Surf Lifesaving**

A. E. (Andrew) Newton (2000-2004) and H. (Heath) Ratten (2000-2004) have migrated to the warmer waters of Tauranga this summer, where they will be working, training and competing with the Mt Maunganui Surf Lifesaving Club under coach J. L. (John) Bryant (1977-80).



The Hon. D. H (David) Benson-Pope (1963-67) was returned to Parliament by a majority of Dunedin South voters, and has been rewarded with the Cabinet portfolios of Minister of Social Development and Employment, and Minister for the Environment.

From time to time, as we have become aware of the situation, we have made mention of those who have celebrated their Golden Wedding, and can record that E. F. (Evan) Browne (1945-48) of Albert Town, K. D. (Kevin) Doig (1948-49) of Raglan, and our vice-president R. G. (Ron) Paterson (1948-50) of Broad Bay have reached this milestone. However in August W. S. (Bill) Robertson (1936-38) of Nelson demonstrated that 50 years was too easy by achieving 60 years of married life, and he was followed a month later by W. (Bill) Gale (1938-39) of Mosgiel. The latter was a RNZAF pilot in England when he married his British aircraftswoman, but this did not prevent an eight-month separation before they were reunited in NZ—if they had merely been engaged the separation could have been for up to four years! We had wondered whether Bill Robertson was the first Old Boy to celebrate his Diamond Wedding, but some detecting has revealed that I. A. (Ian) Murdoch (1936-37) of Mosgiel reached this milestone in 2004, and there may well be others.

In the November 2003 *Kingsmen* we listed nine Old Boys who had graduated from the Otago School of Mines, and we have recently become aware of two more. K. A. (Keith) Shearer (1938-42), whose address is given in the *Roll of the Graduates of the University of Otago* (1989) as Shell Sekiyu K K, Tokyo, Japan, died in KeriKeri in 1989. J. A. (Alister) Thomson (1938-42) whose address was given in the *Roll* as Jantar Nigeria Ltd, Bukuru Benue-Plateau State, Nigeria, and who had Stewart Island connections, had died in England in 1986.

When M. F. (Merv) Bradley (1943-44) attended King's, he lived next to the Parkside Hotel: today the site is occupied by the Carisbrook Tavern's beer garden! In 1944 the family shifted to Gisborne, where he attended Gisborne High School from 1944-47. Merv duly became a primary school teacher, and ultimately a school principal in the area. He writes (posthumously?) from Gisborne:

*I decided earlier this year to make my last big trip overseas in May. My wife and I had been here, there and everywhere during my long retirement, and I wanted to see my favourite European country, Norway, for the third and last time. I particularly wanted to be in Oslo on May 17th which is Norway's National Day and celebrated in a particular Norwegian way—it is the children's day and in all the land children sing and dance and parade in front of the Mayor, Council and townspeople, each one waving a Norwegian flag.*

*I had a couple of days before the National Day and I decided to visit a place I had not seen on my previous visits—the Norsk Folk Museum. This is a collection of 40 or 50 Norwegian houses from various parts of the country arranged as a working village and I spent a relaxing day poking around the houses and watching women bake bread and folk dancing on the village green. The village is in Bygdøy a few miles from Oslo so at about 4 pm I started making my way to the taxi*

*rank in a moderate crowd. Suddenly without any warning a huge black cloud enveloped me and I fell heavily (although I didn't feel that)—my heart had stopped beating as had my pulse and breathing! But a miracle was about to happen—there were three Norwegian nurses surrounding me when I fell—two of them worked in Intensive Care wards and they knew what to do. Within seconds they were pummelling my chest and giving me the kiss of life and after a struggle brought me back to life. Then an ambulance took me to the Ullevalla University Hospital's Heart Unit, where I woke up feeling very sore from my bruised ribs.*

*The Manager of the Folk Museum visited me the next day and I asked him what had happened out there. The three nurses had just melted into the crowd, so he thought an appeal should be made through the local paper **Aften Posten** to find these ladies. So the next day a reporter and photographer came to the hospital and the result was an article about the 'Three Angels of Oslo'. Yes, they all replied and I have their names—when I got back home I sent them each a book about N.Z. and a fulsome letter of thanks. My recovery was quick and painless, except for some sore ribs. The doctors thought a pacemaker would solve my problem, and I am now wandering around with a state of the art Norwegian pacemaker inserted under the skin near my shoulder. The care I received in Norway was excellent and free—all the nurses and doctors spoke English as did most of my fellow patients.*

We asked J. A. J. (John) Cushen (1963-67, staff 1984-2000) what he has been doing and received an email from Siros, a Greek Island in the Aegean Sea. John advised that he and Amanda were getting paid to run a motor catamaran for the ex-Commodore of the New York Yacht Club. They met in Doubtful Sound 4 years ago when he was over as the NYYC was in the Americas Cup and he was Commodore. They do charter work (discount for ex-King's High pupils and teachers) and have the boat where charterers want it when they come over. The "job" has taken them around the Turkish coast, especially the great cruising grounds of South Turkey, through the Greek Isles in the Aegean, to all the ancient sites of the classic world—Delphi, Athens, Ephesus, etc., and through the Ionian Sea up through the Adriatic Sea to Croatia and Montenegro. John is the skipper whilst Amanda is crew/hostess/chef. Barry Neilson (mentioned in the London gathering with Colin Donald) owns and manages 130 charter sailing yachts in the Corfu area—as John says "the King's influence is everywhere". The efforts made to watch rugby tests against the Lions were detailed and they were trying to find a Sky dish on a Greek island to see the N.P.C. final.



Digitally enhanced portrait of NZ's 37th most powerful person: M. J. B. (Murray) Deaker (1958-62).

D. R. (Dallas) Prentice (1958-61) of South City Books and Toys in King Edward Street has not forgotten his old school and periodically presents bundles of magazines to the school library, much to the delight of librarian Bridget Schaumann and the boys. A bit of a change from the *Student Digests* of yesteryear!

R. (Raymond) Chan (1970-74) living in Wellington and N. A. (Norman) Chan (1973-77) living in Christchurch commenced wine tasting and judging as a hobby many years ago in Dunedin. Raymond made it his profession and is a wine advisor at Regional Wines and has had 17 years national wine-judging experience. He was one of the five judges on red wines for the July 2005 issue of *Consumer* magazine, and was also one of the senior judges, along with Professor I. McG (Ivan) Donaldson (1955-59), at the inaugural New Zealand Wine Show held this year.

About a year ago, I. J. (Ian) Robertson (1947-50), his wife Pat, and others from the Silverpeaks Black and Coloured Sheep Breeders' Association hosted 54 breeders from around the world on their Otago Peninsula farm. The visitors had previously attended a World Congress in Christchurch, which had attracted more than 230. Breeders of such sheep tend to be passionate about natural fibre, and its colours, blends and the subsequent products (which are dye-free!).

Earlier this year, the daughter of Rudi Gopas who was living and painting in Dunedin in the late 1940s, visited Dunedin searching for the identities of several of his unnamed portraits. One was of Charles Brasch, and it was suggested that another of a schoolboy was P. E. (Paul) Oestreicher (1945-49)—the King's High School tie gave him away! This was confirmed a few weeks later when Paul happened to visit Dunedin. Apparently the Oestreicher and Gopas families were good friends and neighbours and Rudi actually painted three portraits of him.

## We need your help!!

*Can you remember any budding artists, designers, sculptors, jewellers, ceramicists, printmakers, etc. from your time at King's High School?*

*We are trying to track down any old boy who has gone into any of these professions.*

*We are hoping to have your help in a fundraising venture for the new King's and Queen's Performing Arts Centre (more details to come).*

*If you, or any of your friends or family members, are old boys and fit this profile, we would love to hear from you.*

Please contact Kirstyn Mawdsley (Arts' Co-ordinator) at King's High School, 270 Bayview Road, Dunedin, or e-mail me on [kirstynm@queens.school.nz](mailto:kirstynm@queens.school.nz)

To enable information on short notice functions to be forwarded quickly and at less cost when the occasion arises would those with e-mail addresses please forward your e-mail address as follows:-

1. Dunedin based members to: [sps@kingshigh.school.nz](mailto:sps@kingshigh.school.nz) or P.O. Box 163, Dunedin
2. Canterbury members to: Alister Campbell at [alandpat@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alandpat@xtra.co.nz)
3. Wellington members to: Alex Ross at [joce.alex@paradise.net.nz](mailto:joce.alex@paradise.net.nz)
4. Nelson members to: Kevin St John at [kgstjohn@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kgstjohn@xtra.co.nz).



### Contact Addresses

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 Email: [office@kingshigh.school.nz](mailto:office@kingshigh.school.nz)  
 but head Old Boys' Association

Website: [http://www.angelfire.com/un/khs\\_old\\_boys/](http://www.angelfire.com/un/khs_old_boys/)

Contents for March 2006 *Kingsmen* to be received as soon as possible and by 25th February. Please inform us on events to be held and events that have been held.