

THE KINGSMEN

October 1995



The Kings High School Hostel. Lindsay Hocking Deputy Rector and Old Boy Reflects on the Story so far.

On my return to Kings in 1986 I felt unhappy that many other schools had hostels and were attracting quality youngsters from country areas. Discussion with Ian Simpson cemented the idea that these schools with Government provided facilities had no "God-given" right. At this time also Dunedin boarding schools were turning students away as they exercised their individual selection policies.

The next stage in the germination of the idea was the availability of the Lookout Point Boys Home. It is sited next to where I live and so I was very familiar with its facilities.

To the equation one must add the arrival on the Board of Trustees of Stuart Melville and Steve Olds. The former, an accountant and "money man" the latter successful businessman with a strong entrepreneurial outlook.

The visit to the Boys Home was interesting as its many advantages were considered—gymnasium, well equipped kitchen, separate rooms, new lounge, large grounds and property to sell off. The major problem was distance from Kings which would need transport to be available constantly.

The idea a hostel had thoroughly germinated. Steve Olds came up with the availability of Donaghy's Office Block adjacent to Kings, but at a much higher price and requiring major alterations.

Many brainstorming sessions were held—at King's and at Tecpak (Steve's business). How does a school pay for a facility which might reach \$4 million.

Stuart Melville, the "money man" in the equation now took over. The Kings Hostel Trust was formed. Plans of different categories were formulated and offered, purchase prices were negotiated and loans from the KHSOB jubilee fund arranged.

The original jubilee fund dating from the 50th had been invested because the Hall and Music Drama development for which the fund had been collected, had been overtaken by the complete school redevelopment.

A feasibility visit to the Middlemarch area followed which showed the need for an additional choice of schools for those boys who were obliged to board. Already a number of students were boarding privately in Dunedin in order to attend Kings and there was strong support from the Lawrence Waitahuna area.

The decision made, the real work began. The promotion of Kings began in earnest because the widely known schools

in country areas are those with boarding facilities. Radio interviews in Dunedin, Gore and Invercargill and newspaper releases attracted much attention. Not all was favourable. Some country schools saw us as endeavouring to attract students from their areas and we were accused of offering sports and academic scholarships to attract the more able youngsters. Although we had no certainty of being in business for 1992 there was an optimistic number of enquiries and enrolments.

A beginning hostel with a maximum of 50 students cannot start with 50 students because its need will be ten students at each form level. Our aim was for 10 form 3 students for 1992 and such other students who fitted our requirements.

The physical needs of the hostel were the subjects of much discussion and countless hours walking round a building which was previously an office area. Certainly there was high quality carpet, subdued lighting, expensive wall coverings and fittings. Certainly there were problems to be solved.

How many beds in this room? Where were clothes to be stored? What about the power plugs and the inevitable quantity of electronic gear the modern youth must have? The larger problems were of course the ablution area.

After many hours of discussing possibilities Roy Faris was engaged to oversee the construction aspects of the conversion. Showers, basins and toilets were installed. A modern kitchen complete with commercial dishwasher, toaster, bain marie, and commercial oven was completed.

A second food preparation area, paraplegic toilet, ironing room, drying room and wet floor shower area were built in the adjacent storage building.

The physical area of our hostel now existed. At this point the endless round of auctions, garage sales, white elephant stalls and the like began.

Fortunately the convent at South Dunedin was being redesigned which gave a ready source of kitchenware, beds and bedding, tables and chairs. Southern Hospitality auctions gave rise to more equipment but the regular Saturday morning garage sales produced forty two single beds and mattresses, pots, pans, cutlery and tallboys.

The philosophy of the new hostel was established. It was to be free from the "fagging" duties and superiority of seniors which is so much a tradition of other hostels. Homesick students would be allowed as much access to home as needed.

There was to be no restriction on the number of weekends students were allowed to go home and parents were welcome to stay also while space permitted. A strong female presence was also sought to provide the substitute "mother" that youngsters need when leaving home. Academic excellence or sporting excellence were not to be the prime qualification for entry but well adjusted youngsters who would contribute to the life of the school hostel were a major consideration in acceptance.

Nineteen students had enrolled for the 1992 year. Importantly the form 3 intake was a quality group of youngsters—so important in a first year. A new hostel must not be considered the second best choice for students. (Those boys are at present F6 students and have proved themselves outstanding young men in every respect.)

It was now the hostel Trusts function to select manager and matron to implement its philosophy. From a strong field Ann Hocking was selected as the first manager and Joneen Paul as live-in matron. Both showed the ability to relate well to youngsters and the genuine concern for their welfare which was to be a high priority. Ann had been swept along by the enthusiasm for the project from its inception while Jo had been a hostel student herself as had her three children.

Who could forget the last weeks before opening—workman like ants as the matrons flat took shape, carpet layers, painters and the inevitable do-it yourselves who are part of Kings High.

The final clean up group made interesting reading.

Stuart Melville and Carol	Chairman of Trust and wife Deputy Chairman of BOT
Steve Olds and Heather	B. of Trustees and wife
Ian Simpson and Glenda	Rector and wife
Lindsay Hocking and Ann	Deputy Rector and Manager
Dan McLean and Margot	Senior Master and wife
Margaret Hay	Board Secretary

Keith Mastin and Heather	Friends of the school
Miguel and Chris Rodrigues	(nee Hocking)
Geoff and Catherine Gardyne	(in laws of Lisa Hocking)
Kay Kennedy	Cook
Jo Paul	Matron

The arrival of the first hostel boys at the beginning of 1992 was a memorable day. Eager but shy youngsters and their parents were welcomed to a newly decorated building complete with Union Jack and King's flags. A few weeks later the official opening was performed by the then Speaker of the House now Sir Robin Gray.

The different philosophy offered at the hostel and the growing reputation of King's led to a rapid growth. Within two years all fifty beds were filled by quality young men from Form 3 to Form 7 levels.

That demand has remained with every vacancy eagerly sought and waiting lists at all levels.

King's has been changed significantly by this development. More than 5% of the school belong to the hostel. There are fifty pairs of supportive parents from all areas of the Southern South Island and the school has developed an even wider public awareness throughout those areas.

The boys themselves contribute much to King's. A considerable group make the end of year prize lists and of course belong to the multitude of sports teams. The first senior provincial representative is Tony Brown and the first N.Z. representative is Paul Miller both in Rugby. A third youngster, Ashley Barron played for the South Island secondary schools rugby team and attended the N. Z. youth development cricket squad in the same week in July this year.

Doubtless the impact of the hostel on the school will continue to be felt—a tribute to all members of the Board and Staff who made the vision a reality. The hostel will doubtless develop its own proud history along side that of the school.

King's High School Hostel in Macandrew Road



A Message from John Barr President of the K.H.S.O.B. Association

At our 50th Jubilee there was a strong feeling expressed that 25 years was going to be far too long to wait for another reunion. Many of our "first day pupils" and others would have passed on without the opportunity of again meeting their old school mates. What a marvellous success the 50th Jubilee was. It was proposed that all our ex pupils both young and old deserve the opportunity to go back to their high school days and relive some of the past with old friends.

It was with this in mind that the idea of holding a 60th Reunion was put forward.

Inspired by these thoughts the members of the committee have put in many hours of work. This has been especially true for convener Bob Glass in making arrangements, registrar Hugh Kidd and his team of year organisers in sorting names and current addresses and Bill Townsend in organising the social events. Rector Ian Simpson is serving on the committee and is keen to see the School is right behind the events we are running.

We aim to have high quality functions in keeping with the proud image of the School. However, we have also aimed to keep the costs as inexpensive as possible without lowering our standards. I am sure you will be pleasantly surprised by the results. There was also a strong feeling from many that have been approached that wives and partners need to be drawn into our fellowship more and to this end the committee is strongly encouraging wives and partners to attend all functions.



Our School is an exciting place to be as we approach our 60th year. The new building developments, the recently acquired School Hostel, and the impressive sporting and academic achievements make it a place to be proud to be associated with.

I urge you to come and join the ranks of those who have already indicated their intention to be part of this excitement at our 60th reunion. Contact your ex-pupil friends and encourage them and their partners to join us in what I am sure will be a most memorable event.

I look forward to seeing you in 1996.

President. King's High School Old Boys Association.

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Progress is being made towards the Reunion to be held 1st and 2nd June 1996 (Queens Birthday).

The Rector I. B. (Ian) Simpson (1954-58, staff 1981-) has been added to the Reunion Committee and A. J. (Allan) Rennie (1938-40) volunteered to fill the vacant position for 60th Treasurer. W. J. (Bill) Townsend (1954-57) has negotiated venues and very reasonable prices (food, drink and venue) for the social functions.

Budgets have been produced and with the Registration fee set at \$10.00 attendance should not be deterred.

REGISTRATION

Included within this mailing of an additional issue of "The Kingsmen" (only two newsletters a year in the past) members will find a Registration form. As it is important for organisation and catering that numbers be known please return the completed Registration form along with your cheque by the 1st March 1996.

Registration forms will also be sent direct to non members who attended the 50th; indicated interest in attending the 50th; or made a donation to the Golden Jubilee Fund at that time. Conveners for years have been updating their addresses in order that those who have shown interest previously are contacted. Also Registration forms will be sent upon request to P. O. Box 163, Dunedin, or the Registrar G. A. H. (Hugh) Kidd (1950-54) phone 03-489-6260.

METROPOLITAN LOCATION MAP



ADVERTISING

Although there will be some advertising we are relying upon members, conveners for years, and appointed members in towns throughout New Zealand to:

- Pass the message on to encourage attendance
- Supply information upon enquiries as provided by the 60th Committee, and in newsletters.
- Supply names and addresses of any who indicate that they wish to attend.

We are aware that this has been happening already with some old boys previously unknown to us showing interest. Several from overseas have done this.

FLOOR PLAN OF SCHOOL AREA USED FOR 60TH JUBILEE





REGISTRATION FORM

Detach and return this form

Date

Surname

Christian Name (For Name Tag)

Partner's Name (For Name Tag)

Postal Address

Years at schoolto

PROGRAMME

The programme has been altered from that which was advised in "The Kingsmen" received in August.

SATURDAY 1ST JUNE

Morning Registrations

Afternoon Luncheon at School (includes ladies)
Food \$10.00 per head (no liquor)
Photographs
Interschool sports
Informal Reunion at the Metropolitan Club commencing 4.30p.m. (includes ladies)
Food \$10.00 per head served buffet style progressively. Liquor paid by consumers.

SUNDAY 2ND JUNE

Afternoon School and Hostel open for inspection.
Bowls, Golf, Tennis and Fun run if interest indicated, at participants own cost.
Scenic tours available.

Evening Formal Dinner at the Metropolitan Club (Includes ladies).
Food, and limited drinks during the meal, buffet style sit down \$25.00 per head. Liquor before meal and extra paid by consumers.

DAY ONE SATURDAY JUNE 1ST 1996

9 a.m.-12 noon Registrations
12.30 p.m. Buffet lunch at school **\$10.00**
Food (no liquor) each
Followed by Group Photographs
School sports
School and Hostel open for inspection
4.30 p.m. Informal Reunion at Metropolitan Club.
Food available 3 times during the evening.
Liquor at own cost. **\$10.00**
Speeches early.

DAY TWO SUNDAY JUNE 2ND 1996

12 noon-4 p.m. School and Hostel open for inspection.
(to be confirmed)
Old Boys Sports
Indicate if interested in participating in
BOWLS
GOLF
FUN RUN
TENNIS
SCENIC TOURS

6 p.m. for 7 p.m. Formal Dinner at Metropolitan Club
Limited liquor during meal
there after at own cost. **\$25.00**

ALL FUNCTIONS OPEN TO PARTNERS

Registration Fee **\$10.00**

Total Cost Single **\$55.00** plus **\$45.00** for double.
If all functions attended.

FULL PAYMENT FOR REGISTRATION AND EVENTS BY MARCH 1ST 1996 PLEASE

Send to:
King's High School Old Boys Association
P. O. Box 163, Dunedin

For additional information contact
King's High School Old Boys Association
P.O. Box 163, Dunedin. Telephone: (03) 455 7866

OVER THE YEARS

Two previous newsletters have recorded some of the history of our Association formed in 1939.

Some may think that our social activities are very limited but over the years many have been tried. Although providing good opportunities for gathering together the numerical support very often has been meagre and could not be compared with the enthusiasm of the first few years detailed in the previous articles. (In the main the last sentence has been quoted from the Silver Jubilee 1961 booklet and has applied since then as well)

During the Otago Centenary year 1948 a move was mooted to induce O. B. H. S. and O. G. H. S. ex-pupils to embark on a trial combined ball. These were successful for a few years.

Other social functions held were reunions (smoke concerts) held in the late 1940's and early 1950's. Does that bring back memories? Occasional dances (e.g., Brown House, Tainui Bowling Club) were held and dinners in the 1960's and 70's (La Scala, Wains, Shoreline).

In the late 1950's several carloads travelled to Oamaru to join with Old Boys there for a dinner with the honoured guest being the first Rector Mr D. S. Chisholm. Photographs of those present appeared in the Golden Jubilee 1986 booklet.

The Winter Sports' Day with various school teams has been held every year weather permitting since the 1950's. An odd Summer sports' Day has also been held.

Free evenings were held regularly at the school after about 20 years existence when Old Boys gave talks and films of interest shown.

Meeting at an hotel after work for a short convivial evening was also tried. Actually since 1992 an unofficial group of from 4 to 12 "retired" Old Boys" has been meeting monthly for lunch and talk. Other groups may unofficially meet?

Since 1989 an Annual Dinner has been held with an attendance of 62 in 1994. Excellent speakers have been obtained with N. C. (Neville) Bain (1953-56), P. J. (Peter) Montgomery (1956-60), W. K. (Warren) Lees (1965-69), and G. C. (Grahame) Sydney (1962-66), during those years.

Over the 1980's and 90's wine and cheese has been supplied before and after each Annual Meeting but attendances are still less than 20.

The K.H.S.O.B. Association
Fax Number is (03) 455 7866
Attention : Graham Geary

CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH

Some old boys in Christchurch led by R. W. (Ron) Smith (1937-41) who was our President in 1948-50 and 1960-61 (Silver Jubilee time) are endeavouring to form a branch in Christchurch.

They have the names and addresses of 70 old boys including about 40 of our members residing in the city.

Ron's address is 83 Dunbars Road, Halswell.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions were steadily received during the months of August and September but since then receipts have been well behind previous years.

Some members owe back to 1993 and this is the last newsletter we will be able to supply to them.

Remember each years subscriptions paid from 1991 to 1995 will provide \$2.00 a year reduction in the registration to the 60th from that member. Payment in full of these subscriptions will make administration so much easier.

SPORTING TRIUMPHS

Athletics

B. S. (Blair) Martin (1988-92) was ninth in the 10,000 metres at the World Student Games, held at Fukuoka, Japan in September—only one other N.Z. competitor (also ninth) achieved such a standard. On his return, he won the Otago 10km title—his first senior title. Recently he came fifth in the 10km at the N.Z. road running championships held at Auckland.

Badminton

M. D. (Murray) Weatherston (1966-70) is president of Badminton New Zealand this year. A former Otago junior and senior representative, he coached teams in Wellington, Hutt Valley, and North Shore, and was a national selector for five years.

Bowls

K. G. (Ken) Walker (1960-63), a N.Z. representative in 1987, 1991, 1992, and 1994, has withdrawn from the national squad, after expressing dissatisfaction with the national selection panel.

Cricket

G. R. (Gary) Bain (1960-63) was one of the umpires at two of the one-day tests between New Zealand and Pakistan Youth teams, earlier this year.

K. R. (Ken) Rutherford (1979-82) has been appointed captain of Transvaal, South Africa, for the coming cricket season.

Cycling

D. J. (David) Waide (1990-94), the reigning Otago junior road champion, competed at the Oceanic Games at Townsville, Australia in September.

Golf

R. J. (Ross) Colquhoun (1988-92) is an Otago representative

this year. Convener of selectors is K. I. (Kim) McDonald (1966-71), who occasionally steps into the breach as reserve player.

At a fundraising championship held at Alexandra to assist the Order of St John, the winning foursome included cricketer K. R. (Ken) Rutherford (1979-82), sports commentator S. M. (Steve) Davie (1970-74), and sports shopowner C. G. (Grant) McCullum (1968-71).

Rugby

L. D. (Lee) Smith (1959-64), currently NZRFU director for coaching, has been appointed development officer for the International Rugby Board. He will be based at Bristol, England and will take charge of its development work worldwide.

A. D. (Alun) Kennedy (1988-92) represented North Otago this season, before leaving for Scotland to further his rugby playing career.

C. J. (Casey) Mee (1986-90) was selected for the N.Z. Universities team this year, as well as playing for Otago B.

Current pupil P. C. (Paul) Miller, named as player of the tournament at the regional tournament in Auckland in July, was selected as No. 8 in the N.Z. Secondary Schools team—already he is taller and heavier than Arran Pene!

Snooker

G. A. (Gary) Hale (1985-88) has already won three championships this year. At the South Island championships, he achieved a N.Z. first with a break of 104—this had never previously been achieved in a pairs event, where there are only half the number of opportunities. He is non-travelling reserve in the N.Z. team which will contest the Worlds championships in Egypt in November.

Soccer

King's contributed 11 of 14 selected to represent Otago at the Under 16 tournament at Rotorua!

Swimming

K. (Karl) Purdie-Smith, a present pupil, has been added to the N.Z. international swimming squad, with the chance to travel to the world short course championships at Rio de Janeiro in December. At the national short course championships, he won gold (1500m), silver (800m), and bronze (400m) medals in the freestyle. He is considered to have an outside chance to represent N.Z. at the Atlanta Olympics

*If you have anything you want to contribute to "The Kingsmen", please send material to the K.H.S.O.B. Association
P.O. Box 163, Dunedin*

G RAPEVINE

HONOURS

D. N. (Dave) Humphrey (1951-54), owner of Stewart's Coffee House and a past president of the Otago Chamber of Commerce and Industry for two terms, was presented with a life membership certificate at a recent function in his honour.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The winning logo for the 150th anniversary of Otago's pakeha settlement has attracted some criticism (e.g., "a refugee from a Saatchi waste paper basket:" "as inspiring and imaginative as a rough sketch on the back of a derelict lavatory"), despite the judging panel of five including artist G. C. (Grahame) Sydney (1962-66), Otago Art Society president K. J. (John) Toomer (1970-73), and Councillor A. (Anne) Turvey (Board of Governors (1982-85))!

D. J. (Derek) Metzger (1975-79) interrupted a hectic schedule of starring in "Me and My Girl" to participate in "The Great Dunedin Music Show," a fundraiser for Dunedin's community music centre: The Music Place. Established last year in Upper Stuart Street, The Music place provides opportunities for people of all ages (3-83 last year!) to learn and make music.

E. J. (Errol) Moore (1965-69), a euphonium player, is a member of the National Band of New Zealand currently touring U.S.A.

BUSINESS SECTOR

A. W. (Bill) Baylis (1959-62) has been appointed a director of Reid Farmers thereby joining deputy chairman I. J. (Ian) Farquhar (1945-49) and L. J. (Lindsay) Brown (1956-60) on the Board. Chairman of Fiordland Travel, Mainland Products and United Electricity, he is also a director of Healthcare Otago, and Naylor Love.

S. J. (Steve) Brocklebank (1968-73) has been re-elected president of the Otago Chamber of Commerce and Industry. While in China in March, he signed an agreement with the Shanghai Chamber, seeking mutual cooperation in developing mutually beneficial markets. While the Chinese were interested in the Otago Polytechnic, University of Otago, Port Otago, and research centres such as Invermay, the Chinese market was believed to be so large that it could not be supplied were it to take off.

G. B. (Graham) Gosney (1950-55) is managing director of the Helicopter Line which has recently expanded its activities through the purchase of the Mt Cook hotel complex, THC Rotorua Hotel, THC Waitomo Hotel and Waitomo glow worm caves. As well, the company is looking to expand its activities in the fast growing youth market.

THE SCHOOL

Greetings all,

Three days ago we enjoyed our Annual Representatives' Evening—a clear sign that the school year, for the senior students at least, was drawing rapidly to a close. Prize-giving for them is on November 10 and they leave for their examinations a few days later.

1995 has been yet another extremely successful one. We were reminded of that at the Representatives Evening—which featured Olympic swimming coach Duncan Laing, current soccer All White and King's Old Boy, Graeme Marshall and our current All Black teacher Josh Kronfeld. During the year students from King's had won national titles or gained national selection in the following sports: athletics, basketball, volleyball, soccer, rugby, swimming, surf life-saving, ice hockey, karate, wrestling, cricket and hockey.

Blues were awarded to 78 boys in 29 sports and activities which included music and scholastic competitions as well as such unlikely sports as motocross!

At the conclusion of the evening the Salter Trophy for outstanding sporting achievement was presented.

The four finalists were Nick Lee an outstanding athlete, harrier and soccer player; Darryn McKay a member of the N.Z. Under 21 Volleyball team; Paul Miller a member of the victorious N.Z. Secondary Schools' Rugby team (one of its outstanding players) and school tennis champion; and Karl Purdie-Smith a N.Z. swimmer and N.Z. life-saver whose success in beating the best Australia and Japan had to offer in the 1500m freestyle has given him a very real chance of selection for the Atlanta Olympics.

In the event it was an extraordinarily tough decision and the award was shared between Paul and Karl who have both been outstanding at international level.

The chief test of success in academic studies is still ahead but I am confident that the boys will again do well in their national examinations. Certainly as a fore-runner to these, the results gained in the recent Australian Mathematics Competition were most encouraging. From 58 entries across all levels of the school 19 gained distinctions (in the top 15% of all those entering) and a further 22 gained credits (in the top 30%). These results need to be placed in their true perspective—the Australian Mathematics competition is only entered by those who are very strong mathematicians.

The greatest disappointment during the year has been the absence of heavy building equipment. After five years continuous re-development and the completion of four stages of the new school, the wheels came off the planning process. For a variety of reasons—some of the school's making—planning was not completed in time for the next stage—the technology suite—to be started in this current financial year. We are confident that all will be ready for 1996.

Speaking of 1996, that is of course the sixtieth year of the existence of the school. I hope you are all planning to register for what will, I am sure, be a tremendous Queen's Birthday weekend. For those living outside Dunedin, I can assure you of not only warm welcome at your old school but also that your eyes will be opened by the brilliant new surroundings. It has been a long battle—and clearly one that is still not over—but the results are spectacular and well worth the many frustrations. Best wishes to you all.

Ian Simpson
Rector

OBITUARIES

W. (Bill) Scorgie (1943–47)
Died at Lee Flat. 3/2/95

B. J. (Barry) Duncan (1954–56)
Died at Dunedin. 25/5/95

V. (Vic) Philpott (1936–38)
Died at Timaru. May 6/7/95

F. J. (Fred) Buchanan (1937)
Died at Auckland. 15/7/95

L. B. (Lance) Richardson (1949–52)
Died at Christchurch. 24/7/95

R. M. (Ron) May (1939–40)
Died at Ashburton. 29/7/95

H. H. (Herb) Colquhoun (1937–41)
Died at Oamaru. 20/8/95

F. G. (Frank) Ferguson (1936–37)
Died at Christchurch. 31/8/95

I. F. (Ian) Arthur (1970–72)
Died at Dunedin. 4/9/95

J. A. (Jim) Rogers (1936–40)
Died at Auckland. 16/9/95

E. G. (Grant) Borrie (1936–39)
Died at Auckland. 29/9/95

D. K. (Dion) Walsh (1982–83)
Died at Dunedin. 13/10/95