



THE KINGSMEN

NOVEMBER 2004

“A Splendid Group of Boys” The 1954 intake Reunion, Labour Weekend



Back Row L to R: Craig Lukeman, Murray Clark, Keith Erskine, Mike Sydney, John Taylor, Murray Tamblin, David Kennedy, Roy Jenner, David Horne, Trevor Gray, Errol Smart, Colin Gilbert, Colin Tourelle.

Middle Row L to R: Allan Russell, David Morrell, Winston Bishop, Donald Warrington, Ian McKenzie, Fergus Brand, Earle Shaw, Russell Bell, Winston Baker, Noel Murphy, Mike Young, Winston Parks, Gerald Oliphant, Ray MacDonald, Bruce Finnie, Peter Nimmo, Trevor Reeves.

Front Row L to R: Evan Black, Neil Sinclair, Harry Young, Lex Howie, Max Kennelly, Ian Simpson, Garry Jeffery, Jim McCready, Dave Simmers, Jim Brown, Bill Townsend, Keith Duncan, Ken Adam.

46 old boys, who had commenced their secondary schooling in 1954 came together over Labour Weekend to share in their own 50th reunion.

The programme for the weekend included a luncheon at the school on the Saturday, followed by a tour of the ‘new school’ accompanied by current Head Prefect, Simon Versteeg, and two of his team. An informal get together on Saturday evening, at which a number of spouses/partners also attended, allowed for the sharing of many reminiscences—mostly humorous, judged by the amount of laughter.

On Sunday some 30 people attended a church service as the guests of the St Clair Presbyterian Church congregation. The service was led by Rev. Winston Baker of the 1954 ‘boys’ and his brother and current Minister of the Church, Rev. Ken Baker (1961–66) and involved responses from the old boys present.

On Sunday evening 71 people attended the Reunion Dinner at

the Leisure Lodge. They included the old boys and a number of spouses/partners, five former teachers in Reg. Graham, Garry Jeffery, Jim McCready, Ray McDonald, and Ian Page, and current Rector, Colin Donald and his wife, Justine.

A highlight of the dinner was the appearance of Chris Fennessy (1984–1988), Head Prefect in 1988 who has only recently returned from London where he had been starring in “Les Miserables.” He sang three songs for the group, receiving a standing ovation at their conclusion.

The group also heard from Colin Donald who spoke about the current school and from Ian Page, Garry Jeffery, and Jim McCready who each reminisced about their experience as teachers at the school in the 1950s. The evening concluded with the showing of the 1954–1958 school films.

A number of old boys took part in two optional activities during the weekend. Donald Warrington led a group on a tour

A Splendid Group of Boys Continued

of the University on the Saturday and Russell Bell led a group of golfers around Belleknowes Golf Course on the Sunday.

We are grateful to Mr Donald for allowing us to take over the school for the weekend and, particularly, to Jim McCready who attended all of the functions as 'one of the boys.' We are also indebted to good friends of the school, Margaret and Malcolm Campbell, parents of Simon (1982–1986) and Andrew (1984–1988), and Pat and George Munro, parents of Darren (1979–

1984 and current K.H.S.O.B. committee member) and Gary (1982–1986), who took on the catering duties on Saturday and ensured that everyone was well fed.

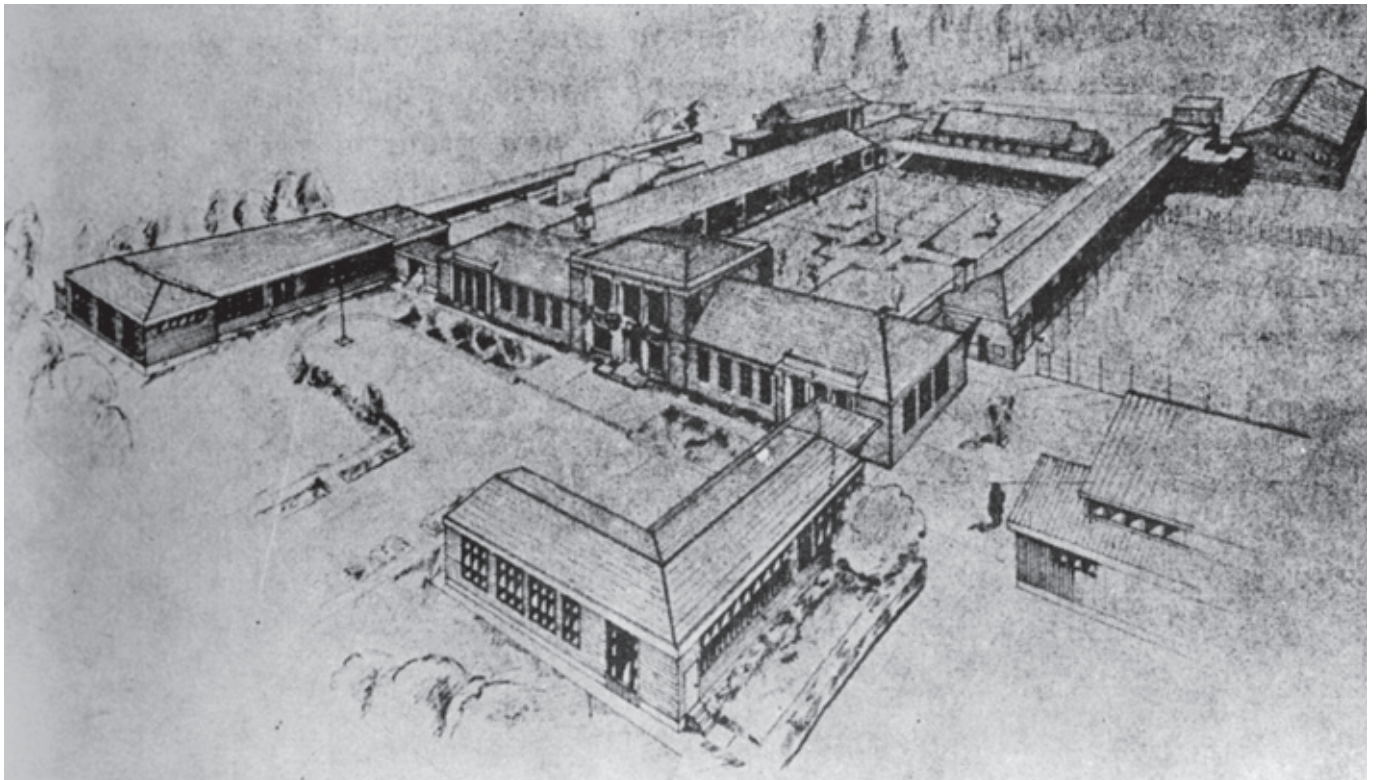
From the amount of positive feedback received by the organisers, Dave Simmers and Ian Simpson, the reunion was a great success, enjoyed by all who had been part of it. It was just a pity that Bill Townsend could not attend the dinner to respond in person to the memories he invoked in others.



Last issue under Pictorial History we showed an aerial photograph of the buildings in 1960 following previous ones of the school in its first four years. The spread of the buildings and prefabs was required for the increase of the roll in 1960 which remained reasonably stable at about 700 in the decade.

The drawing of King's in 1968 shows extensions to the Science block (South East) and the Library block (North East) towards each other near Bay View Road. Out of the picture a new wing with five classrooms and the art room were in use in 1965 after prefabs were moved across the lower ground.

The drawing does show the Memorial Gymnasium (North West) which was officially opened and in use early in 1962. The Gymnasium which was later extended and the iron fence at the front are probably the only structures from that time which still exist.



Drawing of King's High School 1968

Membership

As most would be aware we have had a continuing membership campaign which commenced just prior to the 60th Reunion in 1996.

Approximately 3150 invitations to join plus *Kingsmens* have been posted. Some would have received two in that period of under 10 years, plus personal contacts have been made by members. A combination of both to an ex-pupil probably produces the best result.

Going by the final replies producing membership, 401 have joined from those 3150 invitations, with a further 52 resulting from contact by mainly committee members, and 35 from inquiries to the Association. Thus 488 have joined, or rejoined after drifting away for some years.

Unfortunately we have lost over the period 144 who are deceased, resigned or lapsed unpaid, with a few we could not trace after their *Kingsmens* were returned G.N.A.

An analysis of our records shows as follows:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Membership at 31/12/95 | 437 |
| Plus New members to October 2004 | 488 |
| Less loss of members | 144 |
| Membership at 31/10/04 | 781 |
| Areas of Residence | |
| Southland | 19 |
| Otago | 52 |
| Dunedin City (Waikouaiti to Brighton & Outram) | 275 |
| North Otago | 10 |
| South/Mid Canterbury | 23 |
| Christchurch (Rangiora to Darfield/Leeston & Akaroa) | 95 |
| North Canterbury/Marlborough | 8 |
| Nelson/West Coast | 18 |
| Wellington/Hutt/Kapiti (to Waikanae) | 63 |
| Manawatu/Wanganui/Horowhenua | 18 |
| Taranaki | 2 |
| Hawkes Bay/East Coast | 14 |
| Bay of Plenty//Rotorua/Coromandel | 25 |
| Waikato | 14 |
| Auckland (Orewa to Pokeno & Waiuku) | 73 |
| Northland | 3 |
| Overseas | 62 |
| Staff not ex-pupils | 7 |
| | 781 |

Ex-pupils in Dunedin are more easily traced and contacted, and with the Dunedin committee members meeting non members, the push there is naturally lopsided.

An analysis like this was done in early 1999 and since then the Christchurch increase is 28 mainly after the function held in 2002. Otago members helped by those retiring have increased by 20 to 52, with 19 in the Wanaka/Hawea area. Those living overseas have shown their true spirit with an increase from 27 to 62.

Years Commenced

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1936 | 31 |
| 1937–41 | 70 |
| 1942–46 | 91 |
| 1947–51 | 118 |
| 1952–56 | 141 |
| 1957–61 | 127 |
| 1962–66 | 77 |
| 1967–71 | 48 |
| 1972–76 | 34 |
| 1977– | 37 |
| Staff not ex-pupils | 7 |
| | 781 |

For many years now we have expressed concern that the percentage of members to those commencing from 1958 onwards was less than in earlier years. The numbers starting from 1958 until the end of the 1970's also exceeded earlier years. Those numbers have improved but none exceed 15% and from 1962 are less than 10% each year.

You will note that there are 31 (16%) proud to have been from the foundation year. Some who commenced in 1936 were Form 5 pupils so you can work out the ages. Also it is pleasing to have 24 (22%) out of 107 who commenced in 1942 and they would be say 76 now. Actually there are 7 years (1942, 1948, 1949, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1955) with over 20% membership the highest being in 1948 at 27% (age say 70 years).

The total used for every year includes those who are deceased which makes earlier years increasingly impressive.

Administration

Subscriptions

Would you please check that you have paid your subscription. It could have been filed away for action later in the year or tossed out with the junk mail. At the end of October just over 100 were due for 2004, whilst an additional 28 also owe for 2003 with a further 14 outstanding 3 years.

Kingsmen

The committee wishes to acknowledge its appreciation of the many complimentary letters and notes received regarding our three times a year publication.

Address Changes

When you change house there is much to be thought of and done, with notifying change of address being only one. Please do not forget us as each issue we have a few returned. In addition we have found on an odd occasion subscriptions outstanding, the *Kingsmen* not returned, but the member having moved address.

Queen's High School

Queen's High School celebrates its 50th year of existence on June 3rd, 4th and 5th 2005 and well known ex-pupil and author Barbara Newton and a publication committee is producing a publication to mark the event. Contributions are welcome from us from : "over the fence"—a King's perspective. Any little pieces on anything relating to King's—Queen's affairs should be sent quickly to—barbaranewton@xtra.co.nz or Barbara Newton, 57 Albert Street, St Clair, Dunedin. A list of how many King's & Queen's pupils have spent their lives together would surely be considerable.

Activities Around the Country

Dunedin

There was an attendance of 67 at the dinner held on the 26th August at the Chisholm Park Golf Club when neurologist Dr Alan Wright (1973–77) gave an interesting and entertaining speech. This is the most in attendance since annual dinners recommenced in 1989. In addition to being a prominent neurologist Alan has fathered girl triplets. This raises the question does anyone out there know of other ex-pupils who have triplets or perhaps more?

It was pleasing to have those who attended King's in the 1970's and early 1980's. They organised themselves with a group

about the time of the speaker, and another group within the years 1978–1984.

Also every year we have members from out of Dunedin who seem to fit a visit in with the dinner. This year we were pleased to have Murray Dunbar (1953–57) our Christchurch Branch Chairman with us.

Auckland

John Taylor (1954–58) phone 021 964 789 advised that ex-pupils golf was to be held in November at the Remuera Golf Club. Unfortunately prior advice did not fit in with our publication dates.

Wellington

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 15th September at Turnbull House a new venue in Wellington City as the Hutt Club has closed. The A.G.M. was followed by a three course meal with an address to the assembled company by A. G. (Alan) Smith (1957–61). He is now a celebrant at weddings and funerals and his speech provided a lighthearted look at life in Dunedin in the 1950's with an accent on King's High School. It was supported by songs of the time to the delight and participation of the audience.

Chairman John Bray (1944–48) 14 Biddle Crescent, Taita

Secretary Morris Barling (1961–63) PO Box 26118, Wellington. Email mbarling@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer Brian Farrant (1952–55) 19B Kowhai Street, Eastbourne. Email bandmfarrant@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch

Murray Dunbar advised that feedback after the last function suggests, non winter evening events at more accessible venues. The plan is to have a function in late February/early March.

Chairman Murray Dunbar (1953–57) 44 Ashgrove Street, Rangiora. Email: dunbars@ihug.co.nz

Secretary Ian Gamble (1955–58) PO Box 5178, Christchurch. Email: meadowpark@xtra.co.nz

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

Reunions

Some members living outside Dunedin who commenced High School in 1951 have been in contact with one another regarding the possibility of a reunion for those of that year. There are 30 Association members from the 122 Third formers plus say 10 who joined them from other schools later.

Quiz

As was mentioned in the last *Kingsmen*, we are beginning to run out of ideas for questions relating to the history of King's, but it may be that we should think about such problems further away from the printing deadline! However, at short notice we have managed to dredge up the following:

1. Name the two who have been judged Entertainer of the Year—one while still at school?
2. Four wicket keepers have scored test centuries for New Zealand: who are the two from King's?
3. Who (probably) has won the most money from golf?
4. Who is (probably) our most prominent car rally driver?
5. Who represented Zambia in at least two international yachting events?

The School

By the time you receive this the seniors will have finished for the year as their prize giving was held on the 4th November. The junior prize giving is the 7th December.

All the summer interschools against Southland, Shirley and Waitaki are played in the first term of a year now leaving the last term more free for study and exams.

Last issue we reported that the 1st rugby XV had won its first 3 annual interschool matches and if it won or drew against Southland it would join the years with unbeaten records. Unfortunately they lost 16–24. Actually years the 1st XV were unbeaten in annual interschools played were 1940, 1950, 1955, 1962, 1975, 1977, 1990, 1996, 1999 and 2000.

Community Service

Many Old Boys put their names forward at local body election time, but it is difficult to trace all those who were elected, especially given that some results have taken a while to emerge. Still we can record the following successes:

Wellington Regional Council: C. R. (Chris) Laidlaw (1957–61) topped poll.

Dunedin City Council: J. T. (John) Bezett (1957–58).

Invercargill City Council: I. F. (Ian) Capitaneas (1944–45).

Clutha District Council: J. R. (Jeff) Seymour (1969–73).

Canterbury District Health Board: W. D. (David) Morrell (1954–57) topped poll.

Otago Peninsula Community Board: E. L. (Lox) Kellas (1960–66).

Saddle Hill Community Board: S. C. (Scott) Weatherall (1993–97) topped poll.

Actually all except Scott Weatherall were re-elected.

Apart from his duties as a councillor, John Bezett is chairman of the powerful economic development committee, and represents the city on the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society, on the DPAG Acquisition committee, on the Masters Games committee, on the Otago Settlers Association, and on the Gas Works Museum Trust. In his other waking hours he operates a jewellery business in George Street, and leads tour groups overseas—mainly to China, but more recently to India, and to the Middle East.

Cultural Affairs

This year three Old Boys have burst in to print, each making a contribution to NZ sporting history.

First in the field was M. J. B. (Murray) Deaker (1958–62) with his *Just an Opinion*, the second volume in his autobiography, which relates the further adventures of the humble Carisbrook ball boy who became a multimedia megastar.

More recently, I. M. (Ian) Dougherty (1966–70) has published his second book *Southern Sting: the Team that Inspired a Region* which details how the local netball team has galvanised Southland. According to a *NZ Listener* reviewer. Ian has done a good job, capturing perfectly the feelings of their supporters (“us against the world”), defending team policies, and producing a book that is always entertaining. The reviewer further congratulates the publishers for having the foresight

to commission the work, and “for choosing an author who has been able to identify so well with the champions from the south.” His earlier book was a biography of a South Westland folk hero, Arawata Bill.

The third, and most recent author is R. J. (Richard) Boock (1974–77) the *NZ Herald* sports journalist previously with the *ODT*, who has written *Stephen Fleming: Balance of Power*, a biography of the NZ cricket captain.

As G. S. (Grahame) Howley (1951–53) avers, you never know when or in what circumstances you may encounter an Old Boy [like God, they are everywhere?]. As a member of the North Shore Male Choir he was recently at the Triennial Festival of NZ Male Choirs in Hamilton; nine choirs were present, and by chance he found himself sitting next to two members of the Christchurch Liedertafel Choir. Casual conversation revealed that one had grown up virtually just around the corner from him in St Kilda, and had similarly progressed from Forbury school, via Macandrew Intermediate, to King’s albeit some six years later. His name was G. A. (Graeme) Downie (1958–61).

Business Sector

Do your kids have runny noses? Does your wife have a cold? Can you not shake off a nagging cough? Do you believe that it may be “something that is going around?” If so, relax, for it may merely be that your home is suffering from the “sick building syndrome”—indeed a study has suggested that about 30% of NZ’ers spend their winter evenings shivering in temperatures too cold for their health. Fortunately help may be at hand, for P. R. (Paul) Facocory (1965–70) is managing director of Condensation Control Ltd which manufactures the highly efficient Moisture Master system at its Rankeilor Street plant in South Dunedin. This is a ventilation system which not only combats dampness and poor indoor air quality, but keeps out winter chill. The product meets stringent NZ, Australian, British and European standards, and is sold throughout NZ and Australia—a proportion of each sale is donated to the Asthma Foundation of NZ.

In the last *Kingsmen* we appealed for information concerning the whereabouts of J. M. (John) McMillan (1955–57), and sadly we learned of his death in Wellington in March 2003. John was one of five brothers who attended King’s, and after leaving school, served his apprenticeship as a toolmaker with J & A. P. Scott, becoming a highly-skilled precision engineer. He later joined Shell Oil (NZ) Ltd, rising to become their NZ Bitumen Manager. He was held in very high regard within the industry, before taking early retirement in 2000.

Sporting Triumphs

Athletics

M. A. J. (Max) Smith (1998–2002) has left NZ to study law and compete for Providence College in northeastern USA for the next four years. The college will pay his accommodation and student fees, which will enable him to compete on the tough college circuit on track, indoors, and in cross country. Hopefully this change in lifestyle—from working at Speight’s Ale House, studying for the hospitality industry, and training—will enable him to step up to Commonwealth and Olympic Games level. Before he left, Max added the Otago senior men’s 10km road championship title to the Edmond Cup and Otago cross country titles which he had won earlier this year, thereby completing the treble.

Recently a function was held to celebrate 80 years in the life of J. L. (Lin) Rayner (1938–41) and 60 years involvement in athletics.

Basketball

H. J. (Hayden) Allen (1994–98) has joined the NZ Breakers team which is currently competing in the Australian league, but will return to the Otago Nuggets for next year’s season.

Bowls

K. G. (Ken) Walker (1960–63) qualified in Hamilton recently to take part in the \$900,000 UK-based World Bowls Tour next January, where he will compete in a singles tournament in Norfolk.

Cricket

B. B. (Brendon) McCullum (1995–2000) is with the Black Caps in Bangladesh, both for the test series and the one day internationals. While there he scored his maiden test century, with his batting average for the series being 160!

His brother, N. L. (Nathan) McCullum (1994–98) and B. E. (Bradley) Scott (1993–97) have both been awarded contracts by the Otago Cricket Association in view of their last season’s performances. This is rather sad news for the Otago United soccer team currently playing in the new national league, for both would have been strong contenders for the team. Nathan made a stunning start to the Dunedin club season by scoring a century, and then claiming 5 wickets for 33 runs for Albion in the first match.

Our president, W. N. (Warwick) Larkins (1960–63) acted as scorer for the NZ cricket team which toured the United Kingdom in 1978. While there, a game was played against the Netherlands, and Warwick was invited to be a member of the team for this match. While batting, he scored two nervous singles, in the process almost running out Richard Hadlee—he called for a sharp single to open his account when the ball went to the fieldsman’s left hand, little knowing (as Hadlee did!) that the man was left-handed! At a recent meeting of the Cricket Eccentrics—an extremely informal group of antiquated Dunedin cricket lovers who meet at highly irregular intervals, have no officers, keep no records, and do no business—Warwick was presented with a framed score card of the match to commemorate the 25th anniversary of his feat, and a light-hearted account of the match, sent from India by email by John Wright, was read out. Because of unforeseen circumstances, by the time the meeting actually took place, even the 26th anniversary had come and gone, but this delighted rather than perturbed the gathered Eccentrics (some half dozen of whom are Old Boys) who believe that anniversaries need time to mature!

Cycling

G. A. (Gordon) McCauley (1985–89) came third in the sprint results, and won the King of the Mountain title at the recent Tour of Southland.

Golf

G. (Graeme) Barbara (1967–71) has again represented Otago over-40 at the Freyberg Masters Interprovincial Championships held near Timaru recently.

Hockey

The times they are a changing, and hockey too now has a national league. The Southern Team is co-coached by D. E. (Dave) Ross (Staff 1985–) and includes C. W. (Chris) Ashton

(1998–2002) and J. P. (Jeremy) Botting (1993–97).

Over Labour Weekend, the centenary of the Otago Hockey Association was celebrated with a reunion. Chairman of the Anniversary Committee, was L. M. (Merv) Rowe (1949), while also on the Committee was N. E. (Noel) Still (1953–59) and (until he withdrew for health reasons) R. J. B. (Bob) Glass (1948–52). The two main speakers at the official function were former NZ captain Jenny McDonald and D. C. (Darren) Smith (1987–91).

Darren has now played 174 internationals, and is still in the squad. He duly became the second Old Boy to represent NZ at an Olympic Games, and celebrated this by scoring a goal.

Orienteering

G. C. (Graham) Fortune (1955–59) won the NZ Championships in his age grade (M60) for the third successive year, and this year also won the Australian trophy for this event.

Rugby

C. J. (Carl) Hayman (1993–97) is touring Europe and Britain with the All Blacks.

Old Boys representing other unions in the NPC this season were:

Waikato: T. E. (Tom) Willis (1992–97).

Taranaki: J. D. (John) Willis (1992–96).

Wellington: J. M. (Joe) McDonnell (1986–88).

Southland: P. C. (Paul) Miller (1994–95)—player of the year.

A. J. (Ashley) Barron (1992–96) never actually played for Otago, for having played club rugby in Ireland, the NZRU regarded him as being a foreigner, despite his ancestor Margaret Barron (née Jaffray being the first white child born on the Taieri Plain!

Soccer

B. E. (Bradley) Scott (1993–97) followed up his Bowler of the Year cricket award by being judged Player of the Year by Soccer Otago.

Captain of Otago United in the national league is A. D. (Andy) Coburn (1993–97); coach is R. E. (Roger) Brooks (Staff 1986–).

Quiz Answers

1. D. A. C. (Craig) Scott (1963–66) in 1972.
D. J. (Derek) Metzger (1975–79) in 1978.
2. W. K. (Warren) Lees (1965–69): 152 v Pakistan at Karachi in 1976.
B. B. (Brendon) McCullum (1995–2000): 143 v Bangladesh a Dhaka in 2004.
3. R. R. (Ray) Mills (1958–61) who won \$(US) 1 million at a hole-in-one contest in Arizona in 2002, a feat never achieved before, or since!
4. M. R. (Mike) Turfus (1976–79), who apart from his other achievements, is unique among other leading contestants in that he has contested (and completed) every Race-to-the-Sky hill climb at Cardrona.
5. W. N. (Norrie) Taylor (1950–52), who finished about halfway in a field of 150 in the World 505 Yachting Championships at La Baule in France, and fourth in a field of fourteen at the International Mediterranean Sailing Week's 505 Championship at Marseilles in 1968. He must have experienced some difficulties in practising for these events, for land-locked Zambia shares only two lakes with neighbouring countries, and one artificial lake (infested with crocodiles and hippopotami) with another—perhaps he just remembered his youthful activities at Broad Bay?

Rugby League

R. K. (Ryan) Tapsell (1986–88), O (Opini) To'omalatai (1998–2003), P. (Phil) Tuitufu (2002) and H. (Hero) Tea (present boy!) represented Otago.

Bits and Pieces

R. T. (Rae) FAMILTON (Staff 1953–76), who died in March, grew up in North Otago, the second youngest in a family of eight, and attended Waitaki BHS. After training at both Dunedin and Auckland Training Colleges, he began teaching as a Phys. Ed. specialist at Caversham. He then shifted to Palmerston North before enlisting in the army and being posted overseas in 1942 to B Squadron, 20th Armoured Regiment, where he participated in the Italian campaign, rising to the rank of Major. On returning to NZ, he completed a BA in history while teaching at Mornington and Macandrew Intermediate schools. In 1953 he jumped the fence and joined the staff of King's High, where among other things, he commanded the cadet battalion for several years, and retired as deputy rector. Recently he supplied his war reminiscences for inclusion in Megan Hutchings (ed) *A Fair Sort of Battering: New Zealander's Remember the Italian Campaign*, but sadly did not live to see them in print.

In a recent *Kingsmen* we mentioned that F. B. (Farquhar) McKenzie (1940–44) and his wife Josephine had established the McKenzie Medical & Surgical Repatriating Fellowship, to help lure the country's brightest and best researchers back to N Z. This has already born fruit, and Dr Julian Hayes has returned from Australia to spend three years researching the contentious issue of keyhole colon-rectal surgery, which few in NZ hospitals undertake.

R. W. (Ross) Fraser (1968–72) after varsity spent 2 years in the U.K. followed by 12 years in South Africa. He transferred back to Wellington with Fujitsu in 1992 and subsequently was transferred to Sydney in 2001 where he is now Divisional Financial Controller. There is a story that in 1972 some friends planted a bicycle on the school cross country course to assist Ross, who was not a natural athlete in those days. Since then he has completed 36 marathons and 4 ultra marathons (without assistance!) mostly in South Africa.

Obituaries

- J. M. (John) McMillan (1955–57) died at Wellington 7/3/03.
R. B. (Ron) Purvis (1936–37) died at Auckland 13/5/04.
L. M. (Laurie) Campbell (1936–37) died at Auckland 22/5/04.
J. C. (John) Butel (1951–55) died at Bannockburn 19/7/04.
T. F. C. (Clive) Geary (1936–40) died at Christchurch 24/7/04.
J. W. (Bill) Benson (1959) of Dunedin, killed in Lower Buller Gorge 4/8/04.
H. J. (Bert) Gibben (1936) of Greymouth, died at Christchurch 6/8/04.
R. G. (George) Stockwell (1939–43) died at Omokoroa 15/8/04.
W. A. (Warren) Budge (1963–66) died at Dunedin 15/9/04.
B. J. (Bryan) More (1954–57) of Napier, died at Wellington 27/9/04.
M. J. (Michael) Ferguson (1960–62) died at Dunedin 3/10/04.
D. W. (Des) Ashby (1942–43) died at Christchurch 4/10/04.
B. (Barry) Buchanan (1972–73) died at Dunedin 8/10/04.
L. W. (Len) Holdsworth (1958–61) died at Oamaru 8/10/04.

I. W. (Ian) Page (1943–47, Staff 1957–79) writes:

I note in the *ODT* the death of Bert Price. Bert was a King's boy in my time at King's. He was also a member of the First Fifteen, a hard, tough, forward and a train boy. Train boys of that time came from the Green Island and Mosgiel area and were the hard core of the King's forward packs.

And Bert was typical. A boy of few words, Bert always played with sleeves rolled up, and his motto on the rugby field was simple. *They shall not pass*. And not many who came Bert's way did pass.

Among the inter-school games he played in was a memorable encounter with Southland Boys' High School at Rugby Park in Invercargill. The game was memorable, mainly because of the presence one E. G. (Ric) Walker, the Southland Boys captain on that day.

Walker played at second five eighths and was impressive for all sorts of reasons. He was much older than most of us, about nineteen. Moreover, he weighed just under fourteen stone, most of which was bone and muscle. But most impressive of all, he was good enough to play against us on the Wednesday and for the senior Southland provincial side on the following Saturday. In addition, his approach to the game was straightforward, unobtrusive and very effective. He usually ran over or through opponents who got in his way. All of this was known to us before we got to Invercargill, so we were not looking forward to meeting E. G. Walker.

Reputations, however, didn't impress Bert Price and early in the game, when Walker began one of his may rampages, Bert hurled himself at him. After Walker had trampled over him and had continued on his way, Bert rose up from the mud of Rugby Park. As he did so, he was heard to mutter: *The bugger's in'uman*.

It was typical Bert Price. And just as typically, he was back into the fray for another go.

Ian Page was a very good all round sportsman whilst at school, playing for the first XV on the wing when in the fourth form and captaining the team for 2 years. Ian was involved in coaching the King's first XV from 1960 to 1967.

I. D. (Ian) Proudfoot (1945–49) who died in June was another of that rare group who played for the first XV as a fourth former. His feat was especially noteworthy as he did it as a tall, strong lock forward. He went on and played for South Canterbury when that provincial team was more successful than in more recent years. He was the archetypal hardman, usually one of the first recalled by "survivors" when attending reunions!

No doubt there will be a small number of others who have achieved this feat: please let us know, and we will check the records.

Our secretary, D. H. (David) Horne (1954–58) has recently returned from adding 10 more countries to his list of those visited, and at 180 now is only 20 short of qualifying for gold membership of the Los Angeles based Travellers Century Club. The 10 countries were Finland, Aland (yes, it has its own flag and postage stamps!) Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Czech Republic, Mongolia, Tibet, and North Korea. As he still has one more year on his yellow fever card, and can speak French, next

year he proposes to visit many of the countries comprising Francophone Africa. Fortunately David made it back to NZ just before he took ill with a twisted bowel, and so missed out on being hospitalised in a Mongolian yurt, or perhaps even participating in a Tibetan sky burial!

Dr A. J. (Tony) Ballantyne (1985–89) of the Department of History has recently been one of five recipients of an Early Career Award for Distinction in Research, a new initiative of the Otago University's research committee, and received \$2000 towards his research programme. He has published widely on imperial and colonial influences on South Asian culture, while his book *Orientalism and Race: Aryanism and the British Empire* is regarded as trail blazing. Last year he helped to organise an international conference at OU on Sikh and Punjabi studies. His teaching is also up to scratch, for he was one of 10 Otago University Students Association Teaching award winners for 2004.

J. R. M. (Jack) Morris, MM (1936–37) recently revisited Cassino in Italy to take part in commemorating the 60th anniversary of the World War II battle.

D. R. (Don) McKay (1959–61) and his wife Sally, who have owned and steadily improved Motatapu Station for 36 years, finally tired of being pressured by aspects of the Resource Management Act, and recently sold the property to Shania Twain, an American entertainer—a move which generated national publicity. For legal advice, Shania employed Queenstown lawyer A. B. (Bryce) Jack (1963–67).

D. J. (Daniel) Carruthers (1989–92) was recently awarded, in Auckland, the inaugural Quest for Excellence Scholarship for deaf and hearing impaired New Zealanders. This \$15,000 scholarship was established by the National Foundation for the Deaf, and the Deaf Association of NZ, for postgraduate study. Although 80% deaf, Daniel has not allowed this to hold him back, as he has already gained a B.Com in marketing, a BA in Chinese, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Tourism; he will use the scholarship money to travel within China, having already embarked on researching the implications for tourism of sister cities in NZ and China, which will lead to a Master of Tourism degree. After completing his first degree in 1997, Daniel undertook voluntary work at the Bahai World Centre in Israel for 18 months, before spending six months on remote St Helena undertaking community work. He then went to China to become fluent in Mandarin, supporting himself by teaching on the side. At present he is bicycling 13,000km along the Silk Road from Beijing to Venice in order to raise \$US 400,000 for the education of the children of Silk Road villages.

A. J. (John) Campbell (1952–56), formerly president of the Dunedin R.S.A., and more recently district president of Otago-Southland R.S.A., was recently elected national president of the R.S.A.: the first who has not served in either world war and the first from the South Island. He served as a major on secondment to the Australian army during the Vietnam war ultimately rising to the rank of colonel directing the ordinance corps when he left the NZ army. His total regular force and territorial force service was 30 years. On retirement, he was appointed CEO of Dunedin Public Hospital, before moving into the private sector where he was managing director of Crothalls, Command Services and ADT Services. He was also a trustee and director of the Montecillo War Veterans Home and Hospital. John's corporate experience is expected to help him to streamline the newly renamed organisation (it is now the Returned *and* Services Association, thereby giving equal

recognition to those in uniformed services who have served their country: police, customs, prison officers, etc), while keeping in mind that the R.S.A. is NZ's largest voluntary welfare agency. He further believes that within a decade, executive roles may well be filled by veterans from more recent conflicts, such as Iraq, East Timor and Afghanistan. John was a member of the official party which journeyed to France to escort the remains of the Unknown Soldier back to NZ, where he was reinterred in a national shrine in Wellington on Armistice day.

I. H. (Ian) Barham (1944–48), a former head prefect who died in Auckland late last year had been Vice Chancellor of Griffiths University in Queensland, and had been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by that institution in recognition of his services.

The Christchurch City Mission is an independent, 75 year old, non profit-making organisation, running 17 services aimed specifically at low-income people—providing shelter, food, social work support, detoxification, addiction counselling, budget advice, crisis intervention and streetwork. The Mission operates on an annual budget of \$3 million, mostly from donations, with additional financial support from health and community organisations, supplemented by donations of food, clothing, and furniture. Head of this organisation for the past 21 years has been Canon W. D. (David) Morrell (1954–57), who retired from this position in March. His social conscience was stirred early through a youthful sojourn in South Africa, where he saw the squalor and poverty present in shanty towns. After graduating BA from Otago University, his involvement in the livewire Caversham parish led to him studying theology at Auckland: he was ordained in 1966 and served as a curate in Roslyn, where his flatting with friends (which enabled him to “stay real”) raised eyebrows. However this led to training for hospital chaplaincy, and he was appointed as chaplain to Christchurch Hospital. A postgraduate course in England in 1977 introduced him to the church's role in healing and welfare, and to him becoming City Missioner in 1982. When he started, alcoholism was the main addiction problem: today the Mission deals with a broadband of poly-addictions into which more and more substances are being added. Through his work, which was recognised by the awarding of the QSO for community service in 2002, David has become the highest-profile churchman in Christchurch, as was demonstrated when he topped the poll when re-elected to the Canterbury District Health Board at the recent local body elections.

T. F. C. (Clive) Geary (1936–40, Staff 1951–81) died in Christchurch in July, after several years of poor health. As a schoolboy, he was one of King's finest sportsmen, being captain of 1st XI cricket, captain of 1st XV rugby, tennis champion, and boxing champion. He went on to represent NZ Services at both cricket and rugby, represented Otago at both cricket and rugby, and represented NZ Universities at rugby. Indeed Iain Gallaway believes that but for World War II, Clive would have been a double All Black! He served overseas, initially in the NZ Army in an anti-aircraft battery before joining the RNZAF where he trained aircrew. On returning to NZ, he completed his BA degree, resumed his training to be a teacher, and taught at Caversham, St Clair and Andersons Bay schools, before returning to a King's for what would be a 30 year teaching stint. While there he rose to be head of history and geography, completing an MA degree in history part-time. He was a driving force behind the building of a gymnasium, establishing permanent practice wickets for cricket, and building the squash courts, and enthusiastically coached both cricket and rugby. Clive served as president of the Old Boys

Association and was subsequently awarded life membership in recognition of his services. Away from school he was a selector, and later president and life member of Otago cricket, and headed the Otago Cricket Supporters Club. He retired initially to Queenstown, where he chaired the Mid-Wakatipu Ratepayers' Association, was president of the Queenstown Lakes District Historical Society, and was a leading advocate for the sealing of the Queenstown–Glenorchy road, before shifting to Christchurch to be nearer health services. He was a true servant of King's High School.

G. J. (George) Tofield (1947–51, Staff 1964–68, 1970–97) died in April following a long battle with cancer. After leaving school he began studying at Otago University (where he became editor of *Critic*), then shifted to Dunedin Teacher's College (becoming student president); while teaching at Grants Braes, he fell foul of the school inspectors for using an “unusual” syllabus and left teaching. He obtained work repairing washing machines, thereby learning many of the mechanical skills which proved so useful when he began restoring vintage vehicles (notably his 1932 Alvis and his 1960 Velocette motorcycle—ultimately he owned 34 cars and 22 motorcycles!). After shifting to Wellington, he urgently needed to pay the rent, and so applied for an advertised position at what he thought was Hutt Valley High School, only to find after the successful interview that he was actually at Naenae College by mistake—he stayed for four years! In 1964 he returned to Dunedin and to King's where he taught for the next 33 years, except for a break to complete his BA in history. At King's, George was at the forefront of transition education in the 1970s, helping to introduce alternative courses for the less academic pupils, and work experience (which often led to permanent employment) through his many contacts. His contribution to the community did not stop there, for he was involved in many community organisations: boy scouts (he ultimately became a commissioner), the Ulysses Club, Otago Motorcycle Club, Bikers Rights Organisation of NZ (BRONZ), Vintage Car Club. He served several terms on the Otago University Council (representing school teachers), and as a committee member of the Otago branch of the Automobile Association. He was never short of time or enthusiasm when it came to fundraising or organising events. Even his illness didn't hold him back, for despite the adverse diagnosis, George organised a trip to India, he and his wife motorcycling for 21 days on an Indian-designed Enfield.

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A pupil as part of his course has produced an historical website. It is:
http://www.angelfire.com/un/khs_old_boys/

Contents for March *Kingsmen* to be received as soon as possible and by 26 February. Please inform us on events to be held and events that have been held.